SMALL SATELLITE MISSIONS SYMPOSIUM (B4)
Hitchhiking to the Moon (8)

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STATUS OF THE IAA STUDY GROUP 4.5 HITCHHIKING TO THE MOON

Abstract

The IAA study group 4.5 "Hitchhiking to the Moon: Access and Opportunities for Small Satellite Missions" investigated flight, piggy-back spacecraft and payload opportunities provided on lunar (and other) missions not only for agencies but also for institutions, countries or businesses including launch opportunities from LEO, GTO or other orbits. With a dramatically increased interest in lunar exploration more ride-sharing or secondary or tertiary payload opportunities to be flown to the Moon are expected. Examples of such payloads or small satellite missions include: micro-spacecraft orbiters, CubeSats, small probes, penetrators, micro-landers, hard-landers, micro-rovers, but also secondary payload surface science instruments, distributed small network landers, and many more. The status of the study group and the results of the report will be presented.