Sidus Space

NASDAQ: SIDU

Bull case, bear case, quant rating, and where the puts are

PRICE	**$1.97** at the 23 July 2026 close · 100 shares = **$197** Quoted around **$1.99** as this went to press.
WHAT IT DOES	Designs, builds and flies small satellites from its own factory in Cape Canaveral, then sells the data they collect. Also builds space-grade computing hardware and AI software.
QUANT RATING	**BEAR** — 91.6% probability of remaining in the Bear regime, the stickiest reading in this series. But the walk-forward test is *positive*, unlike its peers. See §4.
TIMING SCORE	**−2 of −3** — price and volume low, momentum now neutral. The only company in this series showing a momentum improvement. See §3.
KEY DATE	**~13 August 2026** — quarterly results, *inside* the 21 August expiry. Some sources list 19 August. Confirm before selling August. See §6.4.
THE HEADLINE FACT	After raising roughly **$170M in six months**, cash is approximately **$1.78 per share** against a **$1.97** share price. About **90% of the price is cash.** See §5.1.
PREREQUISITE	**Document 1 — Selling Cash-Secured Puts**.

THE ONE-PARAGRAPH VERDICT **BEST OPTION LIQUIDITY IN THIS SERIES**

Sidus Space is the strangest situation of the four documents. It is a company whose revenue has *fallen* every year for four years, which sells its products below cost, and which has diluted shareholders by more than 300% in twelve months — and which, after those raises, now holds cash worth roughly 90% of its entire share price. You are being offered the operating business for something close to nothing. Its options are also by far the most liquid here, with a five-cent spread on the strike that matters. The bear case is that a company burning $26M a year with declining revenue will consume that cash pile, and 22% of the float is short in expectation that it does.

Research and education, not investment advice. All figures are a snapshot taken after the 23 July 2026 close. Nothing here is a recommendation to buy or sell. See §9 for method, sources and full disclaimer.

1 · What the company actually does

1.1 In plain English

Sidus Space builds satellites — small ones, roughly the size of a domestic appliance — and puts them in orbit. Unlike most space companies, it does the work in its own **35,000 square foot factory in Cape Canaveral, Florida**, rather than outsourcing. Its satellite line is called **LizzieSat**, and several generations have been designed, built, launched and operated on orbit.

There are three ways it intends to make money:

1. **Building satellites for other people.** Customers who want their instrument in orbit pay Sidus to design, build, launch and operate the spacecraft carrying it.
2. **Selling the data.** Once its own satellites are up, Sidus sells the imagery and sensor data they collect — to defence, intelligence, agriculture, maritime and environmental customers. This is the recurring revenue the whole story depends on.
3. **Selling the hardware and software.** *Fortis VPX* is space-grade mission computing — the ruggedised computer that survives radiation and vibration. *Orlaith* is an AI system that processes data *on the satellite* rather than sending everything to the ground, which matters because bandwidth from orbit is scarce and expensive.

1.2 Why anyone would find it interesting

Satellite data is genuinely a growth market — defence and intelligence budgets, climate monitoring, maritime surveillance and precision agriculture all consume more of it every year. Sidus is one of very few publicly traded companies that both manufactures its own spacecraft *and* is small enough that a single large contract would transform the financials. It is also vertically integrated, which in principle means better margins than a company assembling parts bought from others.

The named commercial progress is real and dated:

- A lunar manufacturing agreement with **Lonestar Data Holdings** extended to **$120 million**.
- Contracts contributing revenue from Lonestar and **Teledyne Marine**.
- Memoranda of understanding with **Saturn Satellite Networks** and **Reflex Aerospace**.
- Inclusion on the **Missile Defense Agency SHIELD** contract vehicle — a mechanism through which the U.S. government can award work without a fresh competition each time.
- **LizzieSat-3** delivering high-resolution imagery on orbit; **LizzieSat-4** and **-5** in production, with vibration testing completed in June 2026 ahead of an expected **autumn 2026 launch**.
- Added to the **Russell 2000, 3000 and Microcap** indexes in June 2026, which forces index funds to buy the shares.

