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It all started in 2001...

And hasn't finished,

Just yet.

IT Workers Transition to Aerospace



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Actually, the bigger picture issue
started earlier than 2001.

And will continue forever,
most likely...

Lifelong learning in technical
fields.



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Once there was a ***Silicon Valley*** space company that desperately needed ***hundreds*** of software engineers...

While there were ***thousands of*** displaced dot-com technical professionals without jobs.



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Once there were two seemingly
disparate organizations, one
industry (***California Space
Authority***), one workforce
(***NOVA***)...

That talked.



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Once there was some money in the Governor's discretionary pot...

While there *were two organizations* talking about *possibly transitioning dot-com workers into space careers*



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Once there were ***employer*** vocabularies that did not seem to overlap, ***even though the skills needed were similar...***

Until some persistent people delved below the surface.



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Once there was an initial ***State*** grant that got the issue defined, but only defined...

Followed by a seemingly different opportunity – ***a federal grant*** - that funded the balance of the project.



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What may not have been worth
doing for one company...

Was valuable across an industry.



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There was more to it than skills
assessment and curriculum...

Industry culture.

Creative, multiple-source funding.

Industry/Assoc's/Workforce partnering.

Project role swapping.

Flexibility.



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Now that the training is in place...

The loop needs closed re.
awareness and respect for the
value of the program by the
companies.



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In other words...

Industry champions.



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When there are many players...

Passing the baton and keeping
your eye on the ball count.



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Where there are many
obstacles...

Passion and persistence matter.



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Initial assessment project:

<http://www.californiaspaceauthority.org/awia-sicoa/>

UCSC Extension Certificate: Software Engineering for Aerospace and Defense Applications



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