X PRIZE
Foundation

April, 2010
In 1919, Raymond Orteig offered a prize for the first nonstop aircraft flight between New York and Paris.

Charles Lindbergh, an unheard of mail pilot won the prize in 1927 and along with eight other teams, spent over $300,000 in pursuit of the $25,000 prize.

The prize captured global attention, launching a new aviation industry increasing the number of U.S. airline passengers from 6,000 in 1926 to 175,000 in 1929 and doubling the number of airports within three years of the flight.

Today, the global aviation industry is estimated at more than $300 billion.
What if...

What if there was a powerful way to spark innovation, help cure disease, eradicate hunger and save the planet? There is. It’s called the X PRIZE.

“The best way to predict the future is to create it.”
Ansari X PRIZE
$10M to first privately-financed team to fly a spaceship capable of carrying 3 people to 100km twice in 2 weeks

26 Teams from 7 Nations registered to compete for the prize; together they spent over $100M developing their approaches.
SpaceShipOne designed and built by the Burt Rutan led team, Mojave Aerospace Ventures (backed by Paul Allen) takes to the sky on the first flight in pursuit of the X PRIZE.
October 4, 2004

SpaceshipOne reaches maximum altitude on the second and winning flight of the Ansari X PRIZE and claims the $10 Million; the largest cash prize ever awarded.
The world watched.
The X PRIZE transformed how people thought about space travel; it wasn’t just for governments anymore.
Between Spirit of St. Louis and Bell-X-1, first airplane to travel faster than the speed of sound.
...and the future was created.
Highly leveraged
Attracts new players
Efficient
Sparks industry

>$1 billion

private space industry

$2.5 million seed money

$10 million prize

$100 million spent in pursuit
It's not just about space. It never was. It's about transforming the way we solve humanity's greatest challenges.
Prize Groups

Life Sciences  Exploration  Energy & Environment  Education & Global Development
Launched in 2006
Must cost less than $10k/genome
Accuracy < 1 error per 100k base pairs
Competition can occur in 2 windows every year
If more than one winner: $7.5/$2.5 or $7/$2/$1 M purse distribution
Eight registered teams
Finished in 2013
Launched in 2007
Must be 90% privately financed
Sunset provision after 2012: $20/$5/$5 goes to $15/$5/$5; end in 2014
21 teams registered today from over a dozen countries
Launched in 2008

Nearly 150 teams registered, ~40 today

2010: series of qualifying, shakedown and knockout races at Michigan Speedway (safety, efficiency, production capable)
Attributes of an X PRIZE

- Target Grand Challenge
- Addresses market failure
- Transforms a market or industry
- Clear, objective & simple rules
- Bold, audacious goal that is hard but attainable
- Telegenic and marketable
- Assure a “back-end business”
- Define a problem, not a solution