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CREATING NEW SECTORS IN THE LEO SPACE ECONOMY: IN-SPACE MANUFACTURING OF BIOMEDICAL PRODUCTS & ADVANCED MATERIALS

Abstract

NASA continues to support the development of commercial applications that are adding new sectors to the commercial space economy. As a follow-on to six projects selected in 2020, NASA recently selected eight new in space manufacturing (InSPA) projects in a second round of commercialization awards announced April 15, 2022. These include a variety of new biomedical and advanced materials concepts that have the potential to change the paradigm of regenerative medicine and technology. This session will review four NASA InSPA projects - two biomedical and two advanced materials applications - and discuss commercial in-space manufacturing in LEO. Topics include how these products will 1) provide benefit to life on Earth, 2) advance the commercial LEO space economy, 3) discuss initial work on ISS and 4) transition of these in-space manufacturing applications to the Axiom Station first module, anticipated to attach to ISS in 2024.