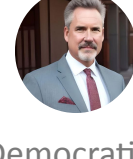


What does it mean to 'democratize space'?



Alex Miller 3 minutes

Democratize Space Space Sustainability



Avoiding a new digital divide is one important part of it

Space is considered by many to be the great communications equalizer. Billions of people globally still have no or limited connectivity, creating a digital divide between wealthy and developing countries. Much of the divide is created by the high cost of delivering internet through terrestrial networks. Creating networks using cell towers or with cable or fiber is extremely expensive — particularly in less-populated areas where the number of customers can't justify the cost.

The opportunity to access space cannot be limited to the wealthiest countries, companies or people, which will only form a space environment of "haves" versus "have nots."

With their ability to reach across the planet, satellites can be seen as leveling the playing field to creating a connected Earth. But to offer universal accessibility to communications and connectivity, the cost of space entry must be lowered.

Already, some satellite operators are providing lower-cost broadband to parts of the world previously un- or underserved.

E-Space is democratizing space by empowering governments, businesses and communities around the world to harness the power of low Earth orbit (LEO) space — with minimal local expertise — by reducing the total cost of the build, ownership and service by 90% as compared to competing systems.

The E-Space technology is primarily designed to connect Internet of Things (IoT) devices — an important and fast-growing area with enormous potential to help everyone from small farmers to large corporations in a wide variety of use cases.

And that's just part of the promise of satellite-connected IoT.

Empowering nations with universal access to space

Today's geopolitical environment is driving a desire for national sovereignty and autonomy, with many governments fearing a scenario whereby a foreign country or company with control of its communications can "digitally switch-off" their infrastructure and economy.

E-Space is offering guaranteed access to LEO for all nations, with a specific focus toward emerging space nations. The company is developing cost-efficient sovereign constellations to be built, launched and initially operated by E-Space, then seamlessly transitioned to a nation to securely manage and operate.

By democratizing access to LEO, nations can focus on building value-added products and services for their local constituents.

Paths to democratize space

National sovereign constellations: Many nations have high interest in their own LEO constellation with the added security of being able to manage, monitor and control their entire system. E-Space is working to offer nations new business models for space entry: Constellations-as-a-Service (CaaS) for lease, and Constellations-as-a-Product (Caap) for full ownership.

E-Space is focused on making space affordable with full LEO constellations costing up to 9 orders of magnitude less than competing satellite systems — with 20 times the performance.

First commercially available federated space system: If additional communications capabilities are needed, E-Space will be able to reconfigure its commercial constellation within 24 hours to aid any nation's sovereign constellation. This unique and dynamic flexing can substantially increase capacity and resiliency in times of need (disaster response, wartime, etc.) and provide any nation with a huge amount of performance inventory available on demand.

Foundational platform upon which the world can build new services and applications: E-Space will offer a multi-application cloud server in space to enable quick, space-based IoT application development in a capital-light environment. The E-Space platform has the potential to stimulate significant demand for tailored, value-added IoT applications, extending the usefulness of the system and creating new jobs and opportunities for innovation.

E-Space market disruptions

To truly change the game for delivering this connectivity affordably on a global basis, E-Space had to move past traditional satellite technology and business models to gain several key advantages:

Lowest cost: This can be achieved through advancements in satellite and terminal design and satellite manufacturing practices.

Easy implementation and operation: Constellations require minimal local expertise to enter space.

Ongoing economic growth opportunities: These can be gained through localized use-case application development.

A fully connected world is a world better prepared to meet the challenges ahead from climate change, population growth, food scarcity, environmental degradation, and many others. By democratizing space, and lowering the barriers to entry, E-Space is enabling more nations, enterprises and communities to gain access to this important and evolving communications resource.



Alex Miller


Alex Miller leads editorial at E-Space. Based in Denver, he's a longtime journalist who's been involved with the satellite industry for over a decade.

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