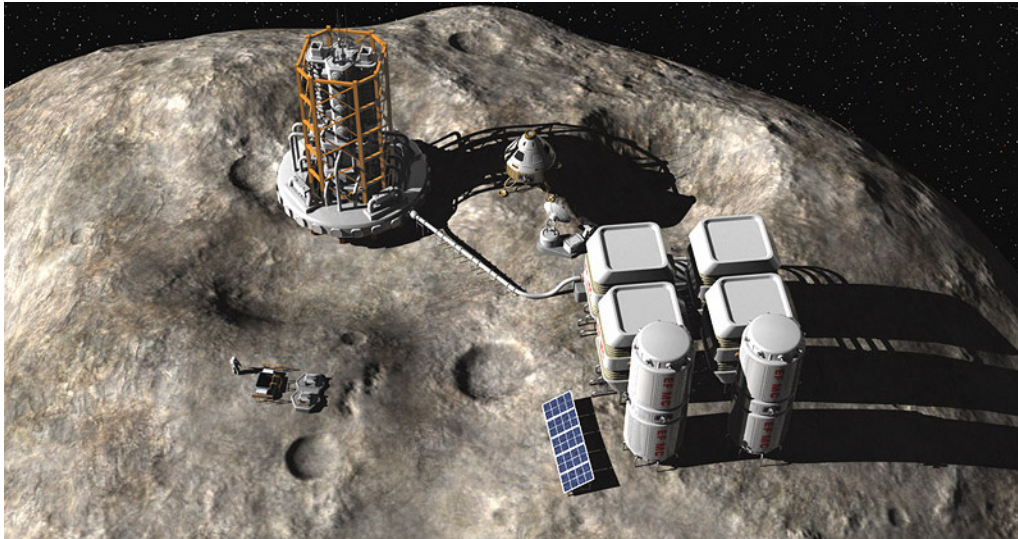


NYTimes Technology
March 17, 2025
By Nathaniel Popper

Decentralized Space Organization (DSO) discovers water-rich asteroid. Votes on next steps using blockchain governance.



Yesterday, the Decentralized Space Organization achieved a historic milestone in off-world exploration when a massive, Type C, carbonaceous chondrite meteor was surveyed using the ARKYD-301 surface probes and found to contain a staggering 24% water composition. This is the most substantial discovery to date for the decentralized consortium and was the most hopeful outcome for one of the DSOs founding members, the asteroid mining company Planetary Resources. The organizing principles behind this interstellar alliance are built upon blockchain governance technology and are a complete departure from the resource-wasting, tribal, and competitive space exploration industry of the 2010s. In response to the new development, the DSO has begun voting on a long-speculated proposal authored by Planetary Resources to send a mission establishing humanity's first commercial mine in space. The proposal is expected to be approved using the tokenized governance platform, as all the consortium members understand the significance and utility of finding that amount of frozen H₂O in the typically barren void of space (3.5 AU from Earth). Water is integral to extended off-world exploration and consumed for rocket propellant, astronaut hydration, botany and agriculture, breathable oxygen, and radiation shielding. Tomorrow, chairman of the board Elon Musk (CEO of SpaceX, Mars Vacations, BFR Airlines, California Hyperloop) plans to hold a press conference endorsing Planetary Resources' mining proposal and encouraging members to band together in support of constructing Earth's first cosmic outpost. With this newfound cooperation, it would seem the space race has become more of relay race.