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Space Traffic Management: From Space Situational Awareness and Space Surveillance and Tracking to developing Rules of the Road (4)

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APPLYING SPACE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT IN POLICY& REGULATORY DESIGN

Abstract

The importance of Space Traffic Management (STM) has increased in the international space community and has become widely recognized. This might be due to the increasing need to enhance the space safety and security. Until today, the STM is a controversial issue and there is no internationally agreed standard, definition, or framework on this regard. Recently, states realized the importance of the topic and the need for further collaboration among them. Therefore, several states, international organizations and individuals started to dive deep into this topic. The UAE Space Agency has conducted a study on the application of STM in the national policies and regulatory designs. This study viewed some of the international studies such as the IAA Cosmic Study 2017. It also viewed some of the domestic regulations and policies such as the 2018 U.S. policy on STM. The study in general focused on certain areas such as the definition of the STM, the related provisions of the STM in the international space treaties, elements of space traffic management, and whether if these elements covered by the UAE Space Policy, draft Law, and Regulations. The UAE Space Agency, has interest in the STM in general and has already taken into consideration the main elements and standards of the STM, when developing the domestic regulations and processes. The UAESA has and will continue also to join other global efforts towards developing a suitable international regulatory framework for the STM. In this paper, the study elements and comparison will be described, along with the conclusion remarks. In addition, it will show the application of these concluding elements of the STM in the National Space Policy and different Regulations within the UAE Space Regulatory Framework.