



National Aero-Space Plane: Key Issues Facing the Program: T-Nsiad-92-26

By -

BiblioGov. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 22 pages. Dimensions: 9.7in. x 7.4in. x 0.1in. GAO discussed the National Aero-Space Plane (NASP) Program, focusing on the programs flight testing plans, costs, schedule changes, and progress in developing key technologies. GAO noted that NASP: (1) is a joint Department of Defense National Aeronautics and Space Administration technology development and demonstration program to build and test the X-30 manned experimental flight vehicle; (2) is currently in the second of three phases, and is currently involved in such concept validation activities as developing critical technologies, production processes, structural articles and components, and a demonstration engine; (3) may not conduct single-stage-to-orbit flight testing of the X-30, which was originally a primary program goal, due to efforts to reduce costs and minimize technical risks; (4) has no official estimate of X-30 development, building, and testing costs, but preliminary information indicates that program costs may be more than 5 times the 1986 estimate of 3.1 billion; (5) may be using overly optimistic assumptions and may be excluding certain costs in its revised cost estimate due in May 1992; (6) attributes schedule delays to a combination of funding constraints and slow technical progress;...



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