## U.S. Space Launch Market: Crisis or Opportunity?

Revolutionizing Access to Space



**Space Exploration Technologies** 

Space Exploration Technologies Corporation Spacex.com One of the more worrisome trends, from a U.S. perspective, has been the declining influence of American vehicles in the global commercial launch market. Once one of the dominant players in the marketplace, the market share of U.S.-manufactured vehicles has declined because of the introduction of new vehicles and new competitors, such as Russia, which can offer launches at lower prices and/or with greater performance than their American counterparts.

[The Declining Role in the U.S. Commercial Launch Industry, Futron, June 2005]

## 2006 Worldwide Launch Market Share





## 2006 Worldwide Commercial Launch Market Share









Impedance between launch and satellite cost

#### 1:5 Ratio



## SpaceX Overview

- Founded in mid 2002 with the singular goal of providing high reliability, low cost space transportation
- Initial market is government & commercial satellites to minimize market risk
- Transition to human transportation once technology is proven
- Mode of operation flat hierarchy, high engineer to manager ratio, rapid prototype iteration, best idea wins
- Over 300 employees
- Six buildings (100,000 sqft) of office and manufacturing space in Southern California—moving to 500,000 sqft in late summer
- 300 acre propulsion and structural test facility in Texas
- Launch complexes in Kwajalein, Vandenberg and the Cape



## November 2002 – 25,000 sq ft





## July 2007 – 500,000+ sq ft





## 13 Launches on Manifest



Customer	Launch	<u>Vehicle</u>	Departure Point
FALCON Demo Launch 1	Q1 2006 (launched)	Falcon 1	Kwajalein
FALCON Demo Launch 2	Q1 2007 (launched)	Falcon 1	Kwajalein
OSD/NRL Tacsat-1	Q4 2007	Falcon 1	Kwajalein
Malaysia Razaksat	Q1 2008	Falcon 1	Kwajalein
US Government	Q2 2008	Falcon 9	Cape
MDA Corp Cassiope	Q3 2008	Falcon 9	Саре
NASA COTS	Q3 2008	Falcon 9	Cape
NASA COTS	Q2 2009	Falcon 9	Cape
NASA COTS	Q3 2009	Falcon 9	Саре
MDA Corp Argo	Q3 2009	Falcon 1	Vandenberg
SpaceDev	Q4 2009	Falcon 1	Vandenberg
Bigelow Aerospace	Q4 2009	Falcon 9	Cape
Swedish Space Corp	Q1 2010	Falcon 1	Vandenberg

Plus \$100 Million AF In Plus Falcon alor Contract

## **Demo Flight 2 Overview**

#### SPACEX

Falcon 1 reached space! (...but didn't stay there); 289km altitude; 5.1 km/s

Launched March 21, 2007 (local)

- From: RTS, Omelek, Kwajalein Atoll
- Customer: DARPA/USAF

**Objectives:** 

- Retire risk prior to 1<sup>st</sup> operational flight
- Collect flight data on the vehicle
- Validate ground systems
- Payload (secondary objective)
- All major flight events were successfully demonstrated except Payload Separation & Coast/Restart
- Vast majority of Mission Objectives (programmatic & technical) were achieved
- Fastest recycle ever demonstrated supporting the Operational Responsive Space Initiative



SpaceX Falcon 1-001 Launch Demo 2 Mission, March 21, 2007 Kwajalein Atoll, Omelek Island Reagan Test Site

## **F9/Dragon Concept of Operations**

#### SPACEX











#### Up to 10 launches per year from Cape Canaveral

- Integration Flow
  - Cargo loaded into Dragon & trunk in facilities at launch pad
  - Dragon mated to trunk, whole assembly to booster
  - Transported to pad horizontally, then erected
  - Late-load of cargo (10% each type) and/or crew up to L-2 hours
- Launch
  - Injection into 185 x 300 km orbit, hold, trim & separate
  - Dragon phases to ISS & holds outside approach ellipsoid
  - ISS approach => capture & berth
- On-station dwell
  - 2~4 weeks cargo
  - 6 months crewed
- Depart ISS
  - Unberth & execute departure maneuver
  - De-orbit burn, jettison trunk, CAM & re-enter
- Landing
  - Water splash-down initially, transition to land long term
  - Ship recovery
  - Provision for early-access & crew medical facilities
- Crew and/or cargo returned to JSC





## Dragon









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## Dragon







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#### **Falcon 9 Overview and Status**





Performance is ten tons to LEO \$35 Million per flight all inclusive Designed for reliability

- NASA man-rating factors of safety
- Nine Merlin engines provide engine out reliability similar to Saturn I/Saturn V
- Upper stage also powered by a Merlin
- SpaceX engine production will exceed all US booster engine production combined



## Space Tourism – Survey: Willingness to Pay by Price Point





Source: Futron (6/07/06)

#### 2006 Passenger and Revenue Forecast



Source: Futron (6/07/06)

# SpaceX Success Serves both National Security and US Economic Stability



- Reliable access to space is critical to national security and will become increasingly more critical to economic stability—commercial procurement supporting National security has deep roots
- Being able to augment capability on short-notice is increasingly important and requires a Responsive launch capability
- It is important for this nation to have domestic vehicles competitive on the international market (not through subsidies)
- It is important for the US to foster emerging providers by not shutting out competition

