

BUSINESS INNOVATION SYMPOSIUM (E6)

New space industry segments, firms, actor groups, and multiple programs: innovation, entrepreneurship & investment at the mesoscopic level of analysis (2)

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HAWAII, COLORADO, AND THE NETHERLANDS: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

Abstract

For more than 50 years, the state of Hawaii has had the beginnings of a burgeoning aerospace presence statewide. While Hawaii provides the aerospace industry with unique assets concerning geographic location, lack of range safety issues, and other factors critical to aerospace development, Hawaii's strategy and commitment for aerospace has been unclear. For this reason, this paper presents a comparative analysis of Hawaii's space sector with two of the world's leading space sectors, Colorado and the Netherlands, in order to provide a strategic plan that establishes a firm position going forward to support Hawaii's aerospace development statewide. This plan includes financial and other economic incentives legislatively supported by the State to help grow and diversify Hawaii's aerospace sector.

The first section of this analysis examines the business model adopted by the Colorado Space Coalition (CSC), a group of industry stakeholders working to make Colorado a center of excellence for aerospace, as blueprint for growth in Hawaii's space sector. The second section of this analysis examines the business model adopted by the Netherlands Space Business Incubation Centre (NSBIC), an ESA affiliated program that offers business support for entrepreneurs to turn space-connected business ideas into commercial companies. The findings from this section serves as a blueprint to incentivize space business entrepreneurs to launch and develop their businesses in Hawaii. The third section of this analysis analyzes the current policies both CSC and NSBIC implore to promote industry expansion and legislative advocacy. The final section takes the findings from both space sectors, and applies their most adaptable features to a Hawaii specific space business model that takes into consideration the unique advantage and disadvantages found in developing Hawaii's space sector.

The findings of this analysis includes the development of a strategic plan that creates high technology jobs and new pathways for a trained workforce in Hawaii's space sector. In addition, this analysis includes suggestions to elicit state support and direction in order to achieve the goal of establishing Hawaii as a center of space excellence. This analysis also serves as a signal to the federal, private sector and international community of the potential Hawaii has in developing its' aerospace industry. Ultimately, this analysis and aerospace development plan will serve as a blueprint for the benefit of all space-faring nations seeking to develop their space sectors.