

# Editor's Choice



A man rests while reading the Koran at the Grand Mosque, during the holy month of Ramadan in Sanaa



U.S. President Donald Trump speaks to the news media as he departs for travel to Colorado from the White House in Washington, U.S., May 30, 2019. REUTERS/Kevin Lamarque TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



German Chancellor Angela Merkel acknowledges the applause as she receives an honorary degree during Commencement Exercises at Harvard University in Cambridge



Primary school students wear masks with "No Smoking" sign during an event to promote the World No Tobacco Day on May 31, in Linyi



Labor activist Rath Rott Mony arrives to the Phnom Penh Municipal Court for trial over his role in the making of a documentary about sex-trafficking, that the government said contained fake news, in Phnom Penh



A supporter of a hard-line Buddhist monk Wirathu prays at Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon, following the monk's arrest warrant on a charge of sedition in Yangon



REFILE - CORRECTING BYLINE Formula One World Champion Lewis Hamilton accompanies Austrian motor racing great Niki Lauda's coffin out of St Stephen's cathedral in Vienna, Austria May 29, 2019. REUTERS/Lisi Niesner TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



Soccer Football - Europa League Final - Chelsea v Arsenal - Baku Olympic Stadium, Baku, Azerbaijan - May 29, 2019 Chelsea's Rob Green and team mates celebrate winning the Europa League with the trophy REUTERS/Anton Vaganov TPX

**Jeff Bezos Unveils Lunar Lander To Take Astronauts To The Moon By 2024**



Blue Origin's "Blue Moon" lunar lander.

**Overview**

Blue Origin founder Jeff Bezos unveiled the company's "Blue Moon" lunar lander on Thursday, as well as a new BE-7 rocket engine.

"I love Vice President Pence's 2024 lunar landing goal," Bezos said, adding that Blue Origin can meet that timeline "because we started this three years ago."

Bezos invests more than \$1 billion in Blue Origin each year, through sales of his Amazon shares.

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

WASHINGTON — Jeff Bezos, chairman of Amazon and founder of Blue Origin, unveiled his space company's lunar lander for the first time last Thursday. "This vehicle is going to the moon," Bezos said during an invite-only presentation to media and space industry executives.

"We were given a gift — this nearby body called the moon," Bezos said. He added that the moon is a good place to begin manufacturing in space due to its lower gravity than the Earth. Getting resources from the moon "takes 24 times less energy to get it off the surface compared to the Earth," Bezos said, and "that is a huge lever."

The Blue Moon lander can bring 3.6 metric tons to the lunar surface, accord-

ing to Bezos. Bezos also unveiled the company's BE-7 rocket engine at the event. The engine will be test fired for the first time this summer, Bezos said. It's largely made of "printed" parts, he added.

"We need the new engine and that's what this is," Bezos said.



Michael Sheetz

@thesheetztweetz

Bezos unveils the @blueorigin BE-7 engine, which he says will fire for the first time this summer

3:46 PM - May 9, 2019

Twitter Ads info and privacy

"It's time to go back to the moon and this time stay," Bezos said.

Blue Origin, established nearly two decades ago, has remained relatively quiet about the rockets, engines and capsules it is developing. With its Latin tagline of "step by step, ferociously," Blue Origin has been working on multiple space systems at the same time. Bezos invests more than \$1 billion in the company each year, through sales of his Amazon shares.

Vice President Mike Pence earlier this year directed NASA to return U.S. astronauts to the surface of the moon within the next five years. NASA administrator Jim Bridenstine answered by saying the agency will meet the White House's directive, which represents an acceleration of NASA's existing lunar exploration timeline. NASA's fiscal 2020 budget request included a massive increase in funding of the the Advanced Cislunar and Surface Capabilities (ACSC) program. Under ACSC, the agency would first send robots to the surface without crews, later following up with astronauts. Despite internal hesitancy, NASA is considering commercial alternatives such as Blue Origin for getting astronauts to the moon's surface.

