

23rd SYMPOSIUM ON SPACE ACTIVITY AND SOCIETY (E5)  
Space Technologies - Earth Applications (1)

Author: Ms. Magaly Sandoval  
Central American Association for Aeronautics and Space (ACAE), Costa Rica,  
magaly.sandoval@acae-ca.org

Mr. Carlos Alvarado  
Central American Association for Aeronautics and Space (ACAE), Costa Rica, carlos.alvarado@acae-ca.org

THE AEROSPACE INDUSTRIAL AND RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT IMPACT ON THE SOCIETY  
OF COSTA RICA

**Abstract**

Costa Rica has had an emerging aerospace industry during the past ten years, leading to more than 70 enterprises and generating more than 4 thousand jobs in the country. Parallel to the industrial development, the academic research on aerospace has been slowly growing on areas such as plasma fuel and satellite investigations. The Central American Association of Aeronautics and Space (ACAE) has been working on creating a link between society, government, academy and industry in Costa Rica, and latter on the Central American region. ACAE's results include a market study of aerospace industry in Costa Rica, organizing the National Program on Aerospace Development in 2010, working with the government to create CONIDA: the National Commission of Incentives in Aerospace Development, motivating university students to investigate in satellite designing and space probes, and encouraging society to support the role of Costa Rica in space industry. This paper explains the effects of the development of an aerospace industry cluster in the country, the emerging academic research on aerospace and the role of society undertaken a new path on a growing high-tech area for a small, developing country.