

ABSTRACT

The subject of the invention is a device for driving a pump (2) of a rocket engine (16) of a space vehicle that comprises an air-breathing internal combustion engine (1a, 1b) running on an oxidizer/fuel mixture of the air/hydrocarbon type, wherein the supply of oxidant and fuel is provided by tanks and a circuit that are separate from the propellant tanks (3) of the rocket engine (16). The invention applies to a device for fueling a rocket engine that includes at least two pumps, each driven by the device of the invention, and means for controlling the internal combustion engines for driving the pumps, adapted for independently varying the operating parameters of these engines so as to independently adjust the rotation speeds of the pumps.