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BALANCING REGULATION, SUSTAINABILITY, AND GROWTH IN THE SPACE INDUSTRY: INSIGHTS FROM INDUSTRY INTERVIEWS

Abstract

This paper explores the interplay between regulatory frameworks, sustainability goals, and industry growth in the space sector. Drawing from interviews with representatives from both space agencies and private companies, the paper sheds light on the critical decisions governments must make to attract companies to their countries while fostering a sustainable and thriving space industry.

Examples from interviews with industry players, such as incorporation strategies and the historical arbitrage in regulatory fees, highlight the complexities faced by companies entering the space market. The need for clear regulations and accessible market access, exemplified by Japan's approach, emerges as a key factor in attracting investment and facilitating industry growth.

The paper also delves into the challenges of navigating regulatory requirements globally, emphasizing the importance of standardized databases and streamlined processes for market access. Insights from industry experts underscore the necessity for governments to make space industry entry affordable and accessible, thereby fostering innovation and competition.

Moreover, the paper addresses environmental concerns in satellite systems, revealing the absence of mandatory environmental reviews and highlighting the need for regulatory oversight in mitigating potential impacts. It underscores the importance of striking a balance between industry growth and environmental sustainability to ensure the responsible use of space resources.

In conclusion, this paper offers valuable insights into the regulatory landscape of the space industry, providing policymakers with actionable recommendations for promoting sustainable growth while attracting companies to their respective countries. It underscores the pivotal role of governments in creating a conducive environment for the space industry to thrive, thereby contributing to both economic prosperity and environmental stewardship.