

Biography



CATHERINE J. STEELE
Vice President
Strategic Space Operations

Catherine J. Steele is vice president of Strategic Space Operations based in Colorado Springs, Colorado. She is responsible for Aerospace activities supporting Headquarters U.S. Air Force Space Command at Peterson Air Force Base; the Air Force Research Laboratory; the Air Force Nuclear Weapons Center; the Operationally Responsive Space Office and the Satellite Test Program at Kirtland Air Force Base; and the Joint Space Operations Center at Vandenberg Air Force Base. She was promoted to this position on May 3, 2008.

Previously, Steele served as general manager of National Space Systems Engineering, where she was responsible for national space systems engineering and architectures for customers in the Defense Department and within the intelligence community.

Prior to her promotion to general manager in July 2004, Steele was the principal director of Communications Systems and Information Engineering within the National Systems Group, assigned to the Communications Directorate of the National Reconnaissance Office. As principal director she was instrumental in establishing the Transformational Communications Office and developing the Transformational Communications Architecture.

Other positions she has held at The Aerospace Corporation include member of the technical staff, senior project engineer, and systems director, all

within the Planning and Communications Division of the National Systems Group.

Before joining Aerospace, Steele worked at Hughes Aircraft in the Radar Systems Division, for the MITRE Corporation in signal processing and navigation, and at Advent Systems in signal processing and communications.

Educational Background

Steele earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering/system science and a master's degree in engineering control systems from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Affiliations

Steele is a member of the National Defense Industrial Association, an associate fellow with the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, and member of Women in Aerospace. She serves on the board of directors for the Federation of Galaxy Explorers, the Peterson Air and Space Museum Foundation, and Artemis. Steele also holds a technician-level license with the American Radio Relay League.

The Aerospace Corporation is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to the objective application of science and technology toward the solution of critical issues affecting the nation's space program.