

# Carnegie Mellon University

# SPACE ARCHITECTURE

Air Tight: Building Inflatables/ Inflatable Construction: Planning and Details

*Kriss J. Kennedy*  
*Architect*



# Building an Atmosphere

Building Inflatables/ Inflatable Construction:  
Planning and Details



# Carnegie Mellon University

---

## Space Architecture

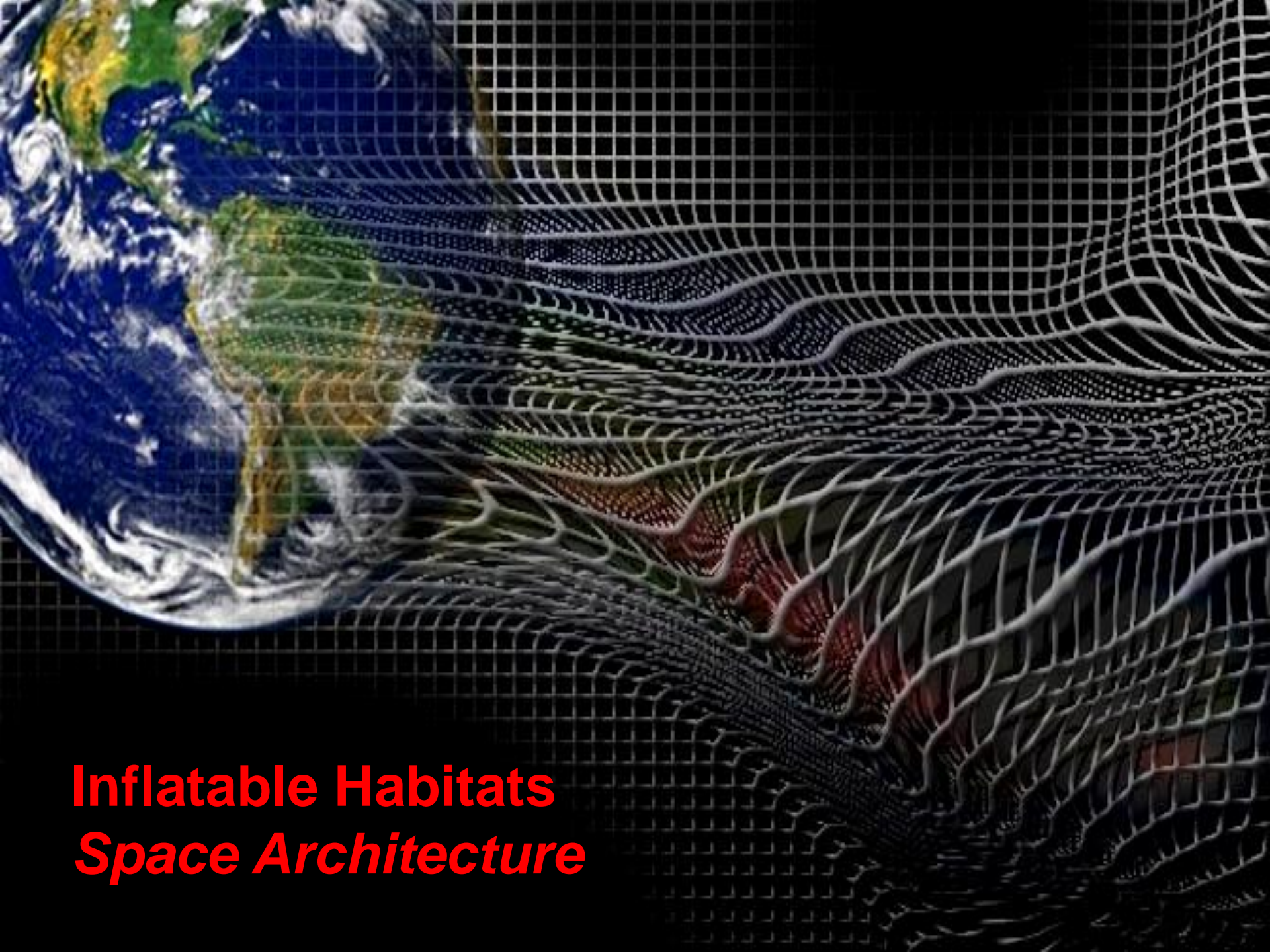
- 1.29.16 Building an Atmosphere
  - A design-build seminar consisting of students from Physics, Mechanical and Civil Engineering, Robotic, Material Science, Art, and Architecture who will work together on a deployable “closed-loop” inflatable greenhouse for Mars in theory, and an Earth analogue physical mockup on campus.
- Kriss Kennedy
  - Air Tight: Building Inflatables/ Inflatable Construction: Planning and Details



# Space Architecture...

...theory and practice of designing and building inhabited environments in outer space...

