

SYMPOSIUM ON BUILDING BLOCKS FOR FUTURE SPACE EXPLORATION AND  
DEVELOPMENT (D3)Novel Concepts and Technologies for Enable Future Building Blocks in Space Exploration and  
Development (3)

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## ENABLING FUTURE EXPLORATION OF THE MOON WITH THE GOOGLE LUNAR X PRIZE

**Abstract**

The Google Lunar X PRIZE was launched in 2007 to incentivize commercial robotic exploration of the lunar surface. Offering a cumulative prize of 30millionUSdollarstothe firstprivately–fundedteamstolandandtravel500m effectivelymanner.

A majority of teams that are participating in the competition are aggressively working toward maximizing their capability to serve future customers in academic, government, and commercial sectors, with the goal of establishing sustainable businesses and acquiring customers well beyond the winning of the Google Lunar X PRIZE prize purses. Teams have identified opportunities in providing hardware, products, and services to government and commercial entities, including potential exploitation of lunar resources and scouting missions that will help to enable future exploration endeavors of the Moon and beyond. This paper and the accompanying presentation will discuss the current status of teams competing in the prize and capabilities for supporting future operations and exploration of the Moon.