

SPACE ACTIVITY AND SOCIETY (E5)
Technology Transfer Trends (1)

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ESA'S SPACE SPINOFF AWARD AND TECHNOLOGY HALL OF FAME

Abstract

ESA's Technology Transfer Programme Office (TTPO) has successfully transferred over 200 space technologies to non-space sectors for innovative applications as diverse as cooling suits for a Formula 1 racing team, ground penetrating radar to detect cracks in mine tunnels and an instrument to detect melanomas. The activities of TTPO have also led to the creation of a number of new start-up companies in Europe, many of which have been promoted through ESA's Business Incubator. A new SpaceSpinoff Award to honour representatives of space transfer parties which have generated a space technology transfer of extraordinary success with respect to its economic impact and with environmental or societal benefits will be awarded for the first time in 2009. The winner and its technology will be inducted into ESA's newly-created Space Technology Hall of Fame. The paper will discuss the background to setting up the award, the criteria for selection, the process to choose the winning transfer a as well as providing details of the candidates.