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THE GLOBAL SPACE ACCELERATOR LANDSCAPE

Abstract

Space accelerators are an integral and growing part of the new space startup and innovation landscape. By promoting the growth of space accelerators, countries can build their new space economies and spur innovation in domestic and regional private space ventures. Accelerators support early-stage startups in growth stages through education, mentorship, and sometimes financing. Space accelerators are defined in this paper as an accelerator that mentions space in either its primary or secondary focuses. These startups will enter the accelerators for a fixed amount of time as a cohort of startups in an intense learning period. Accelerators can be incredibly beneficial for domestic and regional private space ventures. Space-focused accelerators are essential to growing a healthy, robust, and well-connected space sector in developed and emerging space nations. This paper looks at the significant global space accelerators and the qualities that made them successful while also providing background on the major accelerators around the globe. This paper maps the space accelerator landscape comprehensively and conducts a comparative analysis of the differences and similarities in the space accelerators. With this analysis, recommendations are proposed based on the lessons learned and best practices of the global space accelerators. Thus, providing a framework to evaluate and adapt what has worked elsewhere for emerging space nations. One of the key findings of this research is that space accelerators that work with mature space industry partners deliver better results. This evaluation of the space accelerator landscape will assist emerging, and mature space nations grow their domestic space accelerators for success by helping them learn from the lessons learned from the other space accelerators.