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BRAZILIAN ASTRONAUTICAL HISTORY: FROM SANTOS DUMONT TO THE PRESENT

Abstract

This work reports the Brazilian history of the Astronautical institutions and agencies. It begins with the dream of a particular man. In Brazil, he is called by the father of aviation, Alberto Santos-Dumont. In his book, he tells a desire, which was regarded as the first record of the idea of creating a technical school in Brazil focused on aviation. The first school of aviation was inspired in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), whose staff consisted of professors from sixteen different nationalities. This school, called Instituto Tecnológico de Aeronáutica (ITA), was the place where started astronautical studies in Brazil. After that there were many steps passing through the creation of Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais (INPE), Departamento de Ciência e Tecnologia Aeroespacial (DCTA), Instituto de Aeronáutica e Espaço (IAE) and Agência Espacial Brasileira (AEB). Some of the main milestones were the Missão Espacial Brasileira Completa (MECB), when were established that INPE would develop four satellites with environmental applications: two data collection and two remote sensing, as Satélite de Coleta de Dados (SCD) and China-Brazil Earth Resources Satellite (CBERS). On the front of launchers, at the moment, there are two approaches: Alcântara Cyclone Space (ACS) and Cruzeiro do Sul (in reference to the five stars of the constellation of the Southern). ACS is cooperation between Ukraine and Brazil to use the Centro de Lançamento de Alcântara (CLA) to launch the vehicles.