

Executive Summary

Date Prepared: 24 Sep 2007

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Presentation Title

The New Race to the Moon — Building Bridges for Lunar Commerce

Key Ideas

The announcement of the Google Lunar X PRIZE has sparked a worldwide interest in commercial lunar development. The challenge presented is for business innovation as much as technical innovation. New partnerships and ways of doing business in space will need to be forged to reach the goal of sustainable lunar commercial enterprise.

Supporting Information

Today there is a rebirth of interest in going back to the Moon among many nations. The worlds' foremost scientists and policy makers are actively engaged in discussions about humanity's return to the Moon. The announcement of the Google Lunar X PRIZE has sparked a worldwide interest in commercial lunar development. The challenge presented is for business innovation as much as technical innovation.

While nations continue to plan and strategize how to navigate the political minefields and conflicting national priorities that justify the value of the Moon to the tax payer, some new players are contemplating new approaches not so constrained. They are the privateers; visionaries with a different set of priorities. Their driving metric for going to the Moon is sustainable business and commerce.

This presentation outlines how carefully planned private Moon missions could set in motion the financial, technological, political, legal and regulatory precedents that will build bridges for sustainable lunar commerce; allowing humanity to rationally and peacefully embrace economic principals while supporting scientific goals in the development of the Moon as the world's eighth continent.