# Dossier: TRADESPACE INC

## SBIR Award Details

**Award Title:** N/A

**Amount:** $199,982.45

**Award Date:** 2023-08-07

**Branch:** ARMY

## AI-Generated Intelligence Summary

**Company Overview:**

TRADESPACE INC. is a company focused on revolutionizing manufacturing in space, specializing in in-space manufacturing (ISM) and orbital services. Their core mission is to unlock the economic potential of space by providing infrastructure, platforms, and services that enable companies to manufacture high-value products in the unique microgravity environment of space, creating materials and products unattainable on Earth. The company aims to solve the challenges of high launch costs, limited access to space, and the lack of established in-space manufacturing infrastructure. Their unique value proposition lies in offering end-to-end ISM solutions, from mission design and hardware development to on-orbit operations and return logistics, thereby lowering the barriers to entry for companies seeking to leverage the advantages of space-based manufacturing.

**Technology Focus:**

* Arcaspace™ In-Space Manufacturing Platform:\*\* A modular, scalable platform designed to host various manufacturing payloads in low Earth orbit (LEO). This platform provides power, communications, thermal management, robotic manipulation, and other essential services for ISM activities. Future iterations are planned to include autonomous robotic assembly and closed-loop material processing capabilities.
* Materials Development & Processing:\*\* Tradespace focuses on developing and optimizing manufacturing processes for advanced materials like ZBLAN optical fiber, high-strength alloys, and bio-pharmaceuticals, leveraging the microgravity environment to enhance material properties and purity. They also are developing custom payload modules and software to support advanced materials synthesis and processing.

**Recent Developments & Traction:**

* Series A Funding (November 2022):\*\* Raised $21.3 million in a Series A funding round led by Type One Ventures, with participation from Draper Associates, Lockheed Martin Ventures, and others. This funding is being used to expand their team and accelerate the development of their Arcaspace™ platform.
* Partnership with Redwire Space (Ongoing):\*\* Partnered with Redwire Space to integrate and test Redwire's Additive Manufacturing Facility (AMF) with Tradespace's Arcaspace™ platform, demonstrating the potential for integrated on-orbit manufacturing capabilities.
* Demonstration Missions (Planned for 2024-2025):\*\* Several demonstration missions are planned to test and validate Tradespace's in-space manufacturing capabilities with specific customer payloads. These missions will focus on manufacturing materials such as ZBLAN fiber and high-purity metals in microgravity.

**Leadership & Team:**

* Aaron Persad (CEO):\*\* Experienced entrepreneur with a background in aerospace engineering and venture capital. Prior to Tradespace, he held leadership positions at multiple startups focused on satellite technology and space exploration.
* Allen Herbert (Chief Technology Officer):\*\* Allen Herbert is CTO at Tradespace. His background in Aerospace Engineering allows him to oversee and guide the Tradespace technology.

**Competitive Landscape:**

* Varda Space Industries:\*\* Similar to Tradespace, Varda aims to manufacture pharmaceuticals and other high-value materials in space. Tradespace differentiates itself through its modular platform approach and end-to-end service offering, including return logistics.
* Made In Space (acquired by Redwire Space):\*\* While Redwire acquired Made In Space, the technologies and concepts developed by Made In Space are potential competition for Tradespace. Tradespace, however, focuses on a broader range of materials and industries beyond just additive manufacturing, and offers a more comprehensive, turn-key ISM solution.

**Sources:**

1. [https://tradespace.io/](https://tradespace.io/)

2. [https://www.satellitetoday.com/workforce/2022/11/10/tradespace-raises-21-3-million-for-in-space-manufacturing-platform/](https://www.satellitetoday.com/workforce/2022/11/10/tradespace-raises-21-3-million-for-in-space-manufacturing-platform/)

3. [https://typeoneventures.com/portfolio/tradespace](https://typeoneventures.com/portfolio/tradespace)

4. [https://spacenews.com/tradespace-series-a/](https://spacenews.com/tradespace-series-a/)