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The space economy in emerging space countries (3)

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SURVEYING EXISTING SPACE TECHNOLOGIES AND CREATING A JOINT TECHNOLOGY
PROGRAMME FOR ESTONIA, LATVIA, LITHUANIA AND POLAND IN THE FRAMEWORK OF
THE EC FP7 PROJECT, NORDIC BALTSAT.

Abstract

Space organisations in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland (ELLP) have joined forces with the experienced space organisations Swedish Space Corporation and International Space University in the ambitious Nordic BaltSat project (NBS). NBS is an effort to facilitate the development of the space sector in the ELLP countries. The countries all have the ambition to join ESA as full members and have signed PECS agreements entering the path to membership. The potential of their respective space sectors rests on a history and experience of space activities dating back to the dawn of the space age as well as current technologies that can further be integrated and exploited in the European space sector. The objective of NBS is to identify existing and potential space organisations in niches where they have positions of relative strength, to raise awareness of the space sector in the business communities and local decision makers and to educate them on how the European space sector works. A space technology survey was performed in late 2010 and serves as the foundation for a Joint Technology Programme (JTP) for ELLP. In the JTP existing technologies are matched to critical technologies as identified by EDA/ESA/EU, ESA programmes in general, the IAP and PECS in particular, and with national space policies. From the results of the analysis a roadmap is prepared that suggests a common path for the ELLP space organisations into the larger European space framework, as attractive partners. The paper presents an overview of existing space technologies in ELLP, the match with critical technologies and highlights the roadmap resulting from the analysis that suggests a common path for the ELLP space organisations into the larger European space framework, as attractive partners.