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IAF HUMAN SPACEFLIGHT SYMPOSIUM (B3)

Commercial Human Spaceflight Programmes (2)

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THE SINGLE-PERSON SPACECRAFT IS IDEAL FOR COMMERCIAL EVA

Abstract

Commercial EVA will most likely look different than traditional suited operations. The Single-Person Spacecraft (SPS) is a promising alternative providing capabilities, efficiency, and a cost savings not possible with the current or planned solutions. For example, the SPS propulsion system enables rapid translation to areas inaccessible by suited astronauts. Also, SPS pilots do not need to pre-breathe or use an airlock which means the system is lighter and they can be outdoors in about 10 minutes versus the average 58 hours for suited astronauts. Particularly attractive for commercial operations is the operational cost saving of approximately 1.3MperEVA.SPSperformanceisanotherimportantasset.Because of limited breathing oxygen and electrical pover—hand whereas the SPS flies directly to the site. Once there, the pilotuses advanced robotic stoper form the task while suited layer gloves. To further improve efficiency at the jobsite, the SPS has alarge field of view for line—of—sight visibility and into orbits ervicing. Neutral buoyancy used for training suited astronauts is expensive and resource intensive. The SPS uses flight pressure, pure oxygenatmosphere in the spaces uit, SPS pilot soperate in aless flammable earth—like, oxygen/nitrogen envir size—fits—all which eliminates the hardware inventory and time required for on—orbit suits izing. The commercial SPS has appeared to the suit of the suite of the suit o