

# **From Earth to Orbit: An Assessment of Transportation Options**

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# From Earth To Orbit An Assessment Of Transportation Options

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## **From Earth To Orbit An Assessment Of Transportation Options:**

**From Earth to Orbit** National Research Council, Division on Engineering and Physical Sciences, Commission on Engineering and Technical Systems, Aeronautics and Space Engineering Board, Committee on Earth-to-Orbit Transportation Options, 1992-02-01 If the United States hopes to continue as a leader in space it must invest now in better earth to orbit technology by replacing obsolete launch facilities while also developing a new class of more robust and reliable vehicles From Earth to Orbit provides strategies to reduce launch costs while increasing the reliability and resiliency of vehicles It also recommends continued improvements for the Space Shuttle Orbiter and its subsystems and the development of a Space Transportation Main Engine STME

**From Earth to Orbit** National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), 2018-07-17 The report assesses the requirements benefits technological feasibility and roles of Earth to Orbit transportation systems and options that could be developed in support of future national space programs Transportation requirements including those for Mission to Planet Earth Space Station Freedom assembly and operation human exploration of space space science missions and other major civil space missions are examined These requirements are compared with existing planned and potential launch capabilities including expendable launch vehicles ELV s the Space Shuttle the National Launch System NLS and new launch options In addition the report examines propulsion systems in the context of various launch vehicles These include the Advanced Solid Rocket Motor ASRM the Redesigned Solid Rocket Motor RSRM the Solid Rocket Motor Upgrade SRMU the Space Shuttle Main Engine SSME the Space Transportation Main Engine STME existing expendable launch vehicle engines and liquid oxygen hydrocarbon engines Consideration is given to systems that have been proposed to accomplish the national interests in relatively cost effective ways with the recognition that safety and reliability contribute to cost effectiveness Related resources including technology propulsion test facilities and manufacturing capabilities are also discussed Gavin Joseph G Jr and Blond Edmund and Brill Yvonne C and Budiansky Bernard and Cooper Robert S and Demisch Wolfgang H and Hawk Clark W and Kerrebrock Jack L and Lichtenberg Byron K and Mager Artur Unspecified Center ADVANCED SOLID ROCKET MOTOR STS LAUNCH VEHICLES MISSION PLANNING PROPULSION SYSTEM CONFIGURATIONS PROPULSION SYSTEM PERFORMANCE SPACE MISSIONS SPACE PROGRAMS SPACE SHUTTLE MAIN ENGINE SPACE SHUTTLES SPACE STATION FREEDOM SPACE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM SPACECRAFT LAUNCHING AEROSPACE SAFETY COST EFFECTIVENESS MANUFACTURING MISSION TO PLANET EARTH NASA SPACE PROGRAMS SPACECR

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Council,Division on Engineering and Physical Sciences,Commission on Engineering and Technical Systems,Aeronautics and Space Engineering Board,Committee on Earth-to-Orbit Transportation Options,1992-02-01 If the United States hopes to continue as a leader in space it must invest now in better earth to orbit technology by replacing obsolete launch facilities while also developing a new class of more robust and reliable vehicles From Earth to Orbit provides strategies to reduce launch costs while increasing the reliability and resiliency of vehicles It also recommends continued improvements for the Space Shuttle Orbiter and its subsystems and the development of a Space Transportation Main Engine STME      **32nd**

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Rampino,1997 The United States is embarked on a journey toward maturity as a spacefaring nation One key step along the way is development of a reusable launch vehicle RLV The most recent National Space Transportation Policy August 1994 assigned improvement and evolution of current expendable launch vehicles to the Department of Defense while National Aeronautical Space Administration NASA is responsible for working with industry on demonstrating RLV technology The purpose of this study is to help ensure the US military especially the USAF is prepared to take advantage of RLVs should the NASA led effort to develop an RLV demonstrator prove successful The focus of this study is an explanation of how the US military could use RLVs by describing and analyzing two concepts of operations Four major conclusions resulted from the analysis First RLVs have military potential They can perform a variety of missions including responsive spacelift reconnaissance and strike However the economic feasibility of using RLVs for earth to earth transportation is questionable Second design choices for an operational RLV will have effects on risk cost capability and operations efficiency Trade offs will have to be made between NASA commercial and military requirements if all three parties are to use the same fleet of RLVs Third increased investment in propulsion technology development is warranted to ensure success Fourth the top priority for the RLV program even from the military s perspective should remain cheap and responsive access to space The research led to three recommendations First the US military should become a more active participant in the RLV program to ensure its requirements are defined and incorporated Second America should not pursue development of operational RLVs before the

technology is ready  
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**Energy Research**

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