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THE FUTURE OF SPACE TECHNOLOGY BUSINESSES FROM A SILICON VALLEY
PERSPECTIVE

Abstract

In the recent past Silicon Valley has been the home of technology companies such as Google, Facebook, and Twitter to name just a few. However, aerospace-related businesses are becoming a more important part of the Silicon Valley economy, with both commercial and government sectors operating within the region. Organizations such as the Space Business Roundtable (SVSBR), and the Silicon Valley Space Center (SVSC) are platforms that currently help and encourage the growth and development of these aerospace-related businesses. This paper will discuss how the new Silicon Valley has become the future of new space technology businesses and the impact it has on the investor community and government. The paper will expand on what developments are enabling the recent growth in the Valley's new space industry, as well as the constraints of that growth. Finally the paper will reflect an entrepreneurial perspective on whether the government markets, which have historically been the biggest customer for space businesses has changed, and whether that is something that entrepreneurs take into consideration.