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A CASE STUDY FOR A LUNAR BASE SUPPORTING A LEO PROPELLANT DEPOT

**Abstract**

There exists increasing evidence that a market for a propellant depot in Low Earth Orbit 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. *In this study, the authors utilize prior work on a combined lunar excavator/LEO propellant depot based on debt financing.*