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THE BROKERAGE AND MANAGEMENT OF SMALL SATELLITE LAUNCH SERVICES IN RUSSIA

Abstract

The Russian launch services market has always contained a variety of options for the orbiting of small satellites of up to 400 kg by dedicated, cluster or piggy-back methods. This enables CST to address this market with a competitive tendering exercise and to be able to let each customer have the confidence that the right choices for them has been made.

CST has experience of doing business in Russia going back to 1987 and has been brokering and managing small satellite launchers for 20 years. So far CST has managed around 30 launchers from 3 cosmodromes. The paper describes CST's past experience in this field and discusses the present situation and likely development of the market. The usual orbital requirements for small satellites are sun synchronous between 600 and 800 km. The paper shows that other possibilities, such as HEO, GEO and escape can also be supplied.

These new small launcher systems will soon be introduced and are expected to be operated by 2015. The impact of their introduction and the phasing out of some missile-derived systems and the world launch services market are discussed and evaluated.