

Frank L. Culbertson, Jr.

President, Space Systems Group



Frank L. Culbertson, Jr. is President of Orbital ATK's Space Systems Group.

Mr. Culbertson is responsible for the execution, business development and financial performance of the company's human spaceflight, science, commercial communications and national security satellite activities, as well as Technical Services to various government customers. These include some of Orbital's largest and most important programs such as NASA's Commercial Resupply Services (CRS) initiatives as well as various national security-related programs.

Previously, Mr. Culbertson served as Executive Vice President and General Manager of the Advanced Programs Group at the Orbital Sciences Corp. Prior to joining Orbital, Mr. Culbertson was a Senior Vice President at SAIC, following an eighteen-year career as a NASA astronaut. He has flown three space missions and logged over 144 days in space as shuttle commander, pilot, and station commander. His last mission launched on the Shuttle Discovery and lasted for 129 days, from August 10 until December 17, 2001, returning on the shuttle Endeavour. During that mission, he and his two Russian crewmates, lived and worked aboard the International Space Station for 125 days which included observing the attacks of September 11, 2001, as the only American in orbit at the time. Mr. Culbertson also held several key management positions within the NASA Shuttle and ISS programs and was Program Manager of the Shuttle-Mir Program.

Mr. Culbertson is a 1971 graduate of the US Naval Academy at Annapolis. He was a naval aviator, a fighter pilot, and a test pilot, and he retired from the Navy as a Captain in 1997. Mr. Culbertson has received numerous honors, including the Legion of Merit, the Navy Flying Cross, the Defense Superior Service Medal, the NAA/FAI Gagarin Gold Medal, and the NASA Distinguished Service Medal.