

DR. GEORGE C. NIELD

President, Commercial Space Technologies, LLC

Dr. George C. Nield is the President of Commercial Space Technologies, LLC, which he founded to encourage, facilitate, and promote commercial space activities. He also serves as the Chairman of the Global Spaceport Alliance. He has more than 50 years of aerospace experience with the Air Force, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and in private industry. In March of 2022 he flew to space onboard Blue Origin's New Shepard rocket. He served as the FAA's Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation from 2008-2018. Prior to joining the FAA, Dr. Nield served as Senior Scientist for the Advanced Programs Group at the Orbital Sciences Corporation. His previous assignments include working as an Astronautical Engineer at the Space and Missile Systems Organization, a Flight Test Engineer at the Air Force Flight Test Center, and an Assistant Professor and Research Director at the USAF Academy. He was the Manager of the Flight Integration Office for the Space Shuttle Program at the NASA Johnson Space Center, and later worked on both the Shuttle/Mir Program and the International Space Station Program. A graduate of the United States Air Force Academy, he holds an M.S. and Ph.D. in Aeronautics and Astronautics from Stanford University, and an MBA from George Washington University. He is also a Flight Test Engineering graduate of the USAF Test Pilot School. Dr. Nield is a registered Professional Engineer and a Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.