



Presentation of Summary Testimony of

Jim Benson

Founding Chairman, Chief Executive
SpaceDev

Commission for Moon, Mars and Beyond

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San Francisco

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SpaceDev is a publicly traded space exploration and development corporation that is building a private space program, step-by-step, one innovative space technology at a time.

SpaceDev's goal is "To Make Space Happen" profitably and practically in the near term.

A major SpaceDev goal is to help create self-sufficient human settlements on the Moon, Near Earth Asteroids, Mars, and beyond to the Stars.



Twenty years ago, the computer industry was bogged down and dominated by large, bureaucratic mainframe companies that believed “bigger is better.”

Today, the space industry is bogged down and dominated by large, bureaucratic mainframe-like companies that believe “bigger is better.”





Revolutionary Methods Needed

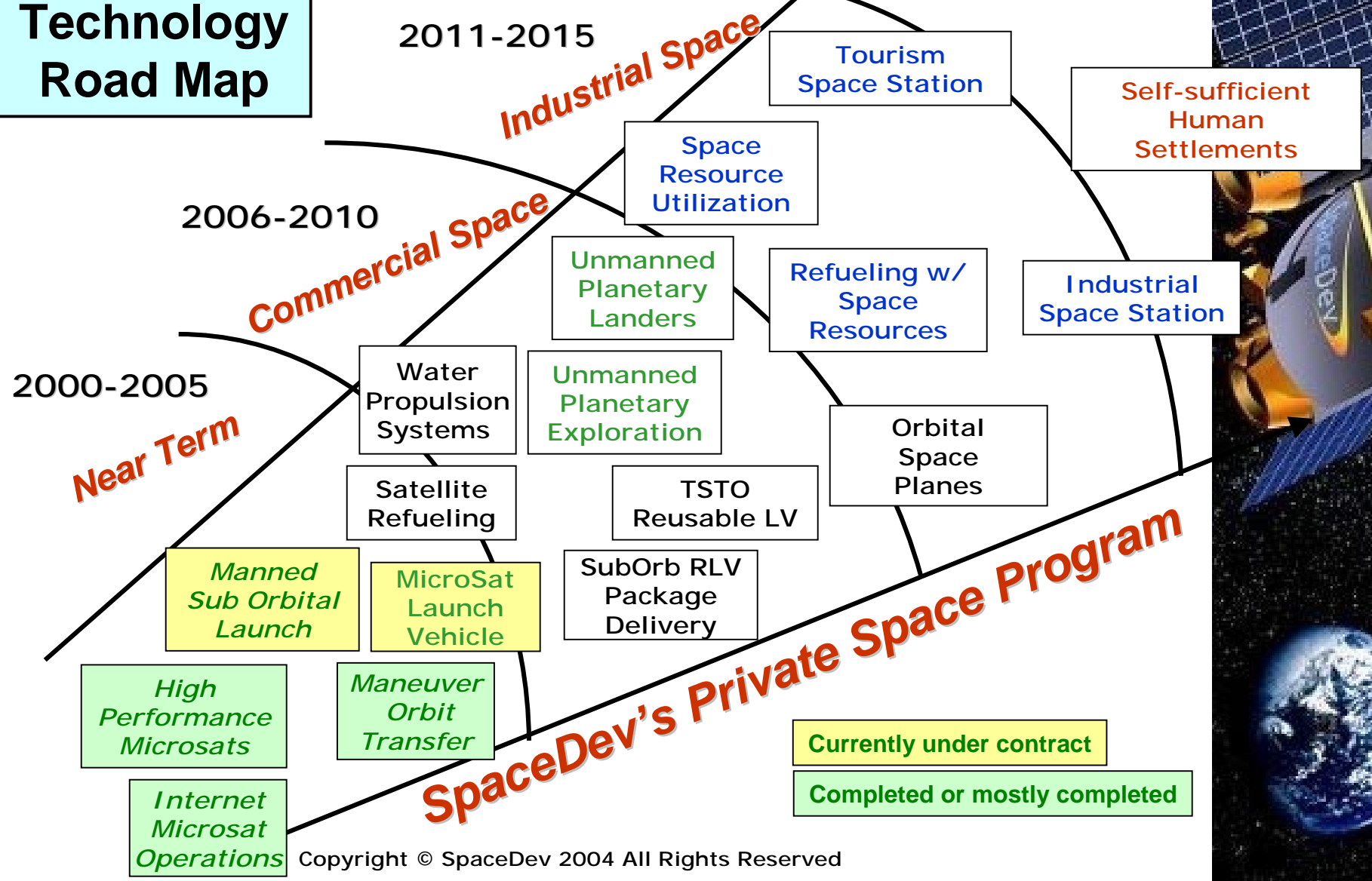
The computer industry was revolutionized, and the global economy stimulated by smaller, innovative companies that implemented the “microcomputer way of thinking” that small is beautiful.

