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Author: Dr. Ammarin Pimnoo
Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency (GISTDA), Thailand

A CONCEPT STUDY NOTE FOR SPACEPORT THAILAND

Abstract

New Space Economic in the world today that resulted from the continuing operations on space exploration of the leading Space-Faring Nations, is dramatically increasing. During President John F. Kennedy's time, there was a space policy for sending people to visit the moon with the Apollo Program that was accomplished in 1969. Even at the time, it was for competition with the Soviet Union but affected the space technology development in the U.S., and then, there were a lot of space technology developments until now.

Nowadays, there are many satellites waiting for launching into the orbit, such as the U.S. Air Force hiring SpaceX to launch at least 1,440 internet satellites for use within the military, and now SpaceX has launched the satellite internet to space more than 2,000 satellites. Even if in Thailand, the TOT Public Company Limited has cooperated with Mu Space (a Thai space company) in a joint trial of the Space IDC satellite system for data testing and low-orbit compression. The TOT aims to send internet satellites about 10 – 20 satellites soon which will start the first one in 2022. And, Mu Space also aims to send the communications throughput satellites about 10,000 for the future space business of Thailand.

Strategically, the transition from downstream user to the upstream manufacturer is possible through the development of spaceport. The spaceport development will not only turn Thailand into an upstream manufacturer but also shift the country's role to a Space-Faring Nation which is the ability to access space capabilities using Thailand's indigenous space systems and impact Thai economic and social growth. Under named "Spaceport Thailand", it will create a sustainable satellite industry, rocket industry, as well as ground equipment supports manufacturing. It will also form the competitions in business and industry-related contribution to space stability and leadership within the Asia-Pacific region. Especially, it will create a wide economic impact whether in the matter of foreign investment or curriculum modifications in the education system as well as being an inspiration to Thai youth for sustainable country development in the future. Moreover, it will affect the society that comes to employ in the development of the space technology development whether it works directly or not. And of cause, it will add new jobs in the country and increase household income which is distributed to small and medium-sized businesses. The way for Spaceport Thailand is described in the paper