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COMMERCIAL LUNAR CRATER PROSPECTOR ARCHITECTURE AND ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT

Abstract

There exists increasing evidence that a market for a propellant depot in Low Earth Orbit (LEO) could become a realistic, financially viable option. Recently, at a cis-lunar marketplace held in Centennial, CO, the United Launch Alliance announced that it was willing to pay for propellant in LEO. Prices in LEO were stated to be bid in a range between 3,000/kg and 7,000/kg. Propellant in Lunar Orbit was bid at 1,000/kg. From the perspective of this assessment, with all its assumptions and cave ats, the author uses historicand proposed depths amples from a multitude of locations and returning them to (ISS) for assay. The author employs an architecture employ