

THE BRAZILIAN SPACE PROGRAM - CONNECTIONS TO LIGHTWEIGHT MATERIALS

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Abstract

Brazilians have been working on space matters in the last five decades. Since the beginning, activities have been conducted separately by civilian and military organizations. In the 1980's, the subject has been organized into a single framework: the Brazilian Complete Space Mission (MECB). This organization has been transferred in 1994 to the coordination of the then newly created Brazilian Space Agency (AEB). Since then, the Agency has developed public policies (PNDAE), has created an Integrated System (SINDAE) involving all the area stakeholders, and has acted according to a National Space Activities Program (PNAE). This Program encompasses activities with the objectives of increasing the national sovereignty in space matters, the indigenous industry competitiveness in the market of space products and services, and the rewards of space technologies to the Brazilian society.

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