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Book Review: Robotic Exploration of the Solar System: Pt. 4: The Modern Era, 2004-2013

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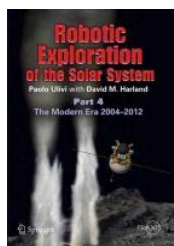
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Robotic exploration of the solar system : Pt. 4: The modern era, 2004-2013 , Springer-Praxis books in space exploration, 3



Ulivi, Paolo. by Paolo Ulivi with David Harland Springer, 2014

567p bibl index afp, 9781461448112 \$44.99, 9781461448129 \$29.99

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Space historians Ulivi and Harland serve up the fourth book in this series on international planetary exploration missions, covering the most recent ten years. Their compendium does a superb job of capturing what seems like “insider” details of each major mission. Numerous black-and-white images, charts, tables, and drawings fully illustrate each mission plan, covering missions to Mercury through Pluto—and beyond. Readers will not find this scope and level of detail in the public media. The book also nicely describes how each US mission fits into NASA’s Decadal Survey. In addition, readers will learn about some interesting missions from emerging spacefaring nations that did not make the news. The book concludes with a chapter on the missions currently underway and those far enough along in planning to provide a peek at what may be contained in the next volume in a few years. This fourth volume could stand on its own as a reference for those interested only in modern missions. However, all four books are must-haves for any space buff’s reference shelf. See also *pt. 1: The Golden Age 1957–1982* (CH, Apr'08, 45-4354); *pt. 2: Hiatus and Renewal 1983–1996* (2009); and *pt. 3: Wows and Woes 1997–2003* (CH, Mar'13, 50-3829).

Summing Up: Highly recommended. All space history/exploration collections.

Reviewer: [T. D. Oswalt](#), Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Recommendation: Highly recommended

Readership Level: All Readership Levels, General Readers, Lower-division Undergraduates, Upper-division Undergraduates, Graduate Students, Researchers/Faculty, Two-Year Technical Program Students, Professionals/Practitioners