

Space Debris – Evaluation of risk perception and countermeasures

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The problem of Space Debris not only belongs to purely technical domain. Although the main effort is to establish legal background to handle with possible accident caused by space debris as well as finding countermeasures, another relevant problem is the perception of risk by both general public and space operators.

The main objective of this paper concerns the analysis and comparison of real and perceived risk related to space debris in order to give useful outputs for decision makers in both public and private sector of space operators. A correct evaluation of the real risk deriving from space debris will be particularly useful in the next years to correctly evaluate launch and operational phases of commercial satellites as well as possible countermeasures to avoid or limitate damages. In the public sector, a correct evaluation of risk will represent an extremely useful tool to handle crisis management and promote correct information on space.