

21st IAA SYMPOSIUM ON SPACE DEBRIS (A6)
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HOW TO MAKE MONEY FROM SPACE DEBRIS?

Abstract

We aim to demonstrate how we might profit from space debris in this paper.

First, we need to understand what space debris is.

Space debris – or ‘space junk’ – is any natural or man-made particle that surrounds the Earth or is in space. Approximately 34,000 objects larger than 10 centimeters and 128 million objects currently exist in space. It can cause collisions with other satellites or rockets, which can make future space exploration and communications very difficult. Here’s all you need to know about space junk.

It may be perceived as “junk,” and as such, we cannot use it to our advantage. Yet, we want to prove you otherwise.

There are a number of ways to profit from space debris, but it’s important to note that some of these strategies might demand a sizeable financial commitment and technological know-how. Here are a few possible methods to profit from space debris:

Salvage: One method to profit from space debris is to recover valuable components from retired satellites, used rocket stages, and other debris in space. These materials may consist of rare earth elements, precious metals, and other valuable materials that are in limited supply on Earth.

Recycling: Creating useful products from space debris is another method to profit from it. For instance, some businesses are looking into using 3D printing technology to make new goods from used space debris.

Space debris removal services: As the amount of space debris continues to grow, there is a growing need for companies that can remove it from orbit. These companies could charge fees for their services, either from government agencies or private companies that own satellites and other space assets.

Space tourism: Although this is more of a long-term proposition, some companies are exploring the possibility of offering space tourism trips that include a visit to space debris fields. This could potentially provide a unique and valuable experience for adventurous travelers.

Research and development: Some companies and organizations are investing in research and development projects that focus on space debris. These projects could potentially lead to new technologies and products that could be sold for profit in the future.

In conclusion, profiting from space debris will require a sizable investment and knowledge of space research and technology. However, as the amount of space debris increases, there may be more chances for business owners and investors to make money off of this expanding issue.