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Legal Issues of Commercial Human Spaceflight (2)

Author: Mr. Declan O'Donnell
United Societies in Space, Inc., United States, isdac.usis@gmail.com

THE SUB-ORBITAL PRIVATE SPACE FLIGHTS MAY REQUIRE A LAW SUIT TO ESCAPE
BENEFIT SHARING

Abstract

After describing the suborbital private space flight agenda and detailing the possible space treaty problems that may apply, such as the prohibition of simple commerce in outer space, a possible lock-step and blanket defense is proposed. That is the treaty call for international cooperation to achieve a benefit for all mankind. The big problem is that short term tours into space are clearly for commercial purposes. The possible ways to present a defense are then detailed. A federal district court lawsuit in the US is recommended to adjudicate this close case so that the industry may avoid benefit sharing obligations later.