

IAF BUSINESS INNOVATION SYMPOSIUM (E6)  
Entrepreneurship and Innovation: The Practitioners' Perspectives (1)

Author: Mr. Zihua Zhu  
Beijing Commsat Technology Development Co., Ltd., China, zhuzihua@commsat.cn

A TRANSITION OF CHINA'S SPACE ENTREPRENEURIAL ACTIVITIES

**Abstract**

This paper reviews the first phase of China's space entrepreneurship between 2015 and 2020 and compares it with the new phase starting from 2021 onwards. The analysis focuses on three dimensions of China's space entrepreneurial activities in terms of business model, technology capability, and finance. The analysis projects a trend the number of space startups in China will continue growing in the coming years. The new entrants are inclined to focus on specific components or technology instead of integrating a whole system, unlike the startups in the first phase of China's space entrepreneurship. The maturity of the technical capability of those space startups is also increasing with the accumulation of their ongoing missions as well as the adoption of commercially available off-the-shelf products and technology. With the steering of nascent space startup's focus, the financing of China's space entrepreneurial activities also adjusts its strategy with a new direction towards empowering vertical industries with the investment into space startups. In addition, a review on policy transition was included providing another perspective to explain the evolution of China's space entrepreneurship and the projection of its direction in the future.