1
00:00:01,960 --> 00:00:17,210
Music

2
00:00:17,210 --> 00:00:23,010
Brent Jett: When I run into people sometimes in airports and they ask me what I'm working on I tell

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00:00:23,010 --> 00:00:26,110
them I'm working on commercial crew and they are like, oh, we're going to commercialize our

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00:00:26,110 --> 00:00:31,790
astronauts? And I have to explain, no, it's not about commercial crew, it's about a commercial

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00:00:31,790 --> 00:00:37,230
transportation system to get NASA crew members to and from the International Space Station.

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00:00:37,230 --> 00:00:43,280
We're doing it a little bit differently than a traditional NASA program because we're trying to develop

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00:00:43,280 --> 00:00:51,740
systems that not only NASA can use to transport our astronauts to the ISS but to also,

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00:00:51,740 --> 00:00:59,880
the commercial industry can use for other customers.

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00:00:59,880 --> 00:01:05,950
Brent Jett: We are investing with multiple companies, letting them know what our needs are for the

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00:01:05,950 --> 00:01:11,110
ultimate services phase where they are providing transportation to ISS.

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00:01:11,110 --> 00:01:16,770
But we're allowing them a little bit more flexibility to develop the systems.

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00:01:16,770 --> 00:01:24,640
We're assisting them where we can. And, ultimately, we'll be approving and verifying the fact that their

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00:01:24,640 --> 00:01:27,560

systems meet our safety and mission requirements.

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00:01:27,560 --> 00:01:36,500
So, at the end it's not that much different but in the beginning it's quite different.

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00:01:36,500 --> 00:01:42,510
Brent Jett: I look at the investment that we've made on the space station program and that investment

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00:01:42,510 --> 00:01:47,650
has been very significant in terms of if you go back to all the money that we've invested,

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00:01:47,650 --> 00:01:52,780
the shuttle flights to assemble. And we're right at the point in space station where we're starting to reap

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00:01:52,780 --> 00:01:59,970
the benefits, the scientific benefits of that investment. In order to maintain people on orbit,

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00:01:59,970 --> 00:02:06,320
you need it to do that science. You need to be able to supply them with cargo.

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00:02:06,320 --> 00:02:11,340
And you need to be able to swap them out periodically. Right now, as a partnership,

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00:02:11,340 --> 00:02:17,130
we have one way to get humans up and down and that is the Soyuz, the Russian Soyuz system.

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00:02:17,130 --> 00:02:24,110
So we are single string on getting people up and down. I think the real need is to have at least,

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00:02:24,110 --> 00:02:30,490
you know, some redundancy in our capability to get people up and down to ISS and the

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00:02:30,490 --> 00:02:34,750
Commercial Crew Program is going to provide the redundancy.

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00:02:34,750 --> 00:02:44,020
So we will have both Soyuz and a U.S. system, at least one, that can do that.

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00:02:44,020 --> 00:02:50,700
Brent Jett: If we're going to be a species who robustly explores space, in order to do it cost effectively,

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00:02:50,700 --> 00:02:59,210
there's got to be an economic incentive that comes along with it. So, NASA can stretch the frontier,

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00:02:59,210 --> 00:03:06,270
but you know, the money that's required to do that is going to be difficult to sustain any type of

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00:03:06,270 --> 00:03:13,140
exploration of that frontier and that's going to have to come from what I believe has to really drive from

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00:03:13,140 --> 00:03:18,630
a commercial economic type of engine and I think the Commercial Crew Program

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00:03:18,630 --> 00:03:28,260
and the commercial cargo program are really the first steps in trying to make that happen.

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00:03:28,260 --> 00:03:34,910
Brent Jett: My hope is that, you know, if the commercial spaceflight industry does flourish and other

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00:03:34,910 --> 00:03:40,810
markets emerge for transportation to low Earth orbit, human transportation,

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00:03:40,810 --> 00:03:47,190
that more and more individuals, more and more people will have the opportunity to fly in space.

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00:03:47,190 --> 00:03:52,820
I know initially it will be very expensive and so that market will be very limited,

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00:03:52,820 --> 00:04:04,770
but it is such an amazing experience that in my view a commercial industry that ultimately has other

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00:04:04,770 --> 00:04:10,250
customers and other reasons to fly to low Earth orbit, I think it's really exciting. And I think,

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00:04:10,250 --> 00:04:15,810

not just school kids, but I think Americans in general, get excited by that opportunity that someday,

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00:04:15,810 --> 00:04:21,750
maybe not for them, but maybe their kids or their grandkids, even if they don't want to become an

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00:04:21,750 --> 00:04:25,110
astronaut, might have the opportunity, you know, a professional astronaut,