

Beat: Lifestyle

## **CANADIAN SPACE FIRM HAS BEEN GRANTED US PATENT FOR A SPACE ELEVATOR**

### **SPACE ELEVATOR IN A TOWER 12 MILES HIGH**

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**USPA NEWS** - A Canadian space company was recently awarded a patent for a space elevator that would reach about 12 miles (20 kilometers) above the Earth's surface. One step closer to revolutionizing space and to take a giant elevator into space...

Canadian space firm Thoth Technology Inc. has outlined plans for an elevator to space, potentially saving huge amounts of fuel and money that form part of the vast cost of launching rockets into orbit. The company has been granted a US patent to build a freestanding tower, reaching 12 miles (20 km) above the planet's surface.

According to Thoth Technology Inc., the company that was awarded the patent, the U.S. patent allows for an elevator that would be 30 percent cheaper than the fuel required by a conventional rocket. Also, the system would be fully reusable, further reducing costs,

The company said the tower, named the ThothX Tower, will be an inflatable, freestanding structure complete with an electrical elevator and will reach 20km (12.5 miles) above the Earth.

"Astronauts would ascend to 20km by electrical elevator. From the top of the tower, space planes will launch in a single stage to orbit, returning to the top of the tower for refueling and reflight," [?] Brendan Quine, the tower's inventor, said in a statement.

The tower, pneumatically pressurized and actively guided over its base, could also be used for wind-energy generation and communications, according to Thoth Technology. The tower will also be open to tourists, providing a way for people to experience space-like conditions without losing gravity.

Thoth Technology is also working on several missions still in the development phase, such as the Northern Light lander concept for Mars and an Extrasolar Spectroscopy of Planets mission that would probe for elements in the atmospheres of alien planets.

#### **Article online:**

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#### **Editorial program service of General News Agency:**

United Press Association, Inc.  
3651 Lindell Road, Suite D168

Las Vegas, NV 89103, USA  
(702) 943.0321 Local  
(702) 943.0233 Facsimile  
[info@unitedpressassociation.org](mailto:info@unitedpressassociation.org)  
[info@gna24.com](mailto:info@gna24.com)  
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