

Re: It's In-Line (Shuttle Derived)

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.space.policy/2005-06/msg00907.html>

- *From:* "Ed Kyle" <edkyle99@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* 25 Jun 2005 10:52:58 -0700
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George William Herbert wrote:

- >
- > Advertised Falcon V price is \$3 million per metric
- > ton to LEO, plus or minus epsilon.
- >
- > Do you believe that the new Shuttle Derived HLV
- > will cost less than \$350 million per flight, including
- > its development cost amortization and all the government
- > overhead and the like, at flight rates of 2-3 per year
- > and a 10 year development cycle?

What I don't believe is that Falcon V, if it ever flies, is going to cost \$3 million per LEO tonne after its initial flights. The price will have to go up, or SpaceX will cease to exist once Elon Musk's pockets empty. Not to mention that a new maneuvering cargo-hauling stage will be needed for the SpaceX rockets, a need that could easily double or triple the "real" Falcon V per-tonne payload costs.

- Ed Kyle

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