SPACE TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS AND INNOVATIONS SYMPOSIUM (D2)

Launch Vehicles in Service or in Development (1)

Author: Mrs. Philippa Davies
Reaction Engines Ltd., United Kingdom, philippa.davies@reactionengines.co.uk

Mr. Mark Hempsell Hempsell Astronautics Limited, United Kingdom, hempsell@fastmail.fm

PROGRESS ON SKYLON AND SABRE

Abstract

SKYLON is a reusable SSTO Spaceplane that can take-off from a runway and reach a 300km LEO altitude with a payload of 15 tonnes and then return to Earth for a runway landing. The feature that enables this is the Synergetic Air Breathing Rocket Engine (SABRE) which has both air breathing and rocket modes. The SKYLON and SABRE design and development programme have progressed with a focus on component level technology demonstration. This paper updates on the progress of the programme.