1.3 The company in numbers

TABLE 1 — SIDU AT A GLANCE, 23 JULY 2026

ITEM	VALUE	COMMENT
Share price	$1.97	100 shares = $197
Market capitalisation	$192.3M	
Shares outstanding	97.2M	Up more than 300% in a year
Revenue, FY2025	**$3.38M**	Down from $4.67M in FY2024
Gross profit, FY2025	**−$5.69M**	**Negative** — it sells below cost
Net loss, FY2025	**−$29.5M**	Up from −$17.5M
Free cash flow, FY2025	−$26.3M	The real annual burn
Cash, 31 March 2026	$27.3M	The figure most data feeds still show
Cash after mid-2026 raises	**~$173M**	See §5.1 — this is the number that matters
Total debt	**~$0.6M**	All term debt repaid in January 2026
Estimated enterprise value	**~$19M**	What you pay for the actual business
Short interest	**21.5M shares · 22% of float**	Over a fifth of the tradeable stock is sold short
52-week range	$0.63 – $6.79	71% off the high; 214% above the low

2 · Reading this stock day to day

The setup, in the author's words

The institutions are **stormtroopers** — big, slow, and they cannot be bothered with a company this small. You are a **Jedi**: quick, patient, and answerable to nobody. That is the edge, and it only works if you use it.

Trade what you know, not what you think. You do not know where this goes next week. You *do* know today's price and today's volume. When both are as low as you have seen them and the business is stronger than it was, that is the moment — so get *paid* to buy it cheap instead of YOLOing your cash into shares at the market. Think like a market maker, not a mark.

At $1.97 this is still put-selling territory: about $150–$200 secures one contract. Keep selling them while it is under $2. If it recovers past $3–$4, you want to already own the shares and already be selling covered calls on the other side.

Full version: Document 1, "Stormtroopers and Jedi."

2.1 The last twelve sessions, scored

TABLE 2 — SIDU DAILY TAPE WITH TIMING SCORE, 8–23 JULY 2026

DATE	CLOSE	VOLUME	20-DAY AVG	RSI	%B	REL. VOL	MACD	PRICE	MOM.	VOL.	SCORE
Wed 08 Jul	$2.25	6,047,100	$3.05	34.0	0.15	0.54	**down**	**−1**	**−1**	**−1**	**−3**
Thu 09 Jul	$2.26	4,638,900	$2.98	34.3	0.19	0.42	**down**	**−1**	**−1**	**−1**	**−3**
Fri 10 Jul	$2.16	6,919,400	$2.89	33.0	0.17	0.68	**down**	**−1**	**−1**	**−1**	**−3**
Mon 13 Jul	$2.07	5,478,300	$2.77	31.9	0.12	0.55	**down**	**−1**	**−1**	**−1**	**−3**
Tue 14 Jul	$2.07	5,978,900	$2.69	31.9	0.14	0.75	**down**	**−1**	**−1**	**−1**	**−3**
Wed 15 Jul	$2.00	6,143,400	$2.61	31.0	0.13	0.87	**down**	**−1**	**−1**	0	**−2**
Thu 16 Jul	$1.90	7,479,400	$2.55	29.6	0.11	1.09	**down**	**−1**	**−1**	0	**−2**
Fri 17 Jul	$1.87	6,290,700	$2.48	29.2	0.12	0.92	**down**	**−1**	**−1**	0	**−2**
Mon 20 Jul	$1.75	5,743,000	$2.40	27.6	0.09	0.91	**down**	**−1**	**−1**	0	**−2**
Tue 21 Jul	**$2.05**	**11,652,000**	$2.35	37.1	0.29	**1.89**	**UP**	**−1**	0	**+1**	0
Wed 22 Jul	$1.99	6,306,800	$2.30	36.1	0.27	0.95	**up**	**−1**	0	0	−1
Thu 23 Jul	**$1.97**	**3,835,133**	**$2.27**	**35.7**	**0.28**	**0.58**	**up**	**−1**	**0**	**−1**	**−2**

Relative volume is against the trailing 10-session average. Against the 30-session average today's reading is **0.33**. "MACD" shows whether the MACD line sits above or below its signal line.

2.2 What this table teaches — the most instructive tape in this series

1. **Watch 20 and 21 July.** On Monday the stock closed at $1.75, the low of the window, with RSI at 27.6 — deeply oversold — on unremarkable volume. On Tuesday it closed **$2.05, up 17%, on 11.65 million shares — 1.89× normal volume**. That is the signature of real buying: a large move *with* participation behind it, exactly the opposite of the low-volume drift described in the other documents.
2. **The score caught it.** On 21 July the volume input flipped to +1 and the total score rose from −2 to 0 — the framework's way of saying "conditions are no longer one-sided; stand aside." Anyone mechanically selling puts that day would have been selling into strength rather than weakness.
3. **MACD crossed bullish on 21 July and has stayed there.** This is the first positive momentum signal anywhere in this series — neither of the other two companies has it. It is why SIDU scores momentum 0 rather than −1, and why its total is −2 rather than −3.
4. **Then the buying faded.** Volume fell to 6.3M, then 3.8M — today's relative volume of 0.58 is the second-lowest in the window — while the price only slipped from $2.05 to $1.97. The buyers stopped, but the sellers did not return. That combination is what pushed the score back to −2.