"I love Vice President Pence's 2024 lunar landing goal," Bezos said, adding that Blue Origin can meet that timeline "because we started this three years ago."

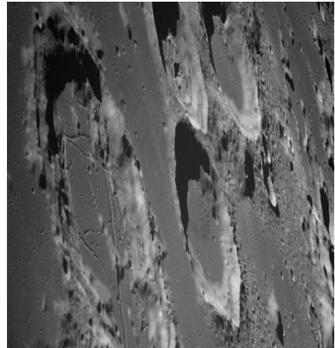


Blue Origin founder Jeff Bezos

Ahead of the event, Blue Origin tweeted a cryptic photo of famed explorer Ernest Shackleton's ship and a date, May 9, in the caption. A teaser for Thursday's event, the photo appeared to hint that Bezos' announcement would focus on sending cargo and even astronauts to the south pole of the moon. That's because Shackleton lends his name to a crater on the moon's surface, which NASA named after the explorer in 2006 due to its potential as a lunar outpost. Located at the moon's south pole, the Shackleton crater is believed by many to have deposits of frozen water.

Bezos offered only few details two years ago about Blue Origin's lunar ambitions. In a program the company called "Blue Moon," it would send a couple tons of cargo to the surface of the moon, to begin building the infrastructure of a lunar base. The first mission was proposed for 2020, in partnership with government programs like the Boeing-built NASA Space Launch System (SLS) rocket. But in May of last year, Bezos indicated Blue Origin may develop Blue Moon on its own.

Blue Origin's most visible program has been its New Shepard rocket system, which the company is developing to send tourists to the edge of space for 10 minutes. New Shepard has flown on 11 test flights, with its capsule, built to carry six passengers, reaching an altitude of more than 350,000. The capsule features massive windows, providing expansive views of the Earth once in space.



Shackleton crater on the moon.

The company plans to send its first humans onboard a New Shepard rocket sometime in the next year. But it has yet to begin selling tickets. Blue Origin told CNBC last year that it will only offer tourists a ride to space "after our first human flights."

Additionally, New Shepard has served as a test bed for the company to develop its own reusability system. Like SpaceX's Falcon 9 rockets, the largest part of the New Shepard rocket — the first stage "booster" — comes back and lands on a concrete pad shortly after launch.

Reusing rockets is a key development in the space industry as companies look to reduce the cost of sending humans, satellites, experiments and more to space. Blue Origin is building an immense rocket system, called New Glenn. Similar to New Shepard, the company plans to land New Glenn's rocket booster on a ship in the ocean



Bezos' ultimate ambition is to help humanity expand across the solar system, with a human population of more than a trillion living and working in space. Morgan Stanley highlighted Bezos' investments in space as a "force" in the industry who brings financial muscle unlike any other. Blue Origin is one of several space companies which Morgan Stanley said "will up the ante" this year. (Courtesy <https://www.cnbc.com/>)

想 改變肺功能 擔心 戒煙 不  
增進 要 降低 變 胖 想 戒煙  
體能 患 病 風 險 又 胖 心 失 敗  
改善 戒煙 戒 吸 淡 煙  
血液循環 戒煙 戒 就 好  
延長壽命 快樂似  
容光 煥發 神 仙  
拾健康 而 女  
兒女 信 能 控 制  
好榜樣 地 除 無 時  
回 升 味 登

