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Space Economy Session – A focus on in-space operations and their potential to stimulate economic
development (3)

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THE SPACESCAPEScape: UNDERSTANDING THE BREADTH OF INVESTMENT IN THE SPACE
INDUSTRY

Abstract

While the past two decades have seen unprecedented levels of venture investment into the space industry, venture capital is only responsible for part of the growth of commercial space. This paper will characterize all forms of investment in the space industry ranging from international government budgets to internal RD by large contractors to the surge of venture and angel investment to equity players becoming involved. We aim to provide a broad representation of the different types of investment sources, mechanisms, and recipients in the space industry.

This paper is critical to understanding the strategic investment decisions and accomplishments of space companies and how that landscape has changed as the commercial space industry has reached new heights. This paper seeks to aid and inform industry, government, and academia decision-making by providing the space community with a full picture of industry investment dynamics that looks beyond venture capital into different institutional players. Additionally, this paper seeks to provide insight to investors, the aerospace industry, and the wider public about investment trends in the space ecosystem.