

The 2nd International Conference on Space Operations



The first SpaceOps logo (1992)

The SpaceOps 1992 symposium, held at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena, California, marked the second major event for the SpaceOps community. The conference was highly successful, with over 135 presentations and approximately 400 attendees representing 14 countries. The event focused on technical advancements and international cooperation, setting standards for future symposia. Presentations covered a range of topics, including mission control, ground data systems, automation in operations, and data management improvements.

The format established during this symposium—featuring biannual gatherings, full conference days, multiple parallel tracks, panel sessions with keynote speakers, and hosted social events—became a blueprint for future SpaceOps conferences. A particularly memorable social event during SpaceOps 1992 included a filming at Universal Studios, where attendees participated in a simulated "Star Trek" episode, adding a unique cultural highlight to the technical conference experience.

This event and its success validated the need for a regular platform for space mission operations discussions, leading to the founding of the permanent SpaceOps Committee later that year, which formalized international collaboration in space operations and continues to organize conferences today.