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GREENER SPACE

Abstract

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The International Space University, which is located in Strasbourg, provides graduate-level courses to future leaders of the global space community. The main courses are the Space Studies Program and a Masters of Space Science. Each course involves several team projects. The primary objective of the Team Project is to provide the students an experience in an interdisciplinary and international teamwork environment, with time and resource constraints on a novel and challenging topic. This year, for the Space Studies Program, one team project was titled Greener Space. The project team of 35 students was tasked to explore the challenges facing the space community in addressing pollution issues associated with launching. These challenges include technology, policy, legal and business issues for reducing pollution from today's space activity.

More specifically the TP addressed the influence propellants have on Human health and on the environment during the different stages of production, setup, maintenance, storage, launching and passive landing (first and second stages). The team members identified and examined examples of good practices that have been introduced at current spaceports and by space industrial companies certified with International Standards Organizations (ISO) 14000 series.

This Paper presents the outcome from the research and analysis undertaken by the Greener Space Project Team