SpaceDev believes in, and is successfully implementing the microcomputer way of thinking within the space industry in order to stimulate the economy and assist humanity explore and develop the almost unlimited natural resources in space.



After 2015

Technology Road Map



Currently under contract
Completed or mostly completed





SpaceDev SmallSat Successes

January 2003 – Launch, check-out and operations of CHIPSat for UCB and NASA – world's first orbiting Internet node, world's first satellite whose mission control & operations center is a laptop computer anywhere in the world, this country's smallest, low cost, high-performance satellite – total cost: **\$7.5M**

CHIPSat
Team:
NASA
UCB
SpaceDev



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Designed,
Assembled,
Tested By
SpaceDev.
Launched
1/12/03, still
ticking!





SpaceDev Propulsion Successes

December 17, 2003 – SpaceDev’s safe hybrid rocket motor powered Burt Rutan’s privately financed SpaceShipOne to supersonic speeds, opening the door for safe, low cost, human space flight.



SpaceDev manned hybrid rocket motor development: **1 year, \$1 million**

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Low Cost Moon & Mars Missions

In 1999 SpaceDev developed mission and spacecraft designs for **JPL** Mars Micro-Missions

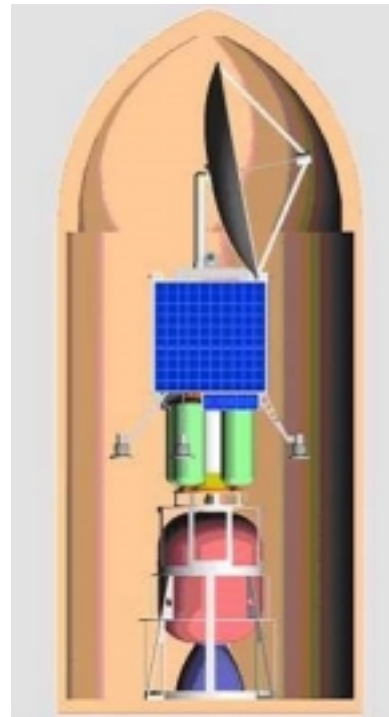
In 2000-2001 SpaceDev developed mission and spacecraft designs with **Boeing** for a commercial Lunar Orbiter

