



The International Space Elevator Project (ISEP) was a global effort to research, develop and construct the space elevator between Earth and 6497-Venturi. Though the primary goal of the project was accomplished, the organization remains, operating the space elevator while expanding its capabilities and functions. Being in

control of access to the elevator has given the group massive influence and resources, though labyrinthine bureaucracy prevents it from straying too far from its stated purpose.

Though the elevator is officially called the International Space Elevator, most people call it Izzy, a play on name's acronym and the early days of operation before the advanced stabilizers were installed ("Go take a ride on Dizzy Izzy!" - Mogadishu Today, 2047)

Headquartered at the *Multinational Terrestrial Tether Facility* in Somalia, it is rumoured a second elevator is being planned for Central America.



Orbitech Industries was the primary corporate sponsor for the capture, development and exploitation of 6497-Venturi. and current largest employer on Gateway Orbital Station.

Founded as Ore-Tech Mining in the mid 20th century, they were the first to begin prospecting operations on near-Earth asteroids in the early 2020s. When the value of 6497-Venturi was discovered they quickly offered their expertise and resources to the international community in exchange for controlling interest in the planned mining facility.

Though Gateway Orbital is technically an international facility, the massive investment from Orbitech has led them to control most of functions of the station. Despite a growing population at the station, they refuse to allow a citizen governance to be established, instead operating all facets of daily life through its endless number of subsidiary companies.

Despite this, Orbitech has seen it's power on Gateway Orbital dwindle over time, as other companies shrink their share of total employees. Additionally, the calls for a Venturin government to be established to represent the residents on 6497-Venturi grow louder every day.

the **Organized Peoples of Venturi**

A group of residents living on Gateway Orbital that have begun to self-organize to demand the right to form a legal government representing all people calling Venturi home. Initially an attempt to form a collective bargaining union for workers of Orbitech Industries, it has grown substantially in recent years and now encompasses employees of all corporations operating on Venti.

Considered by Orbitech to be a “seditious and treasonous” organization, and one it has vowed to fight, the Organized Peoples of Venturi maintain that should be guaranteed the same right to representation as any Earth culture. The grey-zone that Orbitech, Gateway and the Organized Peoples exist in was one many predicted would lead to tension, and now it has.

Originally composed primarily of people from across Asia, Africa and the European Union, The Organized Peoples of Venturi has also become an interesting topic of research in recent years, as anthropologists and sociologists have identified it as a “unique and distinct culture, not found anywhere else in humankind.” This has furthered the calls for representation as an effort to protect the burgeoning Venturin culture.

Though the official demonym is Venturin, most prefer to refer to themselves as “rock-hoppers”, a term coined when first observing the gait of workers in the lower gravity of Venti.

Rock-hoppers are considered hospitable and hard-working, if a bit overly cautious around newcomers. A vast majority work in mining, shipbuilding and other labour-intensive jobs, but a growing population of artisans, chefs and musicians on Gateway is causing people on Earth to take note.

It is currently led by an individual known as Durand, though this is suspected to be a pseudonym.

Gateway OrbitalTM

6497-Venturi Habitat & Operations Facility

Gateway Orbital Station (officially 6497-Venturi Habitat & Operations Facility), and the asteroid itself (lovingly referred to as simply Venti) are considered by many to be more than a hunk of rock with a mine. Since placement into geo-synchronous orbit, Venti has become somewhat of a celebrity, anthropomorphized into a being representing hope, prosperity and ingenuity. At a time in human history when the ravages of climate change were threatening our very existence, the discovery of rich minerals critical for photovoltaics, battery technology and super-conductors on Venti spurred a massive effort to find a way to bring them to Earth.

While a UN resolution decreed that 6497-Venturi and its mineral wealth “are the property of all humankind and must be shared for the betterment of all”, now that initial critical need for minerals has passed, Orbitech has begun lobbying the UN to outright purchase exclusive mining rights.

Guests to the Attraction

Guests to the attraction play a character role themselves. Local rock-hoppers tend to be welcoming, but initially suspicious of visiting tourists to the station, but are frequently excited to share their culture, food and entertainment with those that are willing to experience it. Get a Venturin talking over a pint and it’s hard to get them to stop. Overtime they may just come to trust you, and perhaps invite you to help with their cause.