

SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)
SPACE WORKFORCE DEVELOPEMENT – CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES (7)

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MAINTAINING THE FUTURE SPACE WORKFORCE - THE GLOBAL YOUTH'S PERSPECTIVE

Abstract

A number of commentators have advocated how a global aerospace workforce is vital to the success of future space programs. As a collaborative space industry looks to the future, its dependency on a global workforce may be necessary to ensure the goals of space programs are achievable.

A working group, recently commissioned by the Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC), has been set-up to study the relationship between the space industry and the global youth. Using the SGAC's global network, the project team is able to reach out to its 4,000 members of university students and young professionals in 90+ countries to gain a greater understanding of the key issues affecting the recruitment of STEM graduates into the space industry. Unlike other studies, this project offers a view directly from the global youth – a perspective often overlooked despite how much they are affected by the decisions.

This paper reports on the progress of this study and recommends effective and practical solutions that can be implemented to strengthen the relationship between the space industry and global youth to help address this workforce issue.