



Spaceplane, Future Reusable Vehicle

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Abstract:

Promoting future manned space activities, development of the space transportation systems to and from lower earth orbit, as driven by the clear need for affordability and operational flexibility, would be key issue. For such advanced systems, the space plane powered by hypersonic airbreathing propulsion system, optimally configured as either single stage or two stage, horizontal take-off and landing system, should be potentially promising option. In Japan, National Aerospace Laboratory (Currently JAXA) has initiated to study the Space Plane Concept and develop the required technology bases since 1987. The present talk will discuss spaceplane vehicle design issues with an emphasis on its design methodology, key enabling technologies and R&D endeavors conducted by Japan.

Biosketch:

Executive Fellow, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), 2004 -

Senior Advisor, JAXA, 2009 -

Government Council (Japan):

International Committee of Academic Societies:

AIAA HyTASP Committee, Japan Representative & Technology Chair of International Space Plane and Hypersonic Systems and Technology Conference (1993-), IAC Moscow, Russia, AIAA Associate Fellow (2001-).

Organizer & Acting Chairman:

International Workshop on Space Plane and Hypersonic Technology in 1994, International Workshop on Spaceplane/RLV Technology Demonstrators in 1997.

Editorial Member & Author:

Dictionary of Aeronautical and Space Technologies, Revised and Enlarged Edition, 1995

Aerospace Engineering Manual (3rd Edition), Japan Society for Aeronautical and Space Sciences, 2005

Author of more than 160 Technical Papers and Books.

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