

1 RANGE OPERATIONS SQUADRON



MISSION

The 1 Range Operations Squadron provides world-wide customers: high quality, requirements tailored, range operations, operations support management, and scheduling services.

LINEAGE

Eastern Test Range established, 19 Jun 1986

Activated, 1 Jul 1986

Redesignated 45 Range Squadron, 12 Nov 1991

Inactivated, 1 Dec 2003

1 Range Operations Squadron constituted, 28 Oct 2003

Activated, 1 Dec 2003

45 Range Squadron and 1 Range Operations Squadron consolidated, 31 Jul 2018. Consolidated unit designated 45 Range Squadron.

Redesignated 1 Range Operations Squadron, 11 May 2021 and concurrently changed status from a unit of USAF to a unit of USSF.

STATIONS

Patrick AFB, FL, 1 Jul 1986

Cape Canaveral AFS, FL, 15 Apr 1993-1 Dec 2003

Cape Canaveral AFS, FL, 1 Dec 2003

ASSIGNMENTS

Eastern Space and Missile Center, 1 Jul 1986
45 Operations Group, 12 Nov 1991-1 Dec 2003
45 Operations Group, 1 Dec 2003
Space Launch Delta 45, 11 May 2021

COMMANDERS

Lt Col James E. Smith, Aug 2012
Lt Col Mark J. Faulstich, 2 May 2016
Lt Col Monique DeLauter, 23 May 2016
Lt Col Gregory Vice, 14 Jun 2018
Lt Col Brian Eno, Jul 2020
Lt Col Darin J. Lister, 8 Jun 2023

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Organizational Excellence Awards
(1 Jul)-31 Dec 1986
15 Jan-31 Dec 1988
1 Jan 1989-30 Sep 1990
1 Oct 1990-30 Sep 1991

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Oct 1991-30 Sep 1992
1 Sep 1993-30 Aug 1995
1 Oct 1995-30 Sep 1996
1 Sep 1997-31 Aug 1998
1 Sep 1998-31 Aug 2000
1 Oct 2002-30 Sep 2004
1 Oct 2003-30 Sep 2004
1 Jan-31 Dec 2004
1 Oct 2004-30 Sep 2005
1 Oct 2005-30 Sep 2006
1 Dec 2006-30 Sep 2008
1 Oct 2008-30 Sep 2010
1 Oct 2012-30 Sep 2013

EMBLEM



45 Range Squadron



On a disc Sable, four piles in bend sinister Vert, debruised by a terrestrial globe issuing from dexter base Azure, land masses Celeste, overall a flight symbol ascending bendwise sinister Argent, detailed of the field and emitting a stylized three-piece contrail to dexter base Or, all within a narrow border Yellow. Attached above the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "SAFE SPACE PASSAGE" in Yellow letters. Attached below the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "1ST RANGE OPERATIONS SQUADRON" in Yellow letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The black field denotes space, an important frontier for humankind. The globe and green segmented field are representative of the unit's readiness to use its range instrumentation to achieve all duties required. The flight symbol represents all past, present and future space launches. (Approved, 14 May 2004)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

The 45th Range Squadron provides worldwide customers: high quality, requirements tailored, range operations, operations support management, and scheduling services.

The 1st Range Operations Squadron (1 ROPS) at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station is set to support approximately 65 launches in 2022, an approximate 130% increase from the prior three years. The 1 ROPS mission on the Eastern Range is to provide world class range services to launch customers such as SpaceX, United Launch Alliance, Astra, Relativity, and many others. “We are in the process of on-ramping about half a dozen different launch service providers in the next year,” said Capt. Emily Youngman, range operations officer for 1 ROPS. “We are going to be getting more and more customers to the range which is really exciting.”

Despite the launch tempo increase, 1 ROPS stays prepared for when a service partner calls wanting to launch. Once they get the notification to launch, 1 ROPS begins the preparation process. “We do mission dress rehearsals, integrated crew exercises, wet dress rehearsals, static fires, and a range of different activities leading up to the launch itself,” said Youngman. The 1 ROPS team gets on console for a launch many hours prior. The exact time they arrive before a launch varies with the different providers.

“There is a team of two to three range operations commanders, ROCs, that sit on-console in the mission control room and pull in various information and data inputs from teams dispersed around Cape Canaveral,” said Capt. Johnathan Eno, assistant director of operations for 1 ROPS. “They decipher that information, understand how it affects range status, and communicate it to the users as well as the launch decision authority or the senior delta officer.” Along with the ROCs, the surveillance team provides air and sea insight to the ROCs ensuring the safety of others.

“The 1 ROPS is all about public safety,” said Youngman. “We keep people safe by keeping them out of launch danger zones.” The surveillance teams make sure the airspace and sea space underneath the rocket’s trajectory is clear of aircraft and boaters. After gathering all the information and the launch is clear to proceed, they continue down their checklist of nominal/non nominal procedures throughout the launch. “Once the rocket launches, we go through different plus count events, we are making sure the rocket is staying on its trajectory and we will keep on that mission set until the end of range safety responsibility, which is called the head on gate,” said Youngman.

Once the rocket reaches the head on gate, all teams gather to collect debrief items, conduct a hotwash, and talk about the successes of the mission, as well as what they can improve on. “The important thing to focus on is that launch is a team sport,” said Eno. “The 1 ROPS play a key part, but getting to T-0 does not happen without the entire Delta team.” The 1 ROPS are directly contributing to national security and the growth of the space industry.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.