



September, 2013

NEWS-LETTER FROM INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY,  
VCE Campus, HYDERABAD-500031

# NOSTALGIA

## ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

- a workshop on 'Ethical Hacking' was held for BE 4/4
- a workshop on Microsoft Windows 8 app development for BE 3/4 was held
- a workshop on Blackberry 10 OS app development
- Seminar on C# was held
- Seminar on 'Security in Networking' by Dr.Shobha Bindu,HOD Cse, JNTU Anantapur
- Seminar on Cloud Computing

**It's not a faith in Technology. It's faith in people.**

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## ALUMNI COLUMN

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"Education without values, as useful as it is, seems rather to make man a more clever devil."  
- C.S. Lewis

"When it is obvious that the goals cannot be reached, don't adjust the goals, adjust the action steps."  
- Confucius

"You can teach a student a lesson for a day; but if you can teach him to learn by creating curiosity, he will continue the learning process as long as he lives."

-Clay P. Bedford

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## Students' Column

### SPACE TOURISM, A REALITY?

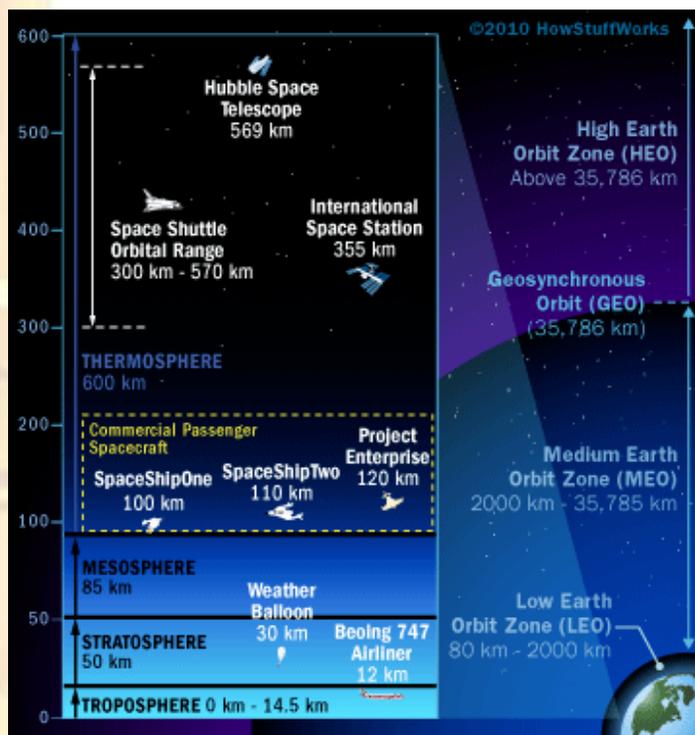
By- Sai Sushmitha. P

For those who are passionate about space, it's a dream come true while for others who are yet to seek this undaunted ecstasy, spare a 5 minutes of your time for the cache!

The science and technology has given the world so much today that it has grown over also to take a man to the space. Amongst all the inventions till date, space technology is indeed a blessing, enabling us to know more of the world that is just what we can perceive and much more..to exploring the constellations, researching on the planets and many such innumerable discoveries ultimately to unravel the beauty in space and acknowledging the inquisitiveness of humans. Nevertheless the curiosity of humans has been eternal, so are the jaw-dropping innovations.

With a mere \$20,000 deposit on a \$200,000 ticket, you can go ahead and reserve a seat aboard on Branson's Virgin Galactic SpaceShipTwo, slated to become the first commercial spacecraft when it launches in the next few years. Each flight will take six passengers on a two-and-a-half-hour jaunt into suborbital space -- that's 68 miles (110 kilometers) above the surface of the Earth. Once there, passengers will get to float free from their seats and gaze out at a view that Virgin Galactic CEO George Whitesides describes as

"a transformative experience." Continents, oceans and storm systems will stretch silently below while the void of space spans overhead. The International Space Station came with a price tag of somewhere



between \$35 billion and \$100 billion.

That includes material, supplies, engineering, communications and life-support systems. Such are the costs of overcoming the planet's gravity and bedding down in an incredibly hostile environment.

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Dennis Tito was the first space tourist in 2001 and Guy Laliberté, who became the first clown in space in 2009. Since the beginning of the American space program, the X-planes have been the test models for space technology. Currently there are several experimental X-plane models in development that could make space travel as routine as airplane travel. Each of these latest X-planes are reusable launch vehicles (RLVs), like the space shuttle, which means that they can be launched into orbit repeatedly before being replaced.

These lightweight vehicles are designed to lower launch costs, and could eventually replace the space shuttle, which has been in use since 1981. Commercial space travel remains prohibitive because of the expense: It costs about \$10,000 to get one pound (.45 kg) of payload into Earth's orbit. Space planes could lower that price to \$1,000 per pound. Two uniquely designed engines will propel the spacecraft. The X-33 will be the first space plane to use Linear Aerospike engines. The shape of the engines is a better fit for the wedge-shaped space plane than the conventional bell nozzle rocket engines, according to NASA. In contrast to the nozzle of the Bell rocket engines, the Aerospike

These new engines will propel the X-33 to speeds up to Mach 13 (9,100 mph / 14,645 kph).

