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UTILIZING NON-TRADITIONAL METHODS TO STIMULATE THE SPACE INDUSTRY

Abstract

This paper demonstrates alternative methods to stimulate the space industry by promoting technological diversity and competition. Resources such as open courseware, shared production facilities, co-working spaces, and crowd funding have flooded the industry with creative solutions to once monopolized challenges. Additionally, these resources foster cross-industry collaborations to stimulate innovative approaches. Implementation of these methods and expansion could in turn reduce the barriers for developing countries to establish a presence in the space community. By reducing the bias towards formal education and methods, the space industry can expand to be a global initiative fueled by every day citizens. In order to demonstrate the validity of this argument, the paper will outline successful and unique approaches that groups of amateurs and organizations have taken to promote space exploration and expand the vision for the industry. By reducing the bias for formal methods and fostering a culture of creative development in the space industry, we could make technologies more accessible and harness the untapped human potential to make space exploration a global citizen's endeavor.