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AUSTRALIA'S SPACE POLICIES AND STRATEGIES TO DEVELOP THE SPACE ECOSYSTEM

Abstract

Since the exciting announcement on the establishment of the Australian Space Agency in during the 68th International Astronautical Congress in 2017 hosted in Adelaide, Australia, there has been rapid development to create the necessary governance structure and priorities for the nation. While Australia cannot fully be considered an emerging space nation, with their contributions to support the Apollo moon landings back in 1969, the country has been seemingly dormant in cultivating their space activities until domestic thought leaders utilized the major space conference to open the nation's eyes on the impact of the space sector to the local economy.

Over the past five years, a deluge of strategy and policy documents, from the local state and territory, defence space, and civilian space sectors have contributed to the excitement in growing the space ecosystem of the nation. Each document focuses on opportunities to bring a piece of the space action for their local region, highlighting the benefits of their geographical location to workforce talent. Additionally, the multilateral and bilateral agreements, such as the AUKUS (Australia-United Kingdom-United States) agreements, to the Quad partnership (Australia-India-Japan-United States) continue to press the strategic importance of space technologies in trade relationships. The continuous mantra of tripling the size of the sector to

12bn and growing an additional 20,000 to the space workforce by 2030, has led the charge to bring the whole of government together

In addition to the policies released, there have been announcements at the state and federal level that continue to top the previous gesture of support. With the most recent (February 2022) announcement of the federal government that it will invest 65 million in the nation's space industry to bolster sovereign manufacturing capabilities and eventually send an Australian