

Space Mining: The Intergalactic Gold Rush Is On

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Body

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Asteroid mining is the new Wild West, and the resources hidden in asteroids, potentially worth trillions, are available to whomever can get there first.

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Planetary Resources via AP

Image:

This computer-generated image provided by Planetary Resources, a group of high-tech tycoons that wants to mine nearby asteroids, shows a conceptual rendering of several small robotic spacecraft mining a near-Earth asteroid.

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Deltion

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Image: An autonomous load haul dump vehicle

Deltion's <u>autonomous</u> load haul dump <u>vehicle</u> features a bucket with lift system.

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NASA

Image: Asteroid Redirect Mission

A prototype of the Asteroid Redirect Mission (ARM) robotic capture module system is tested with a mock asteroid boulder in its clutches at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland. The robotic portion of ARM is targeted for launch in 2021.

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