

BUSINESS INNOVATION SYMPOSIUM (E6)
Public/Private Human Access to Space - Supporting Studies (2)

Author: Mr. Ken Davidian

Federal Aviation Administration Office of Commercial Space Transportation (FAA/AST), United States,
ken.davidian@faa.gov

Dr. Greg Autry

University of Southern California, United States, greg@gregautry.us

UNITED STATES HUMAN ORBITAL MARKET INDUSTRY CHAIN ANALYSIS

Abstract

Under contract to the Federal Aviation Administration's Office of Commercial Space Transportation (FAA AST), the Futron Corporation conducted a review and analysis of the U.S. industrial supply chain supporting demonstrated and potential commercial human orbital spaceflight. The methodology employed parallels the National Competitive Advantage diamond model pioneered by economist Michael Porter. Qualitative data were gathered from interviews with industry participants and secondary sources. Quantitative data, primarily comparative industry statistics, were gathered from secondary sources. The scope of this analysis was restricted to the "Commercial" or "New Space" firms engaged in pursuing a competitive, fee-for-service human orbital market (HOM). This report focused on identification of the supply chain for HOM, the related industries that support this supply chain, and areas of concern in the supply chain. The study reveals that while the U.S. currently possesses significant competitive advantage in commercial human orbital spaceflight, there are several areas of note that present a challenge to the sustainability of this advantage.