The ultimate goal of the X-33 project is to produce a commercial aircraft called the VentureStar, which would be the successor to the space shuttle. The VentureStar will be about twice the size of the X-33 prototype, and will use the same type of engines and the same construction materials. However, it will be

able to achieve Mach 25. Not only would the VentureStar be used to put payloads into space, but it could also be used as a space tourism vehicle. The success or failure of the X-33 will determine whether the VentureStar becomes the vehicle that enables public access to space. Each pound of payload in the shuttle's bay costs \$10,000 to launch. According to NASA, each of the space shuttle's two solid rocket boosters carry about 1 million pounds (453,592 kg) of solid propellant.

The large external tanks hold another 500,000 gallons of supercold liquid oxygen and liquid hydrogen. These two liquids are mixed and burned to form the fuel for the shuttle's three main rocket engines. The cost of this huge amount of propellant, and of recovering and replacing the solid rocket boosters for every mission, is extremely expensive. NASA's solution to the problem is the X-33.



nozzle is V-shaped, called a ramp. The hot gases are shot from the chambers along the outside of the ramp's surface.

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The X-33 is a prototype for a unique single-stage-to-orbit vehicle. Its wedge-like shape is unlike any spacecraft that has preceded it. At its base, the X-33 is 77 feet (23.5 m) wide, and the vehicle is 69 feet (21 m) long. The purpose of this design is to allow the spacecraft to hold all of the needed propellant onboard the ship, thus eliminating the need for

derivative of the X-33, are expected to be only a tenth of the cost of launching the space shuttle. The ultimate goal of the X-33 project is to produce a commercial aircraft called the VentureStar, which would be the successor to the space shuttle. The VentureStar will be about twice the size of the X-33 prototype, and will use the same type of engines

and the same construction materials. solid rocket boosters. By eliminating the boosters and the main fuel tank, NASA will trim much of the liftoff weight that makes space shuttle missions so expensive. Launch costs for the X-33, or a

Well, they say money can't buy us happiness, but sure it can buy you a ticket to International Space Station!



The Venture Star could become the mass transit system for Earth-to-orbit travel.



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## PUZZLES IN INFOSYS INTERVIEW

- Question:** You have three bags, each containing two marbles. Bag A contains two white marbles, Bag B contains two black marbles, and Bag C contains one white marble and one black marble. You pick a random bag and take out one marble. It is a white marble. What is the probability that the remaining marble from the same bag is also white?

**Answer:**  $2/3$  (not  $1/2$ )

You know that you do not have Bag B (two black marbles) so there are three possibilities You chose Bag A, first white marble. The other marble will be white You chose Bag A, second white marble. The other marble will be white You chose Bag C, the white marble. The other marble will be black So 2 out of 3 possibilities are white. Why not  $1/2$ ? You are selecting marbles, not bags.
- Question:** By moving one of the following digits, make the equation correct.  $62 - 63 = 1$

**Answer:**  $26 - 63 = 1$  (In other words,  $2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2$ , which equals 64)
- Question:** You have a fox, a chicken and a sack of grain. You must cross a river with only one of them at a time. If you leave the fox with the chicken he will eat it; if you leave the chicken with the grain he will eat it. How can you get all three across safely?

**Answer:** Take the chicken over first. Go back and bring the grain next, but instead of leaving the chicken with the grain, come back with the chicken. Leave the chicken on the first side and take the fox with you. Leave it on the other side with the grain. Finally, go back over and get the chicken and bring it over.
- Question:** What is special about the following sequence of numbers? 8 5 4 9 1 7 6 10 3 2 0

**Answer:** The numbers are in alphabetical order. (eight, five, four, nine, one, seven, six, ten, three, two, zero)
- Question:** What seven-letter word has hundreds of letters in it?

**Answer:** mailbox.
- Question:** If you had a ton of feathers and a ton of stones which would be heavier?

**Answer:** Neither. They both weigh a ton.
- Question:** Tom's mother has three children. One is named April, one is named May. What is the third one named?

**Answer :** Tom
- Question:** Two women apply for a job. They are identical and have the same mother, father and birthday. The interviewer asks, "Are you twins?" to which they honestly reply, "No". How is this possible?

**Answer :** They are triplets.
- Question:** How far can a dog run into the forest?

**Answer :** Halfway. After that it will be running out of the forest.
- Question:** What number comes next? 2, 2, 4, 12, 48, \_\_\_\_

**Answer:** 240. To get the number, multiply the previous number in the series by its position.  $48$  is in the 5th position, so  $48 \times 5 = 240$
- Question:** If:  $2 \times 3 = 10$   $7 \times 2 = 63$   $6 \times 5 = 66$   $8 \times 4 = 96$   $9 \times 7 = ??$

**Answer:**  $f(n,m) = (n + m) * n$  e.g.  $f(2,3) = (2 + 3) * 2 = 10$   
Hence,  $f(9,7) = (9 + 7) * 9 = 144$
- Question:** Name three consecutive days without using the words Wednesday, Friday, or Sunday.