...design of living and working environments in space related facilities, habitats, surface outposts and bases, and vehicles...

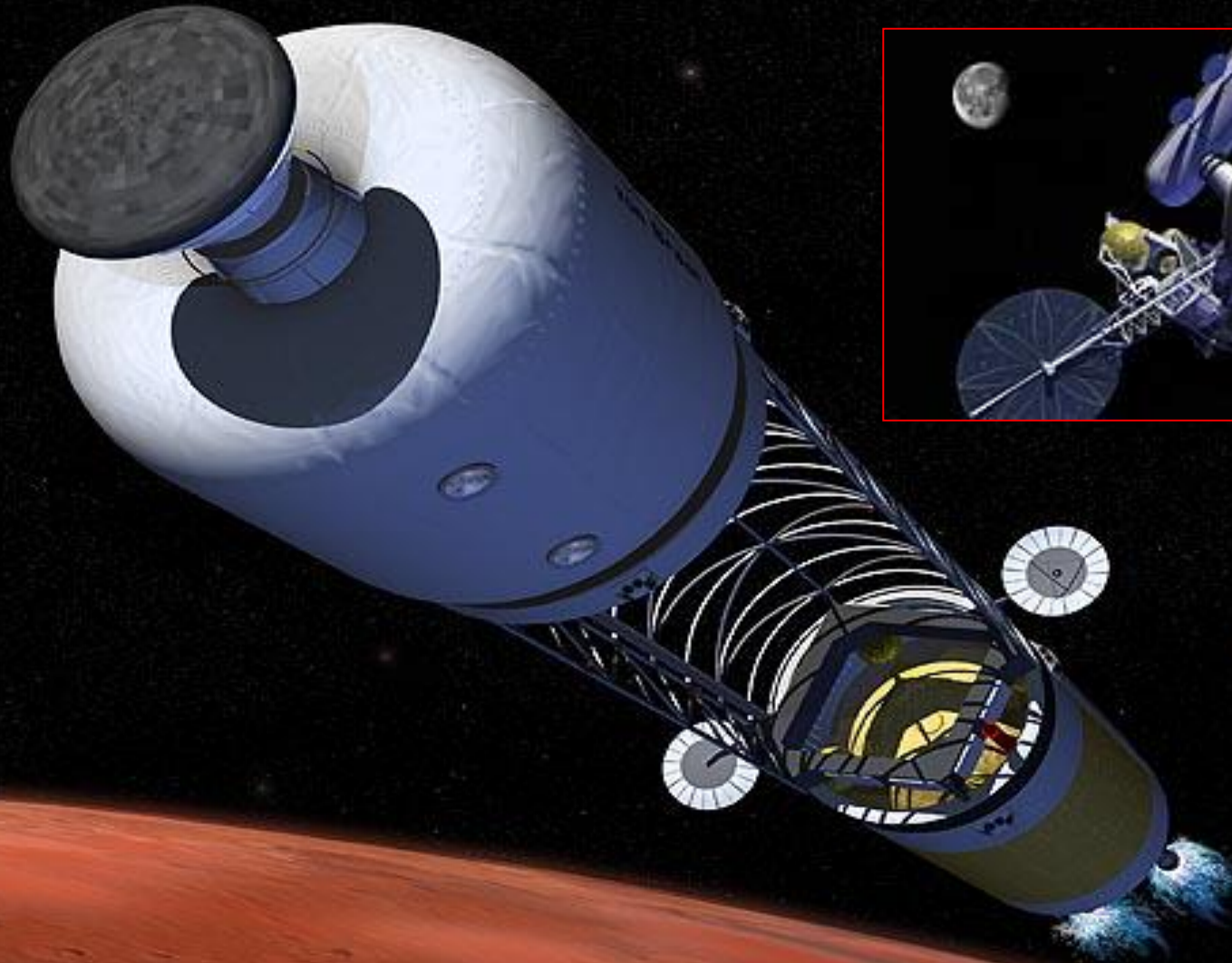


**Inflatable Habitats**  
***Space