

## Re: DIY space transport

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.space.policy/2005-07/msg00728.html>

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- *From:* [fairwater@xxxxxxxx](mailto:fairwater@xxxxxxxx) (Derek Lyons)
  - *Date:* Sun, 24 Jul 2005 05:12:18 GMT
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gherbert@xxxxxxxx (George William Herbert) wrote:

>Even if we do reduce the cost of astronaut-hours in space,  
>we need to make their time usage as efficient as possible.  
>It is not cost effective, considering nearterm likely  
>orbital manpower costs, to fit out modules on orbit.  
>You still have to fly the systems to orbit in a pressurized  
>container, for many of them, and once you do that you might  
>as well make that container the module, and not have to  
>spend time moving stuff around and plugging it in and  
>debugging the wiring harness and cooling water plumbing  
>once you're up in zero-G.  
>  
>If a magic vehicle appeared tomorrow with \$100/lb launch  
>costs for payload inside its reusable shell, with a payload  
>of 250 kg or 500 kg, that cost tradeoff might be different.  
>But that's not nearterm credible.

Consider this: A manufactured home costs less (per square foot) than one stick built on site. A mobile home costs less than a manufactured home. All three have nearly unlimited access during the construction phase – something a module on orbit will never have.

Prices will have to drop considerably below \$100/lb before it becomes economical to do major assembly on orbit.

D.

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Touch–twice life. Eat. Drink. Laugh.

–Resolved: To be more temperate in my postings.

Oct 5th, 2004 JDL

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- *Follow-Ups:*
  - ◆ ***Re: DIY space transport***
    - ◇ *From:* Len

Re: DIY space transport

- ◆ **Re: DIY space transport**  
◇ From: Pete Lynn

• **References:**

- ◆ **DIY space transport**  
◇ From: Pete Lynn
  - ◆ **Re: DIY space transport**  
◇ From: Joe Strout
  - ◆ **Re: DIY space transport**  
◇ From: George William Herbert
  - ◆ **Re: DIY space transport**  
◇ From: Pete Lynn
  - ◆ **Re: DIY space transport**  
◇ From: George William Herbert
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