THE LESSON TO TAKE FROM THESE TWELVE DAYS

This tape shows the framework doing both of its jobs. It kept you out on 21 July when a violent up-move arrived on heavy volume, and it turned constructive again once that volume dried up without the price giving everything back. **A stock that holds most of a 17% gain on steadily declining volume is being accumulated quietly, not distributed.** That is a meaningfully more encouraging picture than the pure low-volume drift in Documents 2 and 3.

2.3 Your daily card for this specific stock

SIDU · sixty-second daily check

STEP	WHERE TO FIND IT	SELL PUTS IF	SELL CALLS IF
1. Volume	Yahoo quote page: "Volume" ÷ "Avg. Volume"	Under 0.8	Over 1.3
2. Price	Is it below the 20-day moving average?	Below ~$2.27	Above ~$2.27
3. Momentum	RSI(14), and MACD vs its signal line	RSI under 45	RSI over 60

−2 or lower → sell puts. +2 or higher → sell calls. Between → do nothing.

The 20-day average of $2.27 is falling roughly 4c a day — look it up rather than memorising it. Key levels: support at **$1.74**, resistance at **$3.08**. SIDU's average daily range is **14% of its price** — the most volatile stock in this series by a wide margin. Expect large daily moves and do not read meaning into every one.

2.4 Today's full technical picture

TABLE 3 — SIDU INDICATORS, 23 JULY 2026 CLOSE

INDICATOR	VALUE	READING
Close / previous close	$1.97 / $1.99	−1.01% on the day
Session open / high / low	1.92 / 2.04 / 1.91	Closed above the open
Volume vs 30-session average	3,835,133 / 11,785,380	**Relative volume 0.33**
20-day / 50-day average	$2.267 / $3.339	13% and 41% below
RSI (14)	35.7	Weak but recovering from 27.6 on 20 July
MACD / signal	**−0.392 / −0.422**	**MACD above signal — bullish crossover**
ADX / DI+ / DI−	20.2 / 18.6 / 26.7	ADX 20 — a weak, disorganised trend
Bollinger %B	0.28	Low, but the highest of the three companies
ATR (14)	**$0.278**	**14.1% of the share price — extremely volatile**
Session VWAP	**$1.969**	**Price closed above VWAP**
Support / resistance	$1.74 / $3.08	Support 12% below
Implied volatility rank	**39.6**	**Options are mid-range, *not* expensive — see §6.2**
Implied vs realised volatility	139% vs 100%	A 39-point edge — real, but thinner than VLN's
Expected move by 21 Aug	±$0.77	The market expects a wide range

3 · Timing score: −2 of −3

TABLE 4 — TODAY'S SCORE IN DETAIL

INPUT	EVIDENCE	SCORE
Price	Bollinger %B 0.28 (under 0.30); $1.97 against a 20-day average of $2.27 and a 50-day of $3.34	**−1**
Momentum	**Split. RSI 35.7 is low and DI− 26.7 exceeds DI+ 18.6 — but MACD is above its signal line, having crossed on 21 July, and RSI has risen from 27.6. Improving, not yet positive.**	0
Volume	3,835,133 traded. Relative volume 0.58 against 10 sessions and 0.33 against 30 — well under 0.8	**−1**
Total — conditions favour selling puts		**−2**

A −2 still sits firmly in sell-puts territory, but it is a step less extreme than the −3 readings on the other two companies, and the reason is constructive rather than negative: **momentum has stopped getting worse.** The MACD crossover on 21 July, the recovery in RSI from 27.6 to 35.7, and a close above session VWAP all point the same way. Per Document 1 §4.2, a −2 argues for keeping strikes further out rather than reaching for the closest ones.

4 · Quant rating: BEAR

SIDU · Quant rating — BEAR

CURRENT REGIME	20-DAY RETURN	HISTORY AVAILABLE
Bear	**−27.3%**	**753 sessions**

PROBABILITY	BEAR	SIDEWAYS	BULL
Tomorrow, given today is Bear	**91.6%**	6.5%	1.9%
Long-run share of all days	**56.7%**	12.0%	31.3%

State persistence: Bear 91.6% · Sideways 46.6% · Bull 88.2%. The Bear state is the stickiest in this series. The Sideways state is a coin flip, so this stock rarely drifts — it is almost always going somewhere, quickly.