**戒煙與否不用煩 來電馬上解疑難**  
不論你正考慮戒煙或還沒想過戒煙，都歡迎先撥通電話與我們交談，並獲得以下協助。  
請立即致電或上網登記！

- 國、粵語專業顧問解答疑問
- 免費專業建議及全力幫助、支持
- 免費一對一電話輔導
- 免費兩週戒煙貼
- 免費中文戒煙資料

華語戒煙專線服務由 Asian Smokers' Quitline (ASQ) 所提供

貼片幫助好戒煙，來電索取不花錢！  
**1.800 838.8917**  
華語戒煙專線  
ASIAN SMOKERS' QUITLINE

WWW.ASQ-CHINESE.ORG

**THE MINT NATIONAL BANK**

**The MINT National Bank**  
**A SBA PLP Lender**  
**Recently Closed Loans**

SBA Loan-Motel	SBA Loan-Gas Stations
Loan Amount: \$3,300,000 Term: 12 Month Interest Only / 25 Years Straight payout Purpose: Construction/ Term Start Up	Loan Amount: \$4,055,000 (Total Five Loans) Term: 12 Month Interest Only / 25 Years Straight payout Purpose: Purchasing & Working Capital
Conventional-Gas Station	SBA Loan-Motel
Loan Amount: \$1,880,000 Term: 20 Years Straight payout Purpose: Purchasing	Loan Amount: \$2,500,000 Term: 12 Month Interest Only / 25 Years Straight payout Purpose: Construction/ Term Start Up
Conventional: Retail Condominiums	Conventional: Gas Stations
Loan Amount: \$4,350,000 Term: 8 Month Interest Only / 25 Years Straight payout Purpose: Tenant Improvement/ Term CRE Investor Program	Loan Amount: \$3,450,000 (Total 2 Loans) Term: 20 Years straight payout Purpose: Refinance & Extra Equity for Gas Stations purchasing
Conventional: Gas Stations	Conventional: Builder line of credit
Loan Amount: \$3,780,000 Term: 20 years straight payout Purpose: Refinancing and Extra Equity for Land Purchasing	Loan Amount: \$1,700,000 Term: 12 Month Interest Only Purpose: SFR Construction Builder Line

For your Commercial Loan inquiry and SBA Loan inquiry, please contact,  
**Ringo Kwan** President of International MINT LPO  
Cell Number: 713-560-1588 Office Number: 281-568-8888 ext. 1118  
Email: [Ringo.Kwan@themintbank.com](mailto:Ringo.Kwan@themintbank.com)  
Address: 10333 Harwin Dr., Suite 630, Houston, TX, 77036  
Headquarters: 1213 Kingwood Dr., Kingwood, TX, 77339

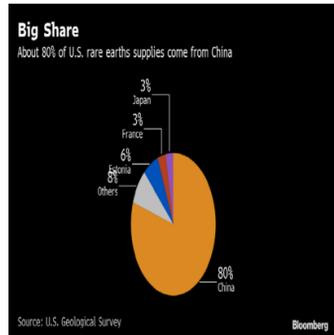
**China Gears Up To Weaponize Rare Earths In Trade War**

(Bloomberg) -- Beijing is gearing up to use its dominance of rare earths to hit back in its deepening trade war with Washington.

A flurry of Chinese media reports on Wednesday, including an editorial in the flagship newspaper of the Communist Party, raised the prospect of Beijing cutting exports of the commodities that are critical in defense, energy, electronics and automobile sectors. The world's biggest producer, China supplies about 80% of U.S. imports of rare earths, which are used in a host of applications from smartphones to electric vehicles and wind turbines.

The threat to weaponize strategic materials ratchets up the tension between the world's two biggest economies before an expected meeting between Presidents Xi Jinping and Donald Trump at the G-20 meeting next month. It shows how China is weighing its options after the U.S. blacklisted Huawei Technologies Co., cutting off the supply of American components it needs to make its smartphones and networking gear.

"China, as the dominant producer of rare earths, has shown in the past that it can use rare earths as a bargaining chip when it comes to multilateral negotiations," said George Bauk, Chief Executive Officer of Northern Minerals Ltd., which is producing rare earth carbonate from a pilot-scale project in Western Australia.



The U.S. shouldn't underestimate China's ability to fight the trade war, the People's Daily said in an editorial Wednesday that used some historically significant language on the weight of China's intent.

The newspaper's commentary included a rare Chinese phrase that means "don't say I didn't warn you." The specific wording



Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

was used by the paper in 1962 before China went to war with India, and "those familiar with Chinese diplomatic language know the weight of this phrase," the Global Times, a newspaper affiliated with the Communist Party, said in an article last April. It was also used before conflict broke out between China and Vietnam in 1979.

