Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr.

Retired Navy Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Ph.D., serves as Chief Executive Officer and Director for GeoOptics, Inc., a startup company with the initial goal of launching and operating the first commercial Radio Occultation (RO) satellite constellation designed for the express purpose of collecting and offering weather data and associated services as a commercial enterprise. Most recently, as Vice President, Science Programs, Applied Technology Group (ATG) of CSC Corp. he was engaged in business development activities to expand opportunities in science and technical support operations.

He previously served as Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans & Atmosphere and Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for seven years. Prior to that, he was President and CEO of the Consortium for Oceanographic Research and Education (CORE), now known as the Consortium for Ocean Leadership. Before joining CORE, Dr. Lautenbacher formed a consulting business, CEREBRUM, Inc. and worked principally for defense industries.

Notable navy assignments included Commander US Third Fleet, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Resources, Warfare Requirements and Assessments), Director of J-8 (Resources) on the Joint Staff., Commander Naval Station Norfolk, the Navy's largest naval station, Commanding Officer of USS HEWITT (DD-966), Commander Cruiser Destroyer Group Five, and Commander, Naval Forces, Riyadh during Operation Desert Storm.

He holds Master of Science and Ph.D. degrees from Harvard University in Applied Mathematics and is a graduate of the US Naval Academy (Class of 1964).