



MEMORANDUM

Date: April 11, 2018

To: The Honorable Chairman and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "CHH", is written over the printed name "C.H. Huckelberry".

Re: **World View NASA Payload Launch from Space Port Tucson and Northern Sky Research Article on High Altitude Platforms**

On March 29, 2018, World View successfully launched a stratollite balloon commissioned by NASA Flight Opportunities for NASA Ames Research Center and Space Environment Technologies. This balloon launch was the fourth launch from Space Port Tucson and one of twenty successful major high-altitude balloon launches conducted by World View over the last several years. World View anticipates an increased mission cadence throughout the remainder of 2018, at a rate of approximately one to two missions per month, with significantly more in 2019 and beyond.

World View continues to grow and receive significant additional capital funding. Most recently World View received financing from Accel, a prominent Silicon Valley investment firm.

The Northern Sky Research article indicates that projections for high altitude platforms forecasts \$1.7 billion in revenues and the balloon market remains the largest and strongest driver of revenues for these platforms.

The photograph used in the April 2, 2018 article is from a successful balloon launch by World View at Space Port Tucson.

CHH/anc

Attachments

c: Jan Leshar, Chief Deputy County Administrator
Dr. John Moffatt, Director, Economic Development Office

http://tucson.com/business/world-view-launches-nasa-payload-from-spaceport-tucson/article_6069fbf4-db57-5be7-8519-2519b9b9507c.html

World View launches NASA payload from Spaceport Tucson

David Wichner Arizona Daily Star Mar 29, 2018 Updated 30 min ago



A World View Stratollite balloon vehicle is prepared for launch from Spaceport Tucson on Thursday, March 29, 2018. World View Enterprises

MORE INFORMATION



World View balloon blast did \$200,000 in damage to Pima County-owned building

- World View balloon flight from Tucson successful after five days
- World View launches first space balloon from Tucson
- World View's commercial balloon business is taking off

World View Enterprises successfully launched one of its stratospheric balloon vehicles carrying a payload for NASA from Spaceport Tucson on Thursday morning.

The company also announced a new investment round of \$26.5 million led by a prominent Silicon Valley private-equity investment firm.

Thursday's high-altitude mission took off from the spaceport, adjacent to World View's headquarters south of Tucson International Airport, at about 9:39 a.m., the company said in a news release.

The flight was commissioned by the NASA Flight Opportunities program office for two principal customers, the NASA Ames Research Center and Space Environment Technologies, both of which are studying radiation detection and its energy levels at different altitudes.

The balloon vehicle is expected to gather data and stay aloft for less than 24 hours, depending on winds and landing conditions, a World View spokesman said.

"These types of missions provide World View the opportunity to use our flight platform to support important scientific research that will benefit humanity back here on Earth," said Jane Poynter, World View founder and CEO.

World View's high-altitude balloon vehicle, called the Stratollite, can take small payloads into the stratosphere for commercial and research applications at a fraction of the cost of space launches, and plans to someday take tourists into near-space in special capsules.

The Stratollites are controlled in flight with a proprietary ballasting system and landed under control of a steerable parafoil, typically in remote areas.

Thursday's launch was the fourth from Spaceport Tucson since an inaugural mission in October and the first since a grounded hydrogen-filled balloon exploded there in an incident that damaged World View's county-leased building.

Also on Thursday, World View announced that it has closed a \$26.5 million, Series C round of financing led by Accel, a prominent Silicon Valley investment firm.

The funding round, which included major investments by prior investors Canaan Partners and Norwest Venture Partners, follows earlier private-equity financing rounds totaling \$22 million.

The World View investment is the first in the space sector for Accel, which was an early-stage investor in companies including Facebook, Dropbox and Spotify.

Accel's Sameer Ghandi will join World View's board of directors, the company said.

Contact senior reporter David Wichner at dwichner@tucson.com or 573-4181. On Twitter: [@dwichner](https://twitter.com/dwichner). On Facebook: [Facebook.com/DailyStarBiz](https://www.facebook.com/DailyStarBiz)

David Wichner

Senior reporter covering business and technology for the Arizona Daily Star/ [Tucson.com](http://tucson.com)



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Business

High Altitude Platforms to Generate \$1.7 Billion in Revenue, Says NSR

By Kendall Russell | April 2, 2018

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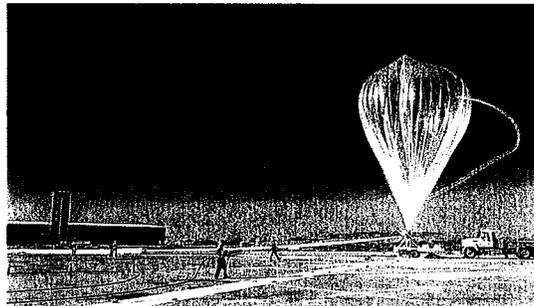


Photo: World View.

Northern Sky Research's (NSR) newly released High Altitude Platforms (HAPs), 2nd Edition report forecasts \$1.7 billion in cumulative HAPs revenues over the next decade for airships, balloons and pseudo-satellite platforms. Of the three platforms, the balloon market remains the largest and strongest driver of revenues.

According to NSR, Latin America, Africa and Asia present the largest service opportunity, mainly for communication and remote sensing applications, while North America and Europe dominate HAPs equipment revenues.

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Currently, more than 40 HAPs programs are in various stages of development. These programs target traditional and unique applications such as communications, remote sensing, surveillance, orbital access and near-space tourism. Driven by lower costs and lower latency, HAPs offer a complementary and sometimes unique value proposition creating new opportunities. Balloons are the most mature market for HAPs with 50 percent of all programs currently operational. And while most HAPs are still in preliminary stages of development, recent investments from large telecom operators, such as SoftBank, indicate growing interest in the potential for HAPs.

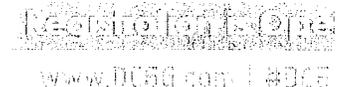
“High military interest for remote sensing and surveillance applications, along with commercial interest in bringing internet to the unconnected billions, facilitates HAPs market growth. Despite competition from small satellite constellations and Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS), HAPs will see steady growth in the coming decade due to their unique value proposition, especially in terms of capex and coverage,” said Siddharth Shihora, NSR analyst and lead report author.

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November 12 - 13, 2018
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