

Re: Historical comparisons

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 - *Date:* Sun, 26 Feb 2006 17:47:46 GMT
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On Sun, 26 Feb 2006 04:46:14 -0000, in a place far, far away, "triples" <triples@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> made the phosphor on my monitor glow in such a way as to indicate that:

Obviously historical comparisons have their weaknesses, but with that caveat, what does the commercial passenger space industry look like to you? More like the beginning of the airline industry, or more like the development of the supersonic aircraft by the US, Europe and Russia in the 60's and 70's? Obviously one industry turned out fairly successful while the other died a slow lingering death. Or perhaps you think a totally different historical scenario is appropriate, or none at all. Thoughts?

There are similarities to the beginning of the commercial air transportation industry – but differences. There is an apparent market for adventurous people who might have to decide between scaling Mount Everest or getting their (commercial? tourist?) astronaut wings.

Or who want to see the beautiful views of the planet from space, or want to play in zero g.

But there will apparently be few space passenger firms

Why is that "apparent"? There are already several, and the industry is only getting started.

What is going to be the result of the first accident or two?

What's the result of airline accidents? What's the result of

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automobile accidents? Why are space vehicles different?

The world is so less tolerant of error now.

It doesn't matter what "the world" tolerates. All that matters is what the customers want.

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