

SPACE TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS AND INNOVATIONS (D2)  
Commercial Human Spaceflight Safety (9)

Author: Prof. Richard Crowther  
UK Space Agency, United Kingdom, r.crowther@rl.ac.uk

THE CHALLENGES OF COMMERCIAL HUMAN SPACEFLIGHT SAFETY: A REGULATOR'S  
PERSPECTIVE

**Abstract**

The paper will explore the challenges facing the regulator in balancing the need to ensure the safety of commercial human spaceflight and at the same time encourage and help development of the nascent and highly innovative commercial human spaceflight industry. It will examine the approach to existing, established space regulatory mechanisms and consider the changes that may be needed to ensure a safe and sustainable industry which offers potentially major benefits for the provision of cost-effective and responsive access to space. In particular the paper will examine the pertinent issues for the United Kingdom and its regulatory authorities.