Walk-forward validation: 480 out-of-sample trades, Sharpe +0.43, maximum drawdown −96.9%.

4.1 Reading the rating

- **BEAR, and the most persistent of the three.** A 91.6% chance of another Bear day. The model is not calling a bottom, and its long-run distribution says this stock spends **56.7% of all days** in a Bear regime — it is structurally a downtrend-prone security.
- **Unlike its peers, this signal has actually worked.** The walk-forward Sharpe of **+0.43** is positive, across 480 out-of-sample trades. Compare Valens, where the same model returned −0.36. Here the regime classification has carried genuine information historically, which means the Bear reading deserves *more* weight than the equivalent reading in Document 3, not less.
- **But note the −96.9% maximum drawdown.** Positive Sharpe with a near-total drawdown means the signal worked on average while passing through catastrophic stretches. That is a

description of the underlying stock's character as much as the model's: SIDU moves in extreme ways.

- **The gap remains.** Tomorrow's Bull probability is 1.9% against a long-run Bull share of 31.3%. Loaded to the downside relative to normal — mean reversion eventually, not imminently.

HOW TO HOLD TWO CONFLICTING SIGNALS AT ONCE

The timing score says **−2: sell puts**. The quant model says **Bear, 91.6% persistent, and this signal has historically been right**.

Of the three companies in this series, SIDU has the *strongest* quant warning and the *weakest* timing signal. That argues for the most conservative posture of the three: sell puts, but at the furthest strikes, in the smallest size, and with a clear understanding that assignment is a real possibility. The offsetting comfort — and it is a substantial one — is that the strikes in §6 sit **below the company's cash per share**, which is examined next.

5 · The case for and against

5.1 The bull case

A. YOU ARE BEING OFFERED THE BUSINESS FOR ALMOST NOTHING

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN THIS DOCUMENT

Most data feeds, screeners and finance apps still show Sidus Space with **$27.3 million** of cash — the figure from the 31 March 2026 balance sheet. That number is badly out of date. Since the end of that quarter the company has completed a series of raises totalling approximately **$170 million over six months**, including a **$58.5 million** raise and a roughly **$100 million** registered direct offering priced at $5.08 per share.

TABLE 5 — REBUILDING THE BALANCE SHEET FROM THE RAISES

ITEM	AMOUNT	SOURCE
Cash at 31 March 2026	$27.3M	Q1 balance sheet
plus: post-quarter raise	**+$58.5M**	Announced May 2026
plus: registered direct offering at $5.08	**+$100.0M**	Announced c. 1 June 2026
less: approximately two quarters of burn	−$13M	At the FY2025 rate of $26.3M/yr
Estimated cash now	**~$173M**	Author's estimate — see caveat below
less: total debt	−$0.6M	All term debt repaid January 2026
Estimated net cash per share	**~$1.78**	Against a **$1.97** share price
Implied enterprise value	**~$19M**	The whole operating business

Roughly 90% of the share price is cash. Strip it out and the market is valuing the satellites in orbit, the 35,000 square foot factory, the Fortis and Orlaith product lines, the Lonestar agreement and the MDA SHIELD position at about **$19 million** in total. For a put seller this matters enormously, because it means the strikes in §6 are struck *below the cash the company holds*.

Caveat, stated plainly: the ~$173M figure is reconstructed from announced raises and a burn estimate, not read from a filed balance sheet. The company's next quarterly report will give the audited number, and it could differ. Verify it before relying on it. But even on conservative assumptions, cash is a multiple of what the screeners show.

B. DEBT-FREE

All term debt was repaid in **January 2026**. Total debt is now around $0.6 million against that cash pile. There is no lender who can force the issue, no covenant to breach, and no refinancing risk. For a company that loses money, the absence of debt is what converts a solvency question into merely a dilution question.

C. REAL, NAMED, DATED COMMERCIAL PROGRESS

- **Lonestar Data Holdings** lunar manufacturing agreement extended to **$120 million** — several times the company's entire enterprise value.
- **Missile Defense Agency SHIELD** contract vehicle inclusion, which allows government work to be awarded without a fresh competition each time.

