

SPACE EXPLORATION SYMPOSIUM (A3)
Moon Exploration – Part 2 (2B)

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UPDATE ON THE GOOGLE LUNAR XPRIZE

Abstract

Launched in September 2007, the Google Lunar XPRIZE offers a total purse of US\$40 Million as an incentive based prize for international teams to further robotic exploration of the lunar surface. The US\$20 Million Grand Prize will be awarded to the first privately funded team to land on the Moon, move 500 meters and broadcast back live video by the end of 2015. In addition to the Grand Prize, there is also second place prize money and money available for completing scientific and technical milestones on the Moon, such as visiting a lunar artifact or finding evidence of water. New to the competition in 2013 was the addition of Terrestrial Milestone Prizes which awards money to teams who can show advances in Imaging, Mobility, and Landing system or subsystem flight readiness in increments of US\$250,000, US\$500,000, or US\$1,000,000 respectively. In February 2014, 5 teams were chosen from the Definition Round to advance to the Accomplishment Round for 11 Milestone Prizes in Landing (3), Mobility (4), and Imaging (4). This paper and accompanying presentation show the latest status of the prize and all competing teams. The winning entries in the Milestone Prizes are also described.