

ENTREPRENEURSHIP & INVESTMENT SYMPOSIUM (E6)
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IISC: RESPONDING TO THE NEED FOR STRATEGIC THINKING IN THE COMMERCIAL SPACE
SECTOR

Abstract

In most industrial sectors, in particular in economical turbulent times, short- and mid-term strategies are dominating managerial long-term reflections. It is evident that this prioritisation is closely linked to ensure stability and company survival, one of the paramount concerns of the entrepreneur.

The space sector is not different in this respect, but contrary to some well-established industrial sectors has the additional complexity of certain specific issues, linked to its rather rapid development from a public driven to a more commercial approach.

Having identified the need for long-term strategic thinking, the Isle of Man government has understood the importance in the new space economy of such think tank approach and has asked the International Space University (ISU) to jointly establish an Institute supporting this need. The resulting International Institute for Space Commercialisation (IISC) will be presented in the paper as well as some of the target topics envisaged to cover in the frame of the Institute.

This will be presented in the form of a SWOT analysis for the space sector in general, with a particular emphasis on the commercial space activities. Resulting challenges for the next few decennia, such as space workforce, influence of environmental aspects and others, will be illustrated by presenting results of studies in this field performed in ISU.