

SpaceBiz Breakfast

Business Perspectives on Space Debris

Risks, Opportunities, or Both?

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What is Space Debris?

of cataloged objects in LEO:

1957 – 2007: ~10,000 objects **2007 – 2021**: ~20,000 objects **2022**: ~22,000 objects

"Constellations"

Operational satellites or spacecrafts

"Clouds"

Fragments created from collisions or humanmade events

"Clusters"

Defunct rocket (parts) or satellites







Space Debris

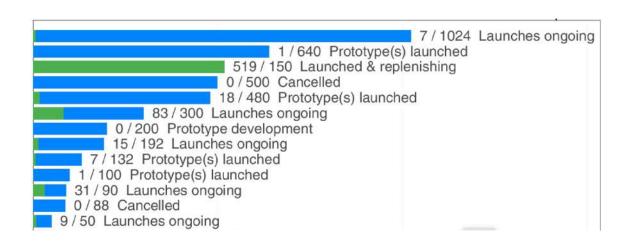
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Why? Smaller satellites but larger constellations

Constellation size of satellite internet company

	Country	Company stage	Planned #
Starlink (SpaceX)	US	Private, considering to list in future	12,000
Guo Wang (GW)	China	State-owned	13,000
OneWeb	UK	Acquired	2,000
Project Kuiper	US	Owned by Amazon	3,200
AST Spacemobile	US	SPAC listed	170
Lynk Global	US	Series B	5,000

Constellation size of Earth Observation company



More than 5,000 Earth Observation satellites planned to be launched to space

What are the risks, other than sustainability in space?

Regulatory Risks



No law to prevent country from creating more space debris. A new rule requiring satellite operators to de-orbit old satellites in 5 years. **Asset Risks**



Probability of satellites and space debris collision increases substantially and will be extrapolated when collisions happened. **Business Risks**



Commercial satellite operators and launchers based their growth assumptions on "**business as usual**" in space, which might not be the case.



More stringent government actions expected

Like waste management on earth, government's policy and spending create "value" on junks.



- By 2030, to regulate removal of all European satellites from valuable orbits
- Established new Space Safety programme "Clear Space" to support "tow truck" in space

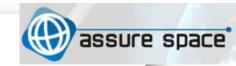


- Funded projects in removing and recycling space debris
- Each instance of **planned release of debris larger than 5 mm** in any dimension that remains on orbit for more than 25 years should be evaluated and justified.



- Funding \$70million+ annual on an AI project aims to create algorithms that will autonomously monitor and help satellites to avoid space debris
- Space debris guideline and fostering international exchange like the Sino-US Expert Workshop

No more spacecraft insurance, at least in LEO



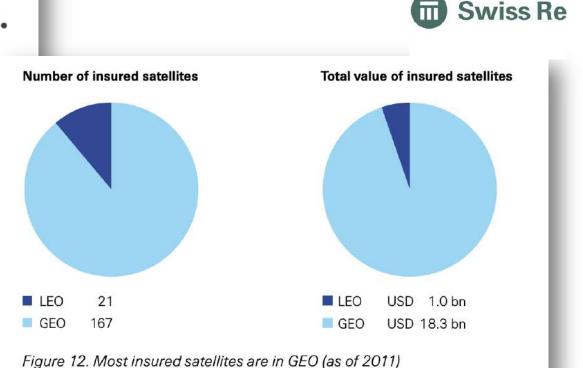
4 minute read · September 2, 2021 3:55 AM GMT+8 · Last Updated a year ago

Launching into space? Not so fast. Insurers balk at new coverage

By Noor Zainab Hussain and Carolyn Cohn

Disrupted

- Insurers either stopped providing spacecraft insurance, or only cover GEO which is deemed to be less risky.
- Other than insurance against loss of property value, there is also **third-party insurance**

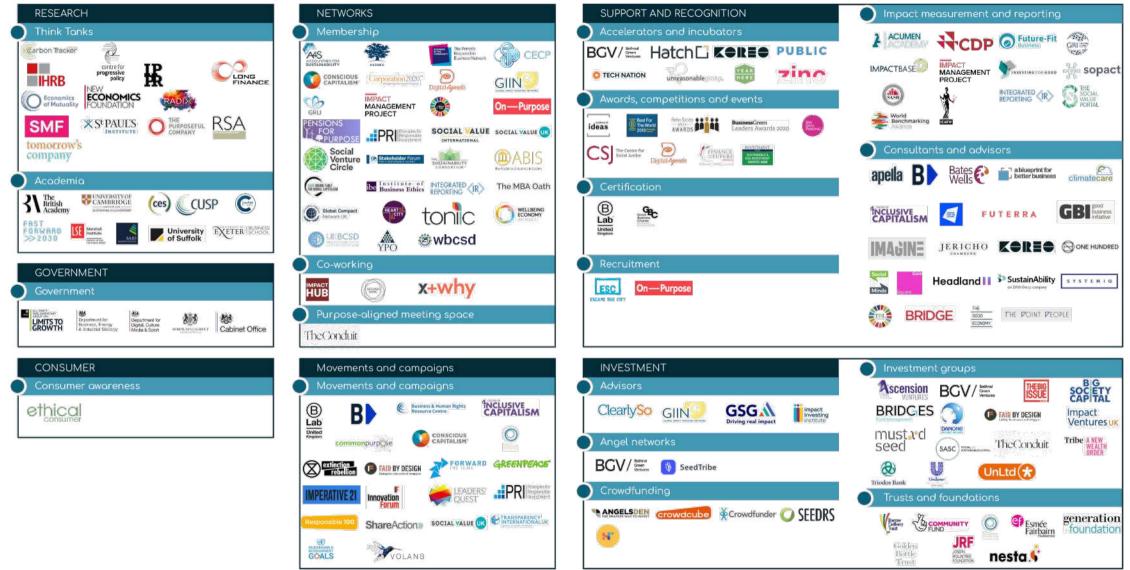


Business opportunities of Space Debris

- How will the NewSpace economy change because of Space Debris?
- What are the opportunities that arise from the Space debris Ecosystem?
- What are the new business models to avoid creating more Space Debris?



Let's take a step back – Sustainability on Earth



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What are the opportunities? 3R for Space Junks

Remove



Reuse



Recycle



Japanese company. Developing satellite end-of-life and active debris removal services to mitigate the growing and hazardous buildup of debris in space US company. Providing on-orbit refueling services to **extend the lifetime of operational satellites**, which are planned to be decommissioned US company. Building metal foundries in space with the use of debris as an input resource, enabling in-space manufacturing and accelerating space industrialization

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More investors have started to see the opportunities

SPACE VENTURES

"The *miniaturization* of technology and the *lower costs* to send small sat into space means more people want to do it"

Are satellite companies the "upstream suppliers" for space debris companies?

"The *most pressing necessity* in the space industry (on solving the space debris problems) leads to the *most profitable inventions*"

What will the market size be when space debris removal becomes mandatory?