



Why a Japanese Billionaire Decided to Cancel His Lunar Flight Aboard Starship

Description

The dearMoon project, which aimed to send a Japanese billionaire and 10 crew members on a circumlunar flight aboard SpaceX's Starship vehicle, has been unexpectedly canceled. The financial backer and crew leader, Yusaku Maezawa, cited uncertainties around the launch timeline as the reason for the decision. Originally announced in 2018 at SpaceX's rocket factory in Hawthorne, the project faced numerous delays in Starship's development. This came to a head in April 2021 when NASA selected Starship as the lunar lander for its Artemis Program, shifting priorities for SpaceX. As a result, the dearMoon mission was deprioritized, with Maezawa's personal fortunes also playing a role in the cancellation. This turn of events clears the path for Starship to focus on operational deployment and testing technologies for NASA's program. Looking ahead, Starship aims to become operational, launch larger Starlink satellites, and tackle the technical challenges of human spaceflight. The cancellation of the dearMoon project marks a shift in priorities for SpaceX and sets the stage for future endeavors in space exploration.

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Vocabulary List:

1. **Cancellation** // (noun): The act of calling off or postponing an event.
2. **Uncertainties** // (noun): Lack of certainty or predictability.
3. **Deprioritized** // (verb): To relegate (a task or project) to a lower priority.
4. **Fortunes** // (noun): A person's wealth/assets or total possessions.
5. **Operational** // (adjective): Ready for use/functioning or in operation.
6. **Deployment** // (noun): The action of bringing resources into effective use.

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What process involves critical examination or inspection?
Option: Integration
Option: Scrutiny
Option: Anticipated
Option: Exclusive
2. Which word means foretold or anticipated?
Option: Predicted
Option: Controversial
Option: Inaccurate
Option: Update
3. What term refers to small technological devices?
Option: Revenue
Option: Edition
Option: Gadgets
Option: Recommendations
4. Which word means the end or termination of something?
Option: Compelling
Option: Deprioritized
Option: Demise
Option: Fortunes
5. What term indicates the act of verifying or validating something?
Option: Cancellation



- Option: Update
- Option: Confirmation
- Option: Missteps

6. What word describes a continuation or follow-up to a previous work?

- Option: Operational
- Option: Sequel
- Option: Deployment
- Option: Speculation

7. What term refers to income generated from business activities?

- Option: Subscription
- Option: Content
- Option: Variety
- Option: Revenue

8. Which word means to bring something current or to the latest version?

- Option: Missteps
- Option: Update
- Option: Anticipated
- Option: Exclusive

9. What term indicates the act of calling off or discontinuing something?

- Option: Uncertainties
- Option: Cancellation
- Option: Enthusiasts
- Option: Integration

10. Which word means to relegate lower in priority?

- Option: Fortunes
- Option: Deprioritized
- Option: Super-fast
- Option: Announced

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. The _____ decision sparked heated debate among experts and the public.
12. The stock market is driven by investor _____ regarding future trends.
13. The new headquarters became _____ in record time due to efficient planning.



14. Navigating through economic _____ requires careful risk assessment.
15. The store offers a wide _____ of products to cater to diverse customer preferences.
16. Car _____ eagerly await the release of the latest sports car model.
17. The movie premiere was one of the most _____ events of the year.
18. The military planned the strategic _____ of troops across the border.
19. The speaker delivered a _____ argument that persuaded many to support the cause.
20. The company's financial _____ drastically improved after the new product launch.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The team's series of led to their eventual defeat in the championship.
22. The news report was considered highly due to factual errors and false claims.
23. The latest magazine features exclusive interviews with top celebrities.
24. Subscribers gain access to content not available to the general public.
25. The newspaper offers a digital for readers who prefer online access.
26. The company focused on the seamless of new advancements into their existing product line.
27. The tech company plans for a revolutionary upgrade to their popular device.
28. The restaurant prides itself on offering a wide of international cuisines.
29. The new internet service promises connection speeds for uninterrupted streaming.
30. Due to budget constraints the project was in favor of more urgent initiatives.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Scrutiny 2. Predicted 3. Gadgets 4. Demise 5. Confirmation 6. Sequel 7. Revenue 8. Update 9. Cancellation 10. Deprioritized

Gap-Fill: 11. Controversial 12. Speculation 13. Operational 14. Uncertainties 15. Variety 16. Enthusiasts 17. Anticipated



18. Deployment 19. Compelling 20. Fortunes

Matching sentence: 1. Missteps 2. Inaccurate 3. Edition 4. Exclusive 5. Subscription 6. Integration 7. Announced 8. Variety 9. Super-fast 10. Deprioritized

CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL4

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