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Paper Session II-C - SSI's Commercial Space Launch Services

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SSI's COMMERCIAL SPACE LAUNCH SERVICES

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ABSTRACT

The delivery of small payloads to both suborbital and orbital space is a developing market for commercial launch services companies. The market size is becoming more defined and the rate of growth for the next several years is predicted. Since 1982, Space Services Incorporated (SSI) has had a demonstrated capability to meet the needs of small payload users. SSI's launch of Conestoga I in 1982 demonstrated the company's capability to design, procure, integrate and launch a spaceflight vehicle from an unimproved launch site. SSI provides small payload launch services for a variety of missions. The Conestoga family of launch vehicles has been designed using the same basic hardware in several configurations for different mission requirements. The Starfire family of sounding rockets uses similar design concepts. Starfire I was launched March 29, 1989 for the University of Alabama in Huntsville's (UAH) Consortium for Materials Development in Space. SSI's company mission is to provide reliable, low cost access to space with launch schedules tailored to payload user requirements.