



Notice of a **Free Public Lecture** to be presented by the

Australian Institute of Physics (SA branch),

<http://www.physics.adelaide.edu.au/aip-sa>

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the **Centre for Biomedical Engineering, University of Adelaide**
and the **Astronomical Society of South Australia**

Bonython Hall, Adelaide University (off North Terrace)

at **7:30pm, Wednesday 15th March 2000**

“Mars Direct: Humans to the Red Planet within a Decade”

by **Dr. Robert M. Zubrin**

Pioneer Astronautics

445 Union Blvd., #125 Lakewood, CO 80228

Abstract:

In July 1989, on the 20th anniversary of the Apollo Moon landing, President Bush called for America to renew its pioneering push into space with the establishment of a permanent Lunar base and a series of human missions to Mars. While many have said that such an endeavour would be excessively costly and take many decades, a small team at Martin Marietta drew up a daring plan that could sharply cut costs and send a group of American astronauts to the Red Planet within ten years. The plan, known as “Mars Direct,” has attracted international attention and broad controversy, including coverage in such publications as Newsweek, Fortune, The Economist, Air and Space Smithsonian, the New York Times, the London Times, the Boston Globe and Izvestia. It has also been covered by the Discovery Channel, PBS, ABC, NBC, CBS, National Public Radio, and the BBC. Its principal author, Robert Zubrin, has presented it to the International Astronautical Federation congress in Germany, and the blue ribbon “Synthesis Group” headed by former Apollo astronaut General Thomas Stafford, as well as to various US government officials.