- **LizzieSat-3** delivering high-resolution imagery on orbit today; **LizzieSat-4 and -5** completed vibration testing in June 2026, with launch expected in **autumn 2026** — a near-term, checkable catalyst.
- Revenue-contributing contracts with **Teledyne Marine**; new memoranda with **Saturn Satellite Networks** and **Reflex Aerospace**.
- **Q1 2026 revenue of $359,000, up 51% year over year**, with an improvement in gross margin.

D. INDEX INCLUSION FORCES BUYING

Added to the **Russell 2000, 3000 and Microcap** indexes in June 2026. Index funds tracking those benchmarks must hold the stock regardless of opinion, which creates a persistent, price-insensitive source of demand and generally improves liquidity.

E. VERY HIGH SHORT INTEREST CUTS BOTH WAYS

21.5 million shares are sold short — about 22% of the float. That is a large bet against the company, and §5.2 takes it seriously. But it is also fuel: any genuinely good news forces short sellers to buy back, and with a short ratio of only 1.13 days they are trading a crowded position in a stock that moves 14% on an average day.

F. THE OPTION CHAIN IS THE BEST IN THIS SERIES

Covered fully in §6, but worth noting as a bull point in its own right: the August $1.50 put has a **five-cent spread** and the November $2.00 put carries **15,173 contracts of open interest**. For a strategy where getting out matters, this is a materially better market than either other company in this series offers.

5.2 The bear case

REVENUE IS NOT GROWING. IT HAS FALLEN EVERY YEAR FOR FOUR YEARS.

This deserves stating clearly because it is often described the other way around.

TABLE 6 — REVENUE AND PROFITABILITY HISTORY

FINANCIAL YEAR	REVENUE	GROSS PROFIT	NET LOSS	FREE CASH FLOW	SHARES ISSUED
2022	$7.29M	**$1.44M**	−$12.84M	−$14.19M	0.18M
2023	$5.96M	**$1.64M**	−$14.33M	−$18.96M	1.08M
2024	$4.67M	**−$1.47M**	−$17.52M	−$23.30M	16.06M
2025	**$3.38M**	**−$5.69M**	**−$29.47M**	**−$26.33M**	**65.42M**

Every column moves the wrong way. Revenue has compounded at **−22.6% a year** since 2022. Gross profit turned negative in 2024 and worsened in 2025, which means **the company now sells its products for less than they cost to make** — every additional dollar of revenue at current margins increases the loss. Losses have more than doubled. Cash burn has nearly doubled. And the share count has gone from 0.18 million to 65.42 million issued.

The Q1 2026 figure of $359,000 was indeed up 51% year over year, and that is genuine — but it is 51% growth on a base so small that the full year would annualise to under $1.5 million if repeated. One quarter does not reverse a four-year trend, and it should not be presented as though it does.

A. DILUTION HAS BEEN EXTRAORDINARY

Shares outstanding are up **more than 300% in twelve months**. Anyone who held this stock a year ago now owns roughly a quarter of the company they used to, per share. And the $100 million offering was priced at **$5.08** — with the stock now at $1.97, every investor in that round is down about 61%. That creates a large block of underwater holders who may sell into any rally, which is a real and persistent headwind.

B. THE CASH PILE IS BEING CONSUMED, QUICKLY

Free cash burn was **$26.3 million in 2025** and has risen every year. Against roughly $173M that is about six and a half years — comfortable, but the burn rate has been growing, not shrinking, and the company has said it intends to *accelerate* commercialisation. The bull case in §5.1a is a snapshot; a company that loses money converts a cash pile into an operating history one quarter at a time.

C. OVER A FIFTH OF THE FLOAT IS SHORT

21.5 million shares, roughly 22% of the float. Short sellers of this size are usually making a specific argument, and here it is not hard to guess: declining revenue, negative gross margin, serial dilution, and a valuation that until recently was many multiples of sales. Being on the other side of a crowded short can be lucrative, but it means many well-resourced participants have studied this company and concluded it goes lower.

D. SECTOR SENTIMENT HAS TURNED

A prominent short seller publicly argued in June 2026 that the space sector faces a "reality check" after the SpaceX listing, naming SIDU among others. Related coverage notes that the SpaceX IPO shine has faded, dragging peers such as ASTS and RKLB. Small space companies trade as a group, and that group is currently out of favour.

E. A NEGATIVE-BETA, EXTREMELY VOLATILE STOCK

Reported beta is **−0.89** — statistically odd and a sign that the price is driven by company-specific events and speculative flows rather than the market. The average daily range is **14% of the share price**. A strike 24% below today's price is far less safe here than the same percentage would be on an ordinary company.

