

Re: Space Exploitation

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From: EAC (digicross_at_hotmail.com)

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In article <[anPuc.15286\\$Yf6.3677@bignews1.bellsouth.net](mailto:anPuc.15286$Yf6.3677@bignews1.bellsouth.net)>, terry@csmsgdesign.com says...

> > *Is a resort hotel in orbit a possibility?*

quibbler <quibbler247@yahoo.com> wrote in message news:<MPG.1b27d75f7a3d4e1b98981d@news.individual.net>...

> *Yeah, it's possible. Then again, look up how much the ISS cost to build.*
> *Do you think that you could generate enough paying customers to offset those kinds of costs? If you can come up with much cheaper ways of building living accommodations in orbit then I'm sure NASA would love to hear about it.*

LOL! The reason on why the I.S.S. way of building and the S.T.S. were chosen is because it cost a lot of money! And not the opposite.

Yes, N.A.S.A. would love to hear it, but they couldn't do anything to implement it unless ordered upon so by their superiors.

> *Perhaps you can use lightweight, inflatable habitation modules or other technologies that reduce the expense.*
> *BTW, please don't tell me about converting main shuttle tanks into living accommodations. As the song says, "That don't impress me much".*

No, it isn't quite impressive. But assembling a space station would be much easier if its modules would be as large as the S.T.S.'s E.T..

Personally, I think that converting External Tanks in orbit wouldn't do much good. Instead they should have prepare 'External Tank'-size modules (converting E.T. is also probable) back on Earth, launch them, then they will be assembled in orbit, Skylab style space station.

But... the current I.S.S. is made as a place to experiment on how humans reaction (both physically and mentally) in a small closed enviroment in Near Earth Orbit, one of the reasons on why Mir wasn't redesignated as the I.S.S. or at least the new I.S.S. docked to it.

So it's unlikely that E.T. size modules for space station will happen in the near future.

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And it should be noted that the recent space 'tourism' has more of political basis than financial basis. Tito and Shuttleworth's visits are motivated more by politics than financial, I think that their visits are made so that more conflicts will arise and old ones stirred up more. So an orbital hotel for tourism isn't unlikely in the near future.