

sci.space.policy: Re: Orbiter shape.

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**From:** Perplexed in Peoria ([jimmenegay\\_at\\_sbcglobal.net](mailto:jimmenegay_at_sbcglobal.net))

**Date:** 07/22/04

Date: Thu, 22 Jul 2004 06:33:11 GMT

"Rand Simberg" <[newsgroups@transterrestrial.com](mailto:newsgroups@transterrestrial.com)> wrote in message  
news:E7HLc.11446\$Qu5.177@newsread2.news.pas.earthlink.net...

> *Perplexed in Peoria* wrote:

> > *Or perhaps I am missing something.*

>

> *You are, again, because you are ignorant of the economics of space launch.*

>

> *What is your scenario for how orbital*

> > *space tourism is necessary and (hopably) sufficient for eventually achieving*

> > *space settlement?*

>

> *Because low cost of access to orbit are necessary to doing anything else*

> *there in a cost-effective manner, and the only route to low cost of*

> *access to orbit is a large amount of traffic. There's only one market*

> *that can provide that right now, which is the millions of people who*

> *would pay to go if someone offered them the opportunity.*

Ah!!! Millions. I hadn't realized you thought there were that many.

Perhaps ignorance of economics IS the explanation for our disagreement.