

BUSINESS INNOVATION SYMPOSIUM (E6)
Unique Perspectives of Space Entrepreneurship and Investment (3)

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BUILDING THE INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENT SUPPORTING NEW COMMERCIAL PLAYERS
FOR SPACE ACTIVITIES

Abstract

The actual institutional environment of space activities is considered. The new challenges for emerging commercial space industry sector are identified as applied to Russian national space industry. Based on first-hand experience, the concept and first results of activities are summarized for Space Technology and Telecommunication Cluster of Skolkovo Foundation, recently created Russian entity aimed at attracting small and media enterprises to participate in the space industry value chains. The main idea after the government's decision back in 2009 to establish Skolkovo as the major institutional development project is providing a number of benefits, including significant tax reductions and option for government grant application, to the small and medium innovative enterprises physically collected in the dedicated location near Moscow. The relevant applicants should concentrate in one of five priority high-tech industry areas, including information technologies, biomedical technologies, energy efficient technologies, nuclear technologies and space/telecom technologies. The key potential sources for spin-off generation are considered, including the 'New Economy' companies penetrating the upstream aerospace industry, large successful companies of related branches (aircraft industry, instrumentation, telecom, ...) for upstream / downstream segments, traditional large space industries / spinoffs, universities and research institutes, downstream companies with minor 'space' elements of business (satnav as application, ERS, reinformatics, etc). The specific is discussed of upstream and downstream segments' penetration, as well as the prospects for future operations of Skolkovo Center, the innovative 'Silicon Village' in Moscow South-West outskirt.