



“How Space Tourism Can Help Solve Italy's Crisis”

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--- ABSTRACT ---

A major cause of Europe's economic problems today is that industrialisation has been a success. As a result of centuries of economic and technological development since the European "Rinascimento", machines now perform much of the work that people used to do. Consequently there is an urgent need for major new industries to grow to large scale in order to employ millions of people no longer needed in older industries. The enormous growth of air travel during the 20th Century to more than 1 Billion passengers in 2000, thereby employing nearly 100 million people around the world today, suggests that space travel could grow to 1 Billion passengers in 2100 - thereby employing 100 million around the world.

The feasibility of this scenario is discussed, as well as Italy's ability to start it by developing a sub-orbital passenger vehicle.

--- SUNTO BIOGRAFICO DELL'AUTORE ---

Dr. Patrick Collins is a well-known and respected authority on space economics, space tourism, reusable launch vehicles, and space solar power. He is a professor of economics at Azabu University in Japan and adviser to a number of companies and organisations. The focus of Dr. Collins' research for the past 25 years has been how to stimulate growth of commercial space activities, the two main opportunities being tourism and energy supply. Dr. Collins performed the first market research on space tourism in Japan in 1993, and collaboratively in the USA in 1995, and it has been very satisfactory for him to see his results confirmed by Nasa-funded studies performed in recent years. He is co-founder of Space Future Consulting, which maintains the Spacefuture.com archive. Dr Collins is closely involved with Japanese work on space tourism and space solar power, subjects which are gradually getting more and more attention, and is Chairman of the Society for Space Tourism of Japan (SSTJ). Dr. Collins is widely published, including an editorial in Aviation Week, and an invited speech at the AIAA Wright Brothers Centenary Celebration in Dayton. Patrick is co-founder of the Space Renaissance International, where he holds the position of Vice-President. The following are some of the papers and books authored or co-authored by Dr. Collins, many of which are downloadable at: www.spacefuture.com/

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