F. NO ANALYST COVERAGE OF SUBSTANCE, AND MANAGEMENT ATTENTION IS DIVIDED

There is no meaningful independent Wall Street coverage to weigh against the short thesis — nothing comparable to the two top-decile analysts covering the company in Document 3. Separately, CEO Carol Craig joined the board of Greenland Energy in June 2026; that is common and not improper, but it is worth noting for a company at this stage.

5.3 Weighing it

SIDU presents the widest gap between balance sheet and business of anything in this series. The balance sheet is, right now, exceptional: roughly $173 million of cash, no debt, and an operating business the market values at around $19 million. The business itself is deteriorating on every line that matters — revenue down four years running, gross margin negative, losses and burn both rising.

Those two facts are reconcilable in exactly one way: **the company has bought itself a great deal of time, and what it does with that time is the entire question.** If the LizzieSat-4 and -5 launches this autumn convert into recurring data revenue, or the Lonestar and MDA relationships produce material contracts, the enterprise value has a long way to travel. If they do not, the cash simply funds several more years of the pattern in Table 6.

For a put seller specifically, this asymmetry is unusually favourable — but only at strikes below the cash per share, which is precisely where §6 concentrates.

6 · Where to sell the puts

6.1 The chain

TABLE 7 — SIDU PUTS · IMPLIED VOLATILITY SOLVED AT BID AND MID

EXPIRY	DAYS	STRIKE	BID	ASK	SPREAD	IV @BID	IV @MID	DELTA	BREAKEVEN	CASH	ANN. @MID	OPEN INT.
21 Aug	**29**	**$1.50**	**0.10**	**0.15**	**5c**	**143%**	**159%**	**−0.20**	**$1.38**	**$150**	**105%**	**843**
21 Aug	29	$2.00	0.30	0.35	**5c**	130%	141%	−0.43	$1.68	$200	205%	**4,814**
18 Sep	57	$1.50	0.10	0.30	20c	103%	147%	−0.22	$1.30	$150	85%	312
20 Nov	120	$1.50	0.10	0.45	35c	72%	125%	−0.22	$1.23	$150	56%	128
20 Nov	120	$2.00	0.55	0.80	25c	124%	154%	−0.33	$1.32	$200	103%	**15,173**
19 Feb 27	211	$2.00	0.75	1.00	25c	133%	157%	−0.27	$1.12	$200	76%	655

EVERY STRIKE HERE BREAKS EVEN BELOW THE COMPANY'S CASH PER SHARE

Estimated net cash is about **$1.78 per share**. Now look down the breakeven column: **$1.38, $1.68, $1.30, $1.23, $1.32, $1.12**. Every one is below it.

In plain terms: if you are assigned on any of these, your cost per share is less than the cash the company is currently sitting on — you would be acquiring the satellites, the factory, the Lonestar agreement and the government contract vehicle for a negative price. That is not a guarantee of anything; cash gets spent, and a company burning $26M a year will spend it. But it is a genuinely different kind of downside cushion from anything in Documents 2 or 3.

6.2 An honest note on the premium

Unlike the other two companies, **SIDU's options are not especially expensive**. Its implied volatility rank is **39.6**, meaning options are mid-range by their own history — against 100 for QNC and 98 for VLN. Implied volatility of 139% against realised volatility of 100% is a 39-point edge: real, worth having, but noticeably thinner than the 111-point headline gap on VLN.

What SIDU offers instead is **execution quality**. The August $1.50 and $2.00 puts both quote a five-cent spread. Compare that with a put in Document 3 quoted at bid $0.15 against ask $0.90. On a small account, a tight spread you can actually trade is often worth more than a wide spread with a theoretically higher midpoint you will never achieve.

6.3 Two constructions

#1 · SELL 21 Aug 2026 $1.50 PUT · limit $0.15 GTC — the conservative choice · per contract

CASH REQUIRED	PREMIUM IF FILLED	COST IF ASSIGNED	DELTA / ANNUALISED
$150	**$15**	**$1.38**	**−0.20 / 105%**

Why this strike. At $1.50 it sits **24% below** the current price and below the $1.74 support level, with a delta of just −0.20 — the lowest assignment probability of any construction across all four documents, and squarely in the beginner zone from Document 1 §4.2. A $1.38 breakeven is **22% below the estimated $1.78 of cash per share**. And the five-cent spread means you can realistically both enter and exit.

How to work the order. Bid $0.10, ask $0.15. Post **$0.15** — the ask — and be patient; on a spread this tight, a fill at or near the ask is realistic rather than optimistic. **$0.12 is a perfectly good fill.** At the bid of $0.10 you are still capturing 143% implied volatility against 100% realised, so even the worst realistic fill retains an edge. Below $0.10 there is nothing left.

