Roadmap & Timeline
of In-Space Economy & Manufacturing

Factories in Space

- 1967 — EOS (Electrophoresis In Space) first flight
- 1979 — First conference on in-space manufacturing
- 1982 — Microgravity Research Associates founded
- 1984 — Perfect spheres made in space (commercial)
- 1984 — First space tug (kick-stages)
- 1984 — Spacehab founded
- 1986 — The Space Shuttle disaster
- 1987 — First satellite servicing
- 1994 — Wake Shield Facility
- 1997 — Space Industries Inc founded (space station)
- 1998 — Beal Aerospace founded (launcher)
- 1998 — SpaceDev lunar landing plans
- 1999 — Bigelow founded (space station)
- 2000 — BlastOff! founded (lunar lander)
- 2001 — Solaren founded (space solar power)
- 2001 — Blue Origin founded
- 2001 — First space tourist (Space Adventures)
- 2001 — Orbital Recovery founded (servicing)
- 2002 — TransOrbital lunar plans
- 2002 — SpaceX founded
- 2006 — NASA COTS awards
- 2007 — Google Lunar XPrize start
- 2009 — Planetary Resources
- 2009 — Excalibur Almaz announcement
- 2010 — Falcon-9 launch
- 2010 — Cargo Dragon flight
- 2012 — First 3D printer launch to ISS
- 2014 — Mars One announced
- 2015 — Falcon-9 landing
- 2017 — ZBLAN first test (Made in Space)
- 2018 — First modern space tug launch
- 2019 — Beresheet lunar landing attempt
- 2019 — First robotic satellite servicing
- 2020 — First crewed Dragon flight
- 2021 — NASA Space Food Challenge announced
- 2021 — Inspiration4 mission
- 2022 — Commercial optical crystals (Redwire)
- 2023 — iSpace lunar landing attempt
- 2024 — Astrobotic lunar landing attempt
- 2019 — First metal 3D printer launched
- 2024 — First small re-entry vehicle returns (Varda)
- 2024 — Starship orbital
- 2024 — ZBLAN 5+ km (Flawless Photonics)
- 2024 — Commercial survived lunar lander (Intuitive Machines)
- 2024 — First commercial lunar rover operational
- 2025 — Vast space station
- 2026 — Axiom space station module
- 2026 — Human return to the Moon
- 2027 — First commercial Mars landing
- 2027 — Space solar power commercial demo
- 2031 — Human landing on Mars
- 2035 — Space solar power profitable

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Erik Kulu, 2024-04-01