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History of Chinese Contribution to Astronautics (3)

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THE DEVELOPMENT HISTORY OF CHINESE LAUNCH VEHICLES

**Abstract**

With enhancing capacity of access to space at the core, and driven by launch missions, China's development of launch vehicles is sticking to the "self-reliance and independent innovation" path. With more than 40 years' experience, China has successfully developed more than 10 models of launch vehicles, and experienced the transition from research test to flight application, and from flight application to the industrialization. It promoted the development of satellites and satellite application technology and manned space technology, and strongly supported the successful implementation of major projects in China with the "manned space project" and "lunar exploration project" as the representative. To ensure safe, reliable, fast, economic, environment-friendly access to space, promote space exploration technology development and enhance the progress of human civilization, was the development goal of China's launch vehicles in the past, is the goal at present and will be the goal in the future. This Paper mainly presents the development history of China's launch vehicles, launch vehicles in service, the new generation of launch vehicles under development, and describes the efforts made by China in the field of space security.