The catch. $15 of premium is small in absolute terms, and if your broker charges $0.65 per contract that is 4.3% of your credit before you start. This construction is about learning the mechanics with a genuine downside cushion, not about the income.

#2 · SELL 20 Nov 2026 $2.00 PUT · limit $0.70 GTC — the accumulation choice · per contract

CASH REQUIRED	PREMIUM IF FILLED	COST IF ASSIGNED	DELTA / ANNUALISED
$200	**$70**	**$1.30**	**−0.33 / 103%**

Why this strike. 15,173 contracts of open interest — by a wide margin the deepest, most liquid put in this entire series. The 120-day expiry spans the autumn LizzieSat-4 and -5 launches, which is the single clearest catalyst the company has. And the economics are the most attractive on the board: a **$1.30 breakeven is 34% below the current price and 27% below the estimated cash per share**, while still paying 103% annualised.

How to work the order. Bid $0.55, ask $0.80, midpoint $0.675. Post **$0.70**, slightly above the mid. Given the open interest, this contract trades regularly and a fill near the mid is reasonable. Floor at $0.55 — the bid still implies 124% volatility against 100% realised.

The catch. 120 days is well beyond the 21–45 day window where time decay works hardest, so your $200 is committed for four months. Delta −0.33 means roughly a one-in-three chance of assignment. Treat it as a deliberate way to acquire shares cheaply if the launches disappoint, rather than as an income trade.

TABLE 8 — THE TWO SIDE BY SIDE

#	CONSTRUCTION	CASH	PREMIUM	BREAKEVEN	VS CASH/SHARE	ASSIGNMENT ODDS	SUITS
1	Aug $1.50	$150	$15	$1.38	**−22%**	**~20%**	**Beginners; lowest risk here**
2	Nov $2.00	$200	$70	**$1.30**	**−27%**	~33%	Wanting the shares; best liquidity

6.4 Earnings — and why the November strike wins on this point too

Sidus is expected to report quarterly results around **13 August**, though some sources list 19 August. Either way it lands *inside* the 21 August expiry.

This is the single best argument for construction #2. The 20 November put clears the event entirely, carries 15,173 contracts of open interest, and gives a lower breakeven. If you want an August strike anyway, that is a legitimate choice — but make it deliberately, and **confirm the date on the company's investor-relations page first.** Do not let a data provider decide this for you.

6.5 What to avoid on this chain

- **The August $2.00 put** (delta −0.43, breakeven $1.68) pays well but is nearly a coin flip on assignment, and $1.68 is only 5% below the estimated cash per share — much less cushion than the alternatives for meaningfully more risk.
- **The September expiry.** Only 312 contracts of open interest on the $1.50 and a 20-cent spread. The November strike is better on every measure.
- **Anything at $3.00 or above.** Deep in the money — you would be committing to buy well above the current price.
- **Do not sell covered calls if assigned**, at today's score of −2. A covered call wants +2 or better. With SIDU 71% below its 52-week high and the LizzieSat launches ahead, capping the upside now would be the wrong trade at the wrong time.

7 · What would change the thesis

TABLE 9 — TRIGGER LIST

WATCH FOR	INTERPRETATION
LizzieSat-4 and -5 launching successfully this autumn	**The clearest near-term catalyst, and checkable. Successful deployment moves the story from building satellites to selling data.**
The next quarterly report confirming the cash position near $170M	**Validates §5.1, which is currently an estimate rather than a filed figure. Verify this.**
Revenue turning genuinely higher — two or three consecutive quarters of growth	**Would break a four-year downtrend and is the single thing the bear case rests on.**
Gross margin turning positive	**Would mean it no longer loses money on every sale. Arguably more important than revenue growth.**
A material award under the MDA SHIELD vehicle, or Lonestar converting to booked revenue	**Either would dwarf the ~$19M enterprise value.**
Another equity raise, especially below the current price	**The pattern of Table 6 continuing. With ~$173M on hand there is no near-term need, so a raise would signal something has changed.**
Cash burn accelerating beyond $35M a year	**Shortens the runway materially and undermines the whole cushion argument.**
Short interest rising above 25% of float	**Bears pressing. Cuts both ways, but worth watching.**
Relative volume above 1.3 on an *up* day with RSI through 60	Timing score flips positive — stop selling puts; consider calls if you hold shares.