On rare earths specifically, the People's Daily said it isn't hard to answer the question whether China will use the elements as retaliation in the trade war.

China is "seriously" considering restricting rare earth exports to the U.S. and may also implement other countermeasures, the editor-in-chief of the Global Times, said in a tweet. An official at the National Development & Reform Commission told CCTV that people in the country won't be happy to see products made with exported rare earths being used to suppress China's development.

Editorials in the Global Times and Shanghai Securities News took similar tacks in their Wednesday editions.



The nation's producers have rallied hard in recent weeks on the view that rare earths could be an ace in the trade war. President Xi Jinping visited a plant earlier this month, accompanied by his chief trade negotiator with the U.S., fueling speculation that the strategic materials could be weaponized in China's tit-for-tat with the U.S.

Rare earths have already featured in the trade dispute. The Asian country raised tariffs to 25% from 10% on imports from America's sole producer, while the U.S. excluded the elements from its own list of prospective tariffs on roughly \$300 billion worth of Chinese goods to be targeted in its

next wave of measures.

Rare earths aren't particularly rare. Cerium, the most abundant, is more common in the Earth's crust than copper. All other rare-earth elements, besides promethium, can be found more widely than silver, gold, or platinum, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. However, concentrated and economic deposits are scarce, and production is dominated by a handful of countries. China is the biggest by far, accounting for almost 70% of global production and 40% of the world's reserves, USGS data show.

China's rare earth market is dominated by a handful of producers including China Northern Rare Earth Group, Minmetals Rare Earth Co., Xiamen Tungsten Co. and Chinalco Rare Earth & Metals Co. The nation has form in using the elements to make a political point. It blocked exports to Japan after a maritime dispute in 2010, although the consequent spike in prices saw a flurry of activity to secure supplies elsewhere, which would be the risk again if Beijing follows through with its threat of retaliation.

**Rare But Everywhere**

Rare-earth elements have widespread uses in defense, energy and technology

Element	Symbol	Characteristics
Scandium	Sc	Light alloys for the aerospace industry, as a radioactive tracer, and in lamps.
Lanthanum	La	High refractive index glass, camera lenses and catalysts.
Cerium	Ce	Used to give a yellow color to glass, as a catalyst, as a polishing powder, and to make flints.
Praseodymium	Pr	Lasers, arc lighting, magnets, flint steel, and as a glass colorant, in high-strength metals found in aircraft engines and in flint for starting fires.
Neodymium	Nd	Some of the strongest permanent magnets available, used to give violet color to glass and ceramics, in lasers, capacitors, and electric motors.
Promethium	Pm	The only naturally radioactive rare earth element. Used in luminescent paint and nuclear batteries.
Samarium	Sm	Lasers, magnets, masers, nuclear reactor control rods.
Europium	Eu	Used to prepare red and blue phosphors (marks on Euro notes that prevent counterfeiting) in lasers, fluorescent lamps, and in fluorescent.
Gadolinium	Gd	Lasers, x-ray tubes, computer memory, high refractive index glass.
Terbium	Tb	Used in green phosphors, magnets, lasers, fluorescent lamps, magnetostrictive alloys, and solar systems.
Yttrium	Y	Used in yttrium aluminum garnet (YAG) lasers, as a red phosphor, in superconductors, in fluorescent tubes, in LEDs, and as a cancer treatment.
Dysprosium	Dy	Permanent rare earth magnets, Lasers and commercial lighting, hard computer discs and other electronics, nuclear reactors and modern, energy-efficient vehicles.
Holmium	Ho	Use in lasers, magnets, and calibration of spectrophotometers can be used in nuclear control rods and microwave equipment.
Erbium	Er	Vanadium steel, infrared lasers, and fiberoptic lasers, including some used for medical purposes.
Thulium	Tm	One of the least abundant rare earths. Used in lasers, metal halide lamps, and portable x-ray machines.
Ytterbium	Yb	Health care applications, including in certain cancer treatments; stainless steel and for monitoring effects of earthquakes, explosions.
Lutetium	Lu	Positron emission tomography (PET) scans, high refractive index glass, catalysts, and LEDs.