Architecture***



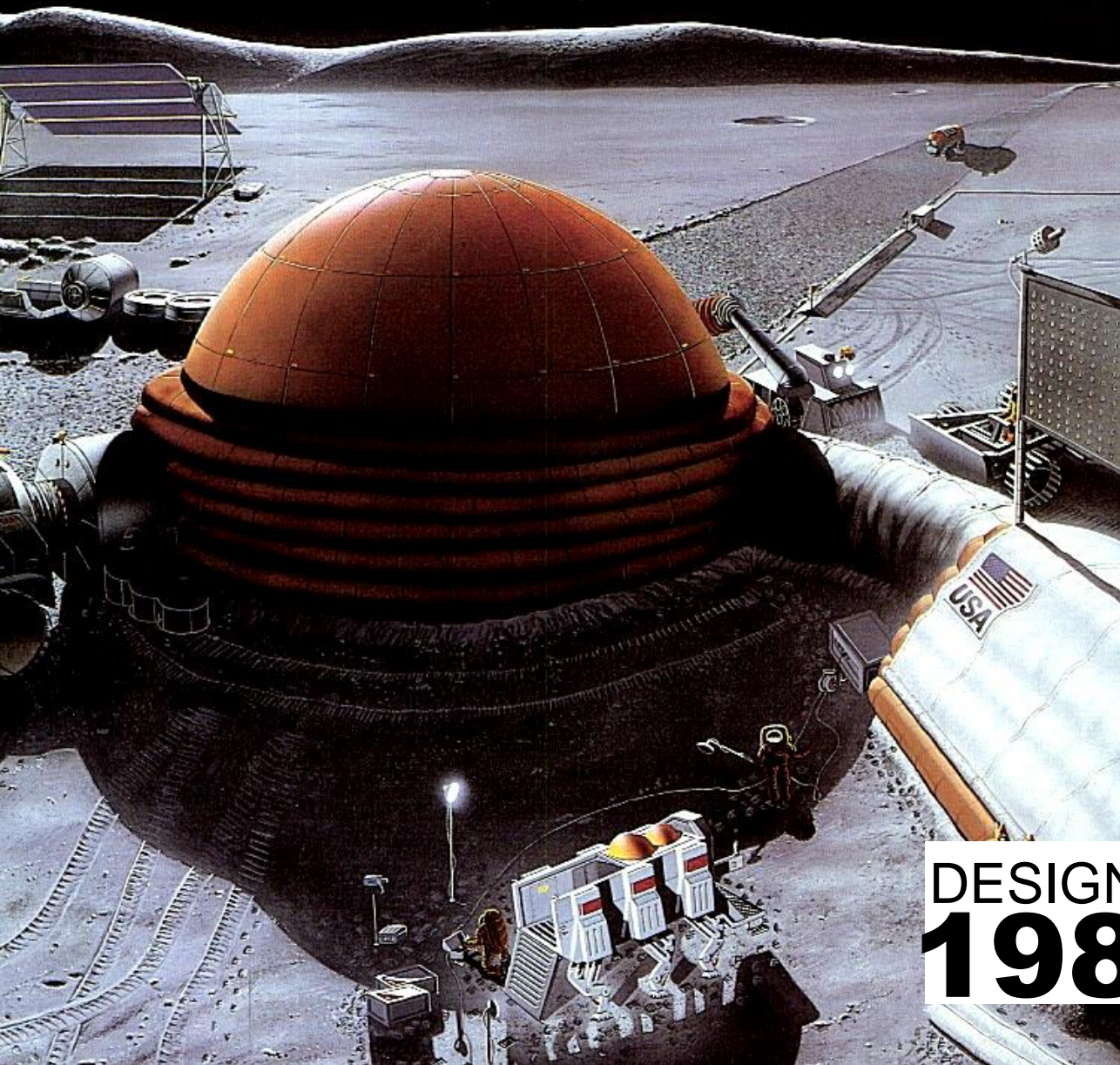


# *Inflatable Structures in Space*





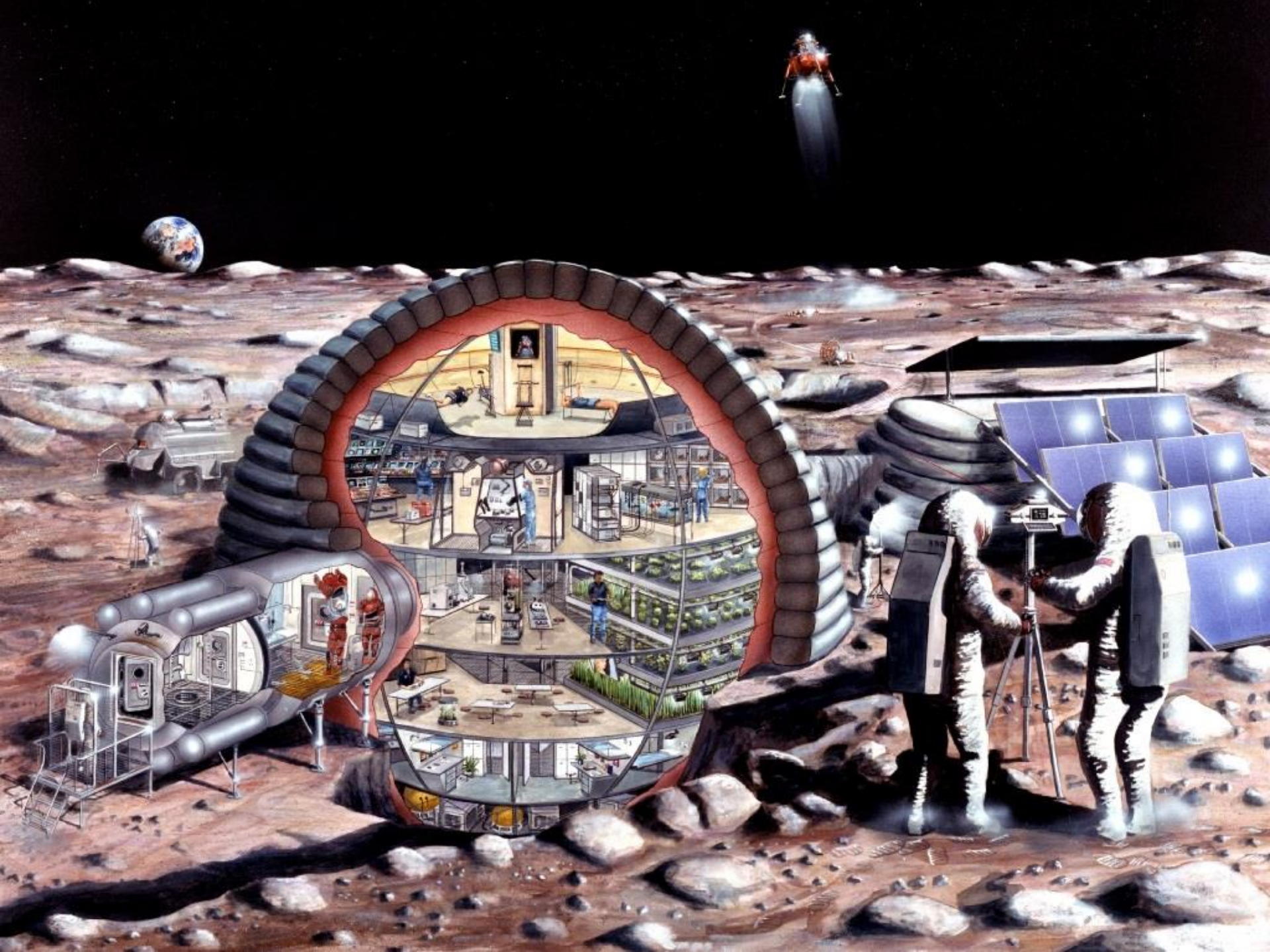
# Inflatable Lunar Habitat



DESIGNED  
**1989**









# Inflatable Lunar Habitat



DESIGNED  
**1992**













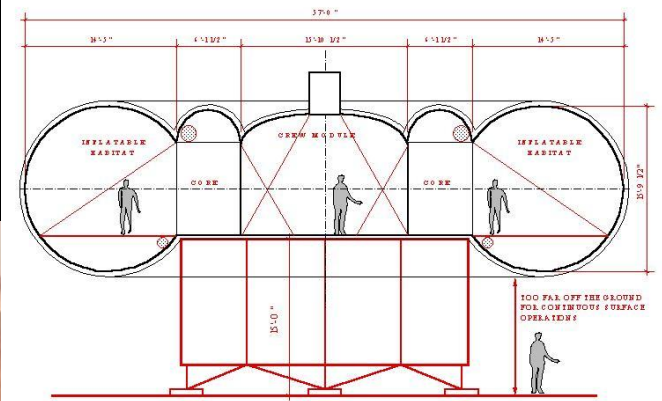
# Mars Base & Mission Planning

1996





# Mars Surface Hab/Combo Lander



MARS SURFACE HABITAT CROSS SECTION

