



Space Insurance : an incentive for Space Traffic Management?

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23/10/2018 - Toulouse

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Need for Insurance in Space



Concentration of value and risk

- Typ 150M\$-500M\$/sat
- Probability of Failure “Launch + LEOP + 15y operation” = 10-25%



Recurring innovation

- Prototypes
- Various design and missions
- Technological steps



Financing needs

- Mandatory for credit
- Protect profitability of operators

Insurance is

- Essential for private investment
- Incentive for systems quality and robustness

Space Insurance Market

→ Coverage

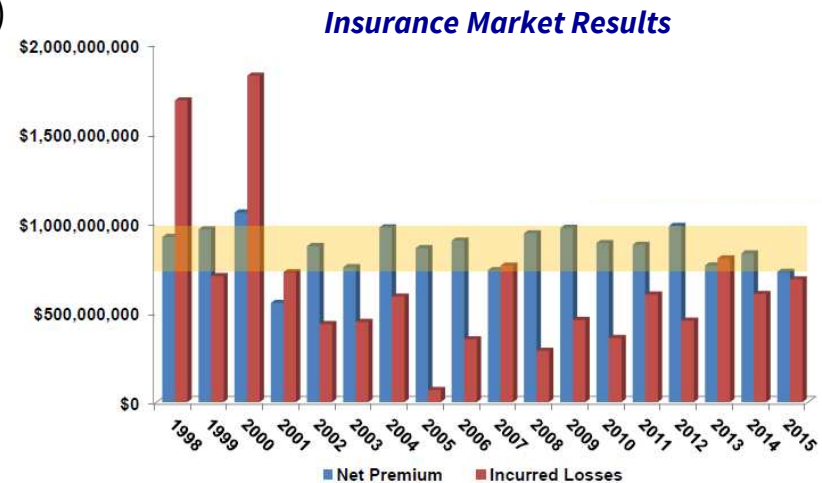
- All missions types
- All orbits
- Damage, Failure (Partial/Total)
 - With waiver of recovery wrt manufacturer
- Liability of stakeholder

→ Clients

- Private operators
- Government agencies
- Launch agencies
- Satellite manufacturers
- Satellite users

→ Worldwide market

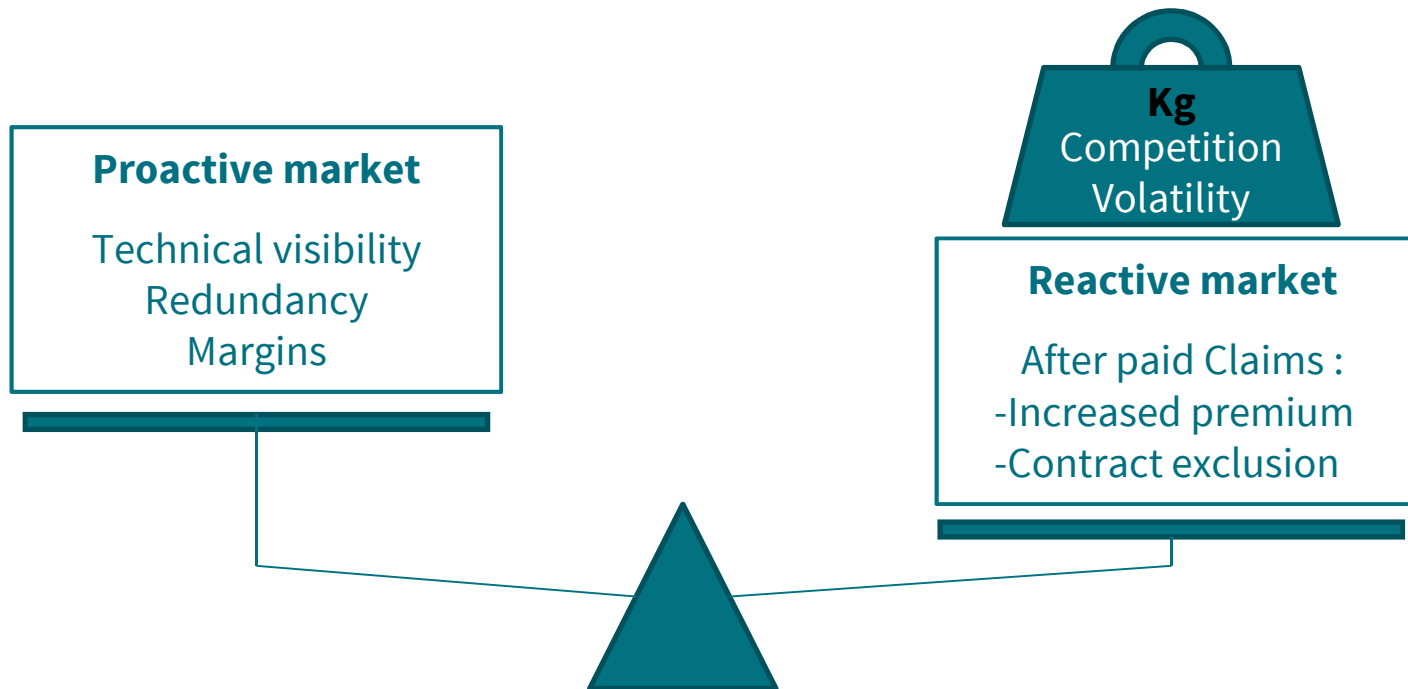
- Co-insurance with about 35 companies
- Each company is exposed to a given share (x M\$)
- “Verticalised” price and conditions



Source : WSRF / XL Catlin

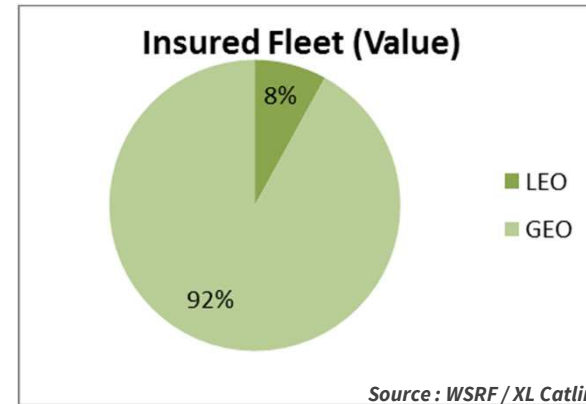
Space Insurance Market

- Insurance Premium rate is based on
 - Technical merit (design, heritage)
 - Supply & Demand



Space Traffic

- Some in-orbit anomalies with debris/micrometeorite have occurred
- Insured valued concentrated on GEO arc



- In GEO : low Probability of occurrence with a significant impact
 - In LEO : low Number of insured satellites
-
- Probability of a big loss (in M\$) due to Space Traffic appears low on the very short term
 - Insurers cannot justify investing in Active Debris Removal today

Space Traffic

- ➔ **BUT**, if a big (insured) event occurs
 - Worst case : two insured satellites collision
 - Big claim + exceed internal rules (“capacity per event”)
 - Shock in the insurance community and top-management
 - Insurers will implement rules to insure some specific orbits

- ➔ Possible outcome
 - Higher premium rate for some orbits
 - Need for :
 - enhanced accuracy of conjunction prediction
 - increased accuracy of maneuvers
 - More redundancy to be able to deorbit after any failure
 - Long term : “environmental tax” on some orbits ?

- ➔ If/When large (civil) Human presence
 - Need for combined expertise : ground + space insurer
 - Market will be more “proactive” : need for rules before insurance



Thank you