Source: Bank of America Merrill Lynch, USGS

Bloomberg

China Northern rose as much as 9.3% in Shanghai, while Lynas Corp., the biggest producer of rare earth products outside China, added as much as 16% in Sydney. Hong Kong-listed China Rare Earth Holdings Ltd. spiked as much as 41% and has doubled in value in May.

China's stranglehold is so strong that the U.S. joined with other nations earlier this decade in a World Trade Organization case to force the nation to export more amid a global shortage. The WTO ruled in favor of America, while prices eventually slumped as manufacturers turned to alternatives.

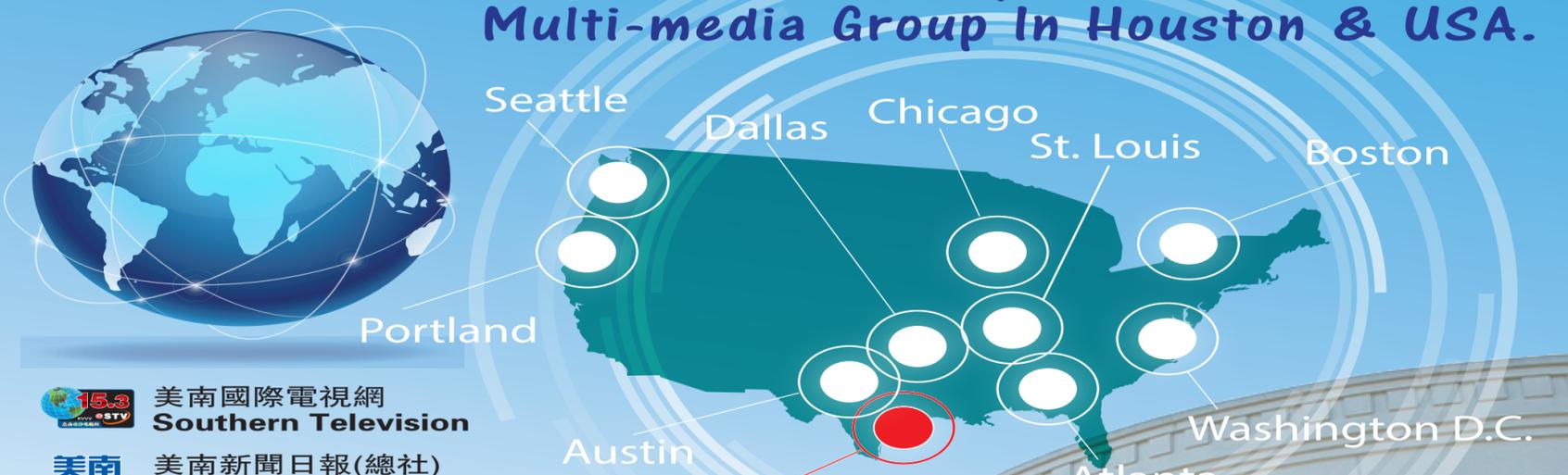
In December 2017, U.S. President Donald Trump signed an executive order to reduce the country's dependence on external sources of critical minerals, including rare earths, which was aimed at reducing U.S. vulnerability to supply disruptions. (Courtesy Bloomberg.com)



**SOUTHERN NEWS GROUP**

Media | Newspaper | Television | Yellow Pages | Printing

The Largest Asian Independent Multi-media Group In Houston & USA.



15.3 Southern Television

美南新聞日報(總社) Southern Chinese Daily News

休士頓黃頁 Houston Chinese Yellow Pages

休士頓旅遊指南 Houston Travel Guide

今日美國網站 today-america.com

INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER International Trade Center www.itchouston.org

美南印刷廠 U.S.A. Printing

美國美南拉瑪爾大學環球職業教育中心 Global center for Professional Education Lamar University -SNG

美南光聲電訊傳媒集團 Phonoscope-Southern News Group Telecom Media Group