Total estimated costs: **\$25 million**

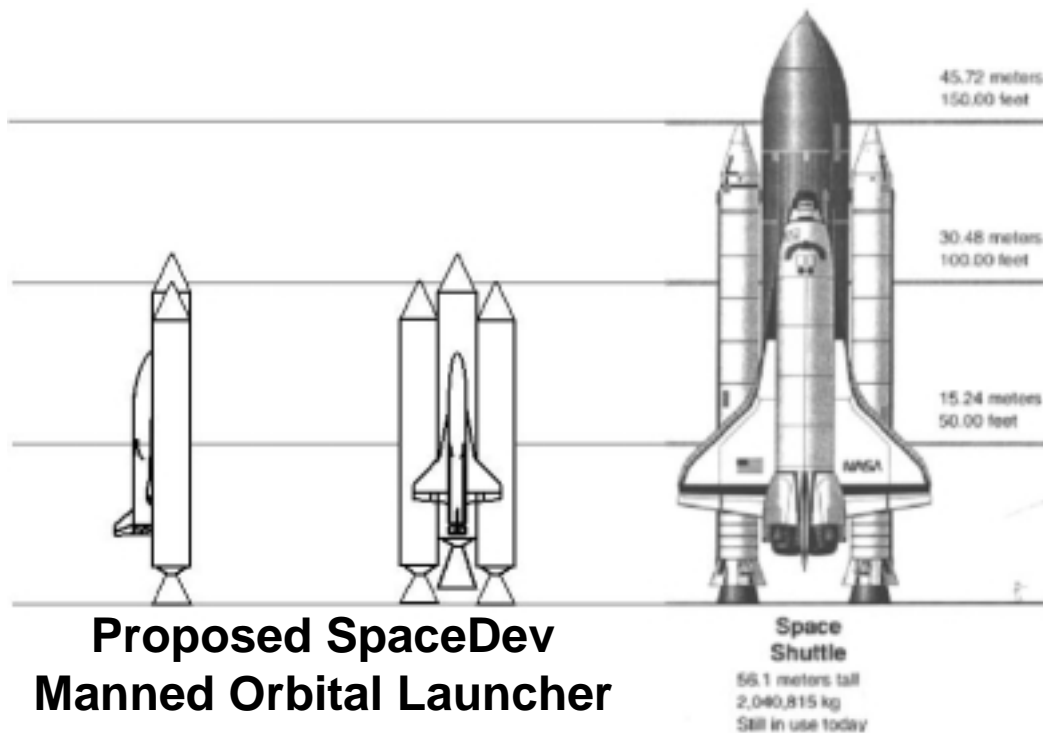


In 2003 SpaceDev designed a low cost Lunar Dish Observatory lunar lander for **Lunar Enterprise**

Total estimated cost: **\$35 million**



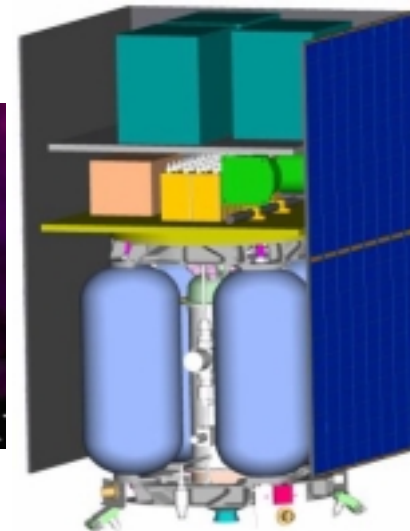
SpaceDev believes it is practical and desirable to expand SpaceDev's hybrid-based Streaker™ expendable small launch vehicle, currently under development with the Air Force, to safe, low cost manned sub-orbital **and** orbital space flight.





Missions Beyond Earth Orbit

SpaceDev believes, on the basis of SpaceDev space technology successes to-date, that a wide variety of scientifically and economically attractive missions to the Moon, Near Earth Asteroids and Mars are now possible and affordable, if conducted by smaller companies with the “Right Stuff.”



I recommend that the current and future Administrations, Congress, and NASA Administrators with the “Right Stuff” work together cooperatively and aggressively to:

- Stop treating NASA, its Centers, and its activities as pork barrel, job maintenance programs.
- Stop treating big company programs as entitlements
- Staff NASA from the top down with A-team players who have successful, private sector start-up track records, and who have excelled in the development of lower cost, smaller, innovative microcomputer-like technologies
- Recognize and reward the small innovative companies that give NASA successes by delivering smaller, lower cost, higher performance systems and missions





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