8 · Risks specific to this stock

Revenue is shrinking and gross margin is negative. This is not a growth company on the reported numbers. It is a company with a large cash pile and a deteriorating operating business. Do not confuse the two.

Dilution has been severe and could continue. Shares up over 300% in a year. The $100M round was priced at $5.08 against a $1.97 price today — those buyers are down 61%, and that overhead supply is real.

The cash figure in §5.1 is an estimate. It is reconstructed from announced raises, not read from a filed balance sheet. Confirm it in the next quarterly report before relying on it.

This is the most volatile stock in the series. A 14% average daily range and a 52-week range of $0.63 to $6.79. It has fallen 71% from its high and risen 214% from its low within one year.

22% of the float is short. Many well-resourced participants have studied this company and concluded it goes lower.

The quant model's Bear reading deserves more weight here than elsewhere, because unlike its peers this signal has a positive out-of-sample track record on this stock.

If you remember nothing else from this report

Add it to your watchlist. Then, when price and daily volume are as low as they are right now, either sell a put or buy some shares.

These are good companies. There is no reason for this much selling other than **fear** — and fear is temporary. **Greed always prevails in the end.** Over time the market does one thing reliably: it distributes wealth **from the impatient to the patient.**

Be the patient one. That is the whole edge.

— the author. This is a personal conviction, not a forecast. Markets can and do stay irrational, and good companies can and do go to zero. Manage the risk, keep the positions small, and never let one trade end the experiment.

9 · Method, sources and disclaimer

METHOD

Price, volume, indicator, option chain and fundamental data were pulled from **Yahoo Finance** after the close on 23 July 2026. Financial statement figures come from the company's filed annual accounts. The cash reconstruction in §5.1 combines the filed 31 March 2026 balance sheet with publicly announced subsequent raises and an estimated burn at the FY2025 rate; it is explicitly an estimate and is labelled as such. Option implied volatilities were solved by bisection on Black-Scholes (r = 4%, no dividend) from the quoted bid and mid rather than taken from the chain, because chain-reported IV is computed off the midpoint and overstates what a seller can realise. Relative volume is reported against both 10-session and 30-session baselines. The quant rating in §4 comes from a Markov regime classifier using a 20-day rolling return with a ±5% threshold, a maximum-likelihood transition matrix, and a walk-forward backtest without lookahead.

SOURCES

- Yahoo Finance — quote, option chain, daily history, financial statements, short interest.
- PR Newswire and Sidus Space investor relations — Q1 2026 results (revenue $359K, +51% year over year); shareholder letter (21 July 2026) citing approximately $170M raised over six months.
- StockTitan — Q1 2026 10-Q and 8-K filings; cash position and liquidity detail.
- Investing.com — "Sidus Space stock jumps on $170M capital raise, Russell inclusion"; Q1 earnings call coverage; the $58.5M post-quarter raise.
- Simply Wall St — coverage of the ~$100M registered direct offering at $5.08 and the resulting dilution.
- Sidus Space press releases — LizzieSat vibration testing (16 June 2026); Russell index inclusion (June 2026); Lonestar agreement extension to $120M; Saturn Satellite Networks and Reflex Aerospace memoranda; MDA SHIELD contract vehicle.
- Stocktwits — short-seller commentary on the space sector following the SpaceX listing (12 June 2026).
- Seeking Alpha — "Sidus Space: Flush With Cash, But Where Does It Go Next" (9 June 2026).
- MarketBeat — Russell 2000 rebalance coverage.

DISCLAIMER

This document is independent research prepared for general information and education. It is **not investment advice**, not a recommendation or solicitation to buy or sell any security, and not personalised to any reader's financial situation, objectives, risk tolerance or tax position. Sidus Space is a loss-making micro-capitalisation company with declining revenue, negative gross margin and a history of substantial shareholder dilution; total loss of capital is a realistic outcome. Options involve substantial risk and are not suitable for every investor. Every figure is a point-in-time snapshot taken after the 23 July 2026 close and will be stale by the next session. **The cash position and enterprise value in §5.1 are the author's estimates reconstructed from announced transactions, not audited figures**, and should be verified against the company's next filing before being relied upon. Forward-looking items attributed to the company — the autumn 2026 launch timing, the $120M Lonestar agreement value, and pipeline commentary — are management statements, not independent estimates, and are reproduced as claims rather than facts. Read the Options Clearing Corporation's *Characteristics and Risks of Standardized Options* before trading options, and consult a licensed professional about your own circumstances. The author may hold, or may in future hold, positions in the securities discussed.