

## 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 Space Innovation and Development Center at Schriever Air Force Base, the Air Force Research Laboratory at Kirtland Air Force Base, United States Strategic Command at Offutt Air Force Base, and the newly formed Global Strike Command at Barksdale 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 and Women in Aerospace. She serves on the board of directors for both the Federation of Galaxy Explorers and the Peterson Air and Space Museum Foundation.

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.