**Answer:** Day Before Yesterday, Yesterday and today
- Question:** A plane crashed on the border of US and Canada. Where do they bury the survivors?

**Answer:** You don't bury 'survivors'.
- Question:** Five pigeons are sitting on a fence. The farmer comes out and shoots one. How many are left?

**Answer:** None, they all flew away because of the noise
- Question:** 5 cats can catch 5 mice in 5 minutes. How many cats does it take to catch 100 mice in 100 minutes?

**Answer:** 5 cats. The same five could keep catching 5 mice every 5 minutes for 100 minutes.

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## FLASHES OF LOVE

By – Revathi P

"How many of them?" I asked.

"686",replied my uncle.

"Wow! That is a massive collection of photos",I thought to myself.

I was ecstatic when my uncle gave me the CD with family snapshots. I ended up jumping like a crazy monkey. If one did not know me,I would be looking at a curious doctor right now.

These photographs date back to the 1900's. My whole maternal family history is confined in these photos.

I and family histories gel pretty well.So,there you go,you have your reason now.

Uncle,mother and I started to look through the photographs.We came across this one picture,where I was sitting in my mother's lap.Obviously,I was less than a year old or so when, this picture was taken.In this photo,my mother was gazing at me like I meant the world to her. And that gaze of hers, was enough to obliterate any insecurities I had.

After such a beautiful picture,we came across tons of pictures.Most of the pictures were filled with either strangers or unknown faces.One such photo was lucky enough to get my attention.The picture could definitely be labelled as the shabbiest of the lot.Interrupting my ridiculous thoughts on the stained picture,my mother told me that this photograph was taken at my grandparents' wedding.Considering the fact that neither did I know anybody in the picture nor did I know when the wedding ceremony actually took place,I just gave out a mere"oh..really?!" My uncle acknowledged the unfamiliarity in my voice,and filled me in with a few details.

"The second person from your right is Mr.V.V.Giri and the person seated next to him is your grandpa's brother-in-law."

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Generally, I do not like anybody getting special attention. And here my uncle is addressing Giri as "Mr".

So, out of curiosity, I asked "Who is Mr. V.V. Giri?"

The answer I got embarrassed me quite a lot.

"During that time, he was the labour minister. He then went on to become the President of India." , my mother enlightened her ignorant child.

An ounce of shame ran through my blood as I could not identify the ex-President of the country.

After I tried to recover from the shameful event, I spotted my thirteen year old grandpa standing with his siblings. This is when the stories about my humble and modest grandfather began to unfold. I was told that he studied law, but somehow, he ended up working as an income tax officer. Well, that explains him not being a risk taker. It was highly disappointing to me because it would have been cool to tell people that my grandpa worked with criminals.

I never got the chance to spend a lot of time with him. So, the smallest detail about him , makes me connect to him better. In some ways, I believe I am like him. I am very uptight and reserved.

My brain started to divert its path from the photographs . It started to question the existence of cameras then until my mother's laugh distracted me.

We were looking at a funny picture of my cousin as a child. She wrapped herself in a dupatta. It almost looked like she was wearing a saree. This picture reminded me of all the silly and stupid things we did together as children.

In the last few pictures, there were these really embarrassing naked pictures of me as a baby. If I am asked to choose between digging a hole and hiding in it or seeing those pictures again, I would definitely not opt for the photos.

My mother prepared tea after we finished the picture exhibition.

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## GADGET CORNER

- C. Sai Aishwarya

## PALM VEIN TECHNOLOGY



With the increase in technology, the threat to personal data and national security had also increased. The methods that were developed to secure important information from outside intervention were not up to safe mark. There was a need to introduce a technology that secures our data more efficiently from unlawful intervention.

**Fujitsu**, a Japanese multinational information technology equipment and services company headquartered in Tokyo, Japan has developed a palm vein pattern authentication technology that uses vascular patterns as personal identification data. Vein recognition technology is secure because the authentication data exists inside the body and is therefore very difficult to forge. It is highly accurate.

Fujitsu developed four methods for improving the security systems: fingerprints, faces, voice prints and palm veins. Among these, contact-less palm vein authentication



technology is highly accurate. The Palm Secure sensor developed by Fujitsu is a biometric authentication solution offering optimum levels of security. Palm Secure sensor detects the structure of the pattern of veins on the palm of the human hand with the utmost precision. The ability to verify identity has become increasingly important in many areas of modern life, such as electronic government, medical administration systems, access control systems for secure areas, passenger ticketing, and home office and home study environments. Technologies for personal identification include code numbers, passwords, and smart cards, but these all carry the risk of loss, theft, forgery, or unauthorized use. It is expected that biometric authentication technology, which authenticates physiological data, will be deployed to supplement - or as an alternative to - these other systems.



This technology can be used in various fields like banking, hospitals, government offices, in passport issuing etc. Business growth will be achieved with these solutions by reducing the size of the palm vein sensor and shortening the authentication time.

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