

## Re: Could Falcon 9 compete with the Stick?

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.space.policy/2005-09/msg00220.html>

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- *From:* "Ed Kyle" <edkyle99@xxxxxxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* 8 Sep 2005 17:23:06 -0700
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Chris Hall wrote:

> SpaceX appears to have leap-frogged the Falcon 5 and gone to the 9 which  
> is an EELV class RLV. I know Falcon 1 has yet to fly, but Falcon 9 has a  
> customer and the prices do seem cheap compared to any likely SDLV. With  
> base model doing 9 tons to LEO for \$27M, and heavy sending ~25 tons to  
> LEO for \$78M (these are pretty comprehensive prices, including range,  
> insurance, integration), doesn't this look attractive? That is, if it  
> all works.

I don't believe the numbers. The going rate these days for U.S. launchers is about \$10-13K per kg to LEO. Mr. Musk claims he has a business case for \$3K per kg. I could imagine that it might be possible for a newbie to march into the space business with a fresh concept and undercut the old-line competition, but never by this much. It just doesn't seem believable to me.

- Ed Kyle

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◇ *From:* New European
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◇ *From:* Cardman
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◇ *From:* Chris Hall
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