

ABSTRACT

The subject of the invention is a device for driving a pump (2) for fueling a rocket engine of a space vehicle, characterized in that it comprises an inertia wheel (1) and a means for transmitting the rotation of the inertia wheel to the pump. It advantageously includes means for measuring the rotation speed of the wheel and means (21) for decoupling the wheel (1) and the pump (2) for a speed lower than a given speed lower than the nominal rotation speed of the wheel. The invention is particularly applicable to a space plane comprising a rocket engine wherein the fuel supply system comprises at least one pump driven by a device of the invention and means for starting the device while the plane is in flight.