The Part Time Scientists Use MindMeister to Get to The Moon.

Berlin based Robert Böhme is a programmer with lofty goals. When he’s not working on projects for the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, he and his fifty-five person team from around the world, aka the Part Time Scientists make up the youngest team competing to win Google’s $30 million Lunar X Prize. And they’re using MindMeister to get there.

The team was invited to display their progress at the Berlin International Airshow this past June to gather interest in their entry for the Google Lunar X prize. The team planned to exhibit their two moon rover prototypes at the show and they used MindMeister to put on the big display.

The Part Time Scientists were faced with an excellent opportunity and had to get it right; with so many tasks to organize, “What do we need to put which item on display? Which services are available to exhibitors, and how do we get them? Etc.”. The team wanted to have one centralized document for collecting and sharing all data so as to eliminate duplicate work and also as a “did we forget anything? checklist”.

They had no centralized office for meetings and with members of the ILA Berlin Air Show team being from Berlin, Hamburg and France they looked to MindMeister as their brainstorming and creation tool. The Part time Scientists used VoIP sessions along with Mind Mapping to collaborate once a week leading up to the exhibition. Using the ‘anytime, anywhere, features of MindMeister the team would insert ideas during meetings, between meetings, on the road or even when in the air. By the end of the planning process they had a map with ten individual branches, containing dozens of thoughts, checklists and actionable items.

When launch day arrived on June 9th in Berlin, the Part Time Scientist team put their mind map(s) to work. Arriving on site that morning, Inez comments, “All we had to do was ‘assemble the parts’ of our booth according to our mind map. Without a solid plan of action, or one done as a simple list, it would have been far too easy to overlook something."

The project was successfully displayed to over 225,000 trade visitors and the team received a lot of attention concerning their Asimov Jr. R2 rover prototype, including a visit from Peter Hintze, Federal Government Coordinator of German Aerospace Policy, to see what all the fuss was about.

“When we started the Part Time Scientists, we would all gather around a whiteboard. “ Says Project Leader Robert Böhme “That was when we discovered MindMeister. We agreed on a partnership and we’re happy to say that MindMeister is one of our very first official partners supporting us in our goal to win the Google Lunar X-Prize!”