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SPACE TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS AND INNOVATIONS SYMPOSIUM (D2)
Interactive Presentations (IP)

Author: Mr. Aditya Mishra
University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, India, oddmradityamishra@gmail.com

Dr. Ugur Guven
UN CSSTEAP, United States, drguven@live.com
Mr. Shashank Pathak
University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, India, shashank.hades21@gmail.com
Ms. Shivangi Chauhan
University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, India, shivangichauhan48@gmail.com
Mr. Mridul Jain
University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, India, mridulj116@gmail.com
Mr. Pulak Srivastava
University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, India, pulak.srivastava14@gmail.com
Ms. Vishwani Aggarwal
University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, India, vishwaniaggarwal@gmail.com

SENDING A DEEP SPACE PROBE FOR INTERSTELLAR EXPLORATION

Abstract

The future of Humanity is in the Stars. The cosmic speed limit is the velocity of light, 186,282 miles (299,792,458 meters) per second. Conventional Rockets are far too slow to allow humans to travel between the stars in a single lifetime. Indeed, Even the closest star is more than 266,000 times more distant away than our own sun. Light, the fastest thing known, takes only eight minutes to travel to the Earth from the sun, but requires more than four years to get to the nearest star. To reach the dark gap, the black hole, at the focal point of the Milky Way Galaxy, light would take 30,000 years. Even the fastest humans and spacecraft launched this far would take thousands of years to reach the closest stars. Speeds about 75 times quicker than this would be required if we hope to make an interstellar trip in less than a 100 years. Be that as it may, no law of physics makes the trip impossible in theory. The past twenty-five years have brought forth an uprising in planet-finding, with thousands of known, confirmed planets, including many of the potentially habitable, Earth-like worlds. But could we ever get there? There are physics loopholes that could allow faster than light travel. If we wanted it badly enough, interstellar travel could be achievable in our lifetime. To achieve this final goal requires securing the needed technical, financial, educational and motivational assistance. A new, sustainable approach must be implemented, one that can stand the trial of time and remain focused on the ultimate goal. A Master Plan, a calendar and a rundown of beneficial exercises derived from important spinoffs are recorded and assessed. This visionary but practical paper will discuss about a **STARSHIP** which is able to travel at a substantial measure of the light speed by using an advanced and exotic propulsion mechanism and take us beyond the solar system in search for evolution, development and to be prepared for the FUTURE.