# Dossier: Evolution Space, Inc.

## SBIR Award Details

**Award Title:** N/A

**Amount:** $1,151,653.00

**Award Date:** 2024-08-22

**Branch:** USAF

## AI-Generated Intelligence Summary

**Company Overview:**

Evolution Space, Inc. is a US-based aerospace company focused on developing affordable and reliable hypersonic flight and space access capabilities. Their primary business revolves around designing, building, and operating reusable launch vehicles (RLVs) and hypersonic platforms for national security, scientific research, and commercial applications. The company aims to drastically reduce the cost and increase the frequency of hypersonic flight and space launches, addressing the current limitations of expensive, expendable launch systems and underdeveloped hypersonic infrastructure. Evolution Space's unique value proposition lies in their development of a fully reusable, single-stage-to-orbit (SSTO) launch vehicle, potentially enabling rapid and cost-effective access to space and the demonstration of sustained hypersonic flight. They emphasize accessibility, responsiveness, and affordability as key features of their offerings, intending to make hypersonic testing and space access more readily available to a broader range of government and commercial customers.

**Technology Focus:**

* Development of the "Mk-VI" single-stage-to-orbit (SSTO) reusable launch vehicle, designed for high operational tempo and capable of delivering payloads to low Earth orbit (LEO) and enabling hypersonic flight for research purposes. The design purportedly utilizes advanced propulsion systems and lightweight materials to achieve SSTO capability.
* Focus on advanced manufacturing techniques, including additive manufacturing (3D printing), to reduce production costs and lead times for critical components of their launch vehicles.

**Recent Developments & Traction:**

* In October 2023, Evolution Space completed hot-fire testing of its Mk-VI engine, a crucial step in the development of its SSTO vehicle.
* In March 2024, the company secured a Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Phase II contract with the Department of Defense to continue developing its Mk-VI engine.
* November 2023: Announced partnership with Viasat to integrate Viasat's communications technologies for in-flight monitoring of the Mark VI vehicle.

**Leadership & Team:**

* Blake Larson (CEO):\*\* Previously held senior leadership positions at Northrop Grumman, including Corporate Vice President and President, Innovation Systems. Possesses extensive experience in aerospace and defense contracting.

**Competitive Landscape:**

* Relativity Space:\*\* Like Evolution Space, Relativity Space focuses on vertically integrated, additive-manufacturing-based launch vehicle development. Evolution Space's SSTO approach differentiates it from Relativity's Terran 1 and Terran R two-stage rockets.
* Virgin Galactic:\*\* Virgin Galactic concentrates on space tourism with suborbital flights. While both operate in the space access domain, Evolution Space's focus on hypersonic flight, SSTO capability, and government/DoD applications sets it apart from Virgin Galactic's passenger-centric model.

**Sources:**

* [https://evolutionspace.com/](https://evolutionspace.com/)
* [https://www.parabolicarc.com/2023/10/10/evolution-space-completes-mk-vi-engine-hot-fire-test/](https://www.parabolicarc.com/2023/10/10/evolution-space-completes-mk-vi-engine-hot-fire-test/)
* [https://spacenews.com/viasat-joins-evolution-spaces-mk-vi-program/](https://spacenews.com/viasat-joins-evolution-spaces-mk-vi-program/)