# Dossier: Max Space, Inc

## SBIR Award Details

**Award Title:** N/A

**Amount:** $74,958.00

**Award Date:** 2024-05-14

**Branch:** USAF

## AI-Generated Intelligence Summary

**Company Overview:**

Max Space, Inc. is a company focused on developing expandable space habitats to dramatically increase the volume available on existing launch vehicles, significantly reducing the cost per cubic meter of habitable space in orbit. Their core mission is to unlock the potential of space by making it more affordable and accessible for research, manufacturing, and habitation. They aim to solve the limitations of current space station designs, which are constrained by the fixed volume of launch vehicle fairings. Max Space's unique value proposition lies in its ability to pack a significantly larger habitable volume into a standard launch vehicle fairing compared to traditional rigid structures, offering a cost-effective solution for expanding in-space infrastructure.

**Technology Focus:**

* Expandable Habitat Technology: Max Space designs and builds inflatable or expandable modules that are compacted for launch and then deployed in orbit to significantly increase habitable volume. Their initial product is reported to expand to 10x its launch volume.
* Materials Science & Engineering: The company focuses on developing high-performance, lightweight, and radiation-resistant materials crucial for the structural integrity and longevity of their expandable habitats in the harsh space environment.

**Recent Developments & Traction:**

* Announced a $3 Million Seed Funding Round in June 2023 led by Deep Ventures, with participation from Fiat Ventures and Cathexis Ventures. The funding is to accelerate the development and testing of its expandable space habitat technology.
* Awarded a NASA Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Phase I contract in 2022 to investigate the integration of expandable habitats with existing and future space stations.
* Successfully completed initial ground-based testing of a sub-scale expandable module prototype demonstrating deployment mechanisms and structural integrity.

**Leadership & Team:**

* Aaron Kemmer – CEO. Previous experience includes roles at NanoRacks, where he served as VP of Business Development, and earlier experience in various engineering roles.
* Andrew Rush - President. Prior experience includes being the former President & CEO of Made In Space, Inc., a pioneer in in-space manufacturing that was acquired by Redwire.

**Competitive Landscape:**

* Bigelow Space Operations: Focused on commercial space stations, offering expandable habitat technology, though significantly larger in scale and investment needs. Max Space differentiates by targeting smaller, more cost-effective expandable solutions initially aimed at augmenting existing space stations or supporting smaller, more focused research missions.
* Nanoracks (Voyager Space): Involved in developing commercial space stations and modules. Max Space differentiates via a focus on volume-maximizing expandable habitats deployed from single launch fairings, where Nanoracks' modules tend to be larger, more complex, and require multiple launches for assembly.

**Sources:**

1. https://maxspace.co/ (Company website)

2. https://deep.ventures/news/max-space-raises-3-million-to-grow-space-habitats (Funding Announcement)

3. https://www.nasa.gov/directorates/spacetech/small\_business/sbir/success\_stories/next\_generation\_space\_habitats/ (NASA SBIR Award)

4. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9o-H8g-Gz1E (Interview with the CEO)