

Moon Miners' Manifesto

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Crew 53 awakes to some snow at MDRS, the Mars Desert Research Station in south central Utah.

Looking east with "Phobos Peak" prominent. With the overcast sky, and no glare off the snow, it looks quite moonlike.

How long will it be before a human crew looks out the porthole of their lunar landing craft to see the real thing?

And what country will they come from? And what does it matter?

What matters more is whether or not they will come to lay solid foundations for real resource-using settlement. If private enterprise is a major partner in the project, chances are better. If not, they will be nil. We'll get "Antarctica II."

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This is MMM's 21st Anniversary Issue

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- Thinking Outside the "Mass Fraction" Box III Peter Kokh pp. 5-6
- Lunar Exploration Analysis Group (LEAG) October 1-5 Workshop Summary Larry Jay Friesen pp. 7-8
- Book Review: The Moon: Resources, Future Development and Settlement p. 11

The Concept of "World" - Flat > Round > Solar

Four centuries ago, we had to get used to the fact that the "world" was round, not flat. In the generations to come, we will get used to the idea that "the World" - the domain of humanity - is "circumsolar." When we travel from continent to continent, we remain in the same "world" of interconnected horizons. Future humans will remain in the "interconnected world" when traveling to the Moon and Mars. Read our anniversary essay pp. 3-4.

In FOCUS Easing NASA out of The Space Transportation Business

The very word "business" would seem to say it all. Business is for business, not for a government agency. The status quo has precedent, however: "Amtrak" But in that case, we had reached a time when the various railroads no longer found passenger service profitable. Without the creation of Amtrak, passenger rail would have disappeared in the United States, at least for a while. Now, new private railroads have arisen, engaged in specialty tourist excursions, both in the US and Canada.

Commentary [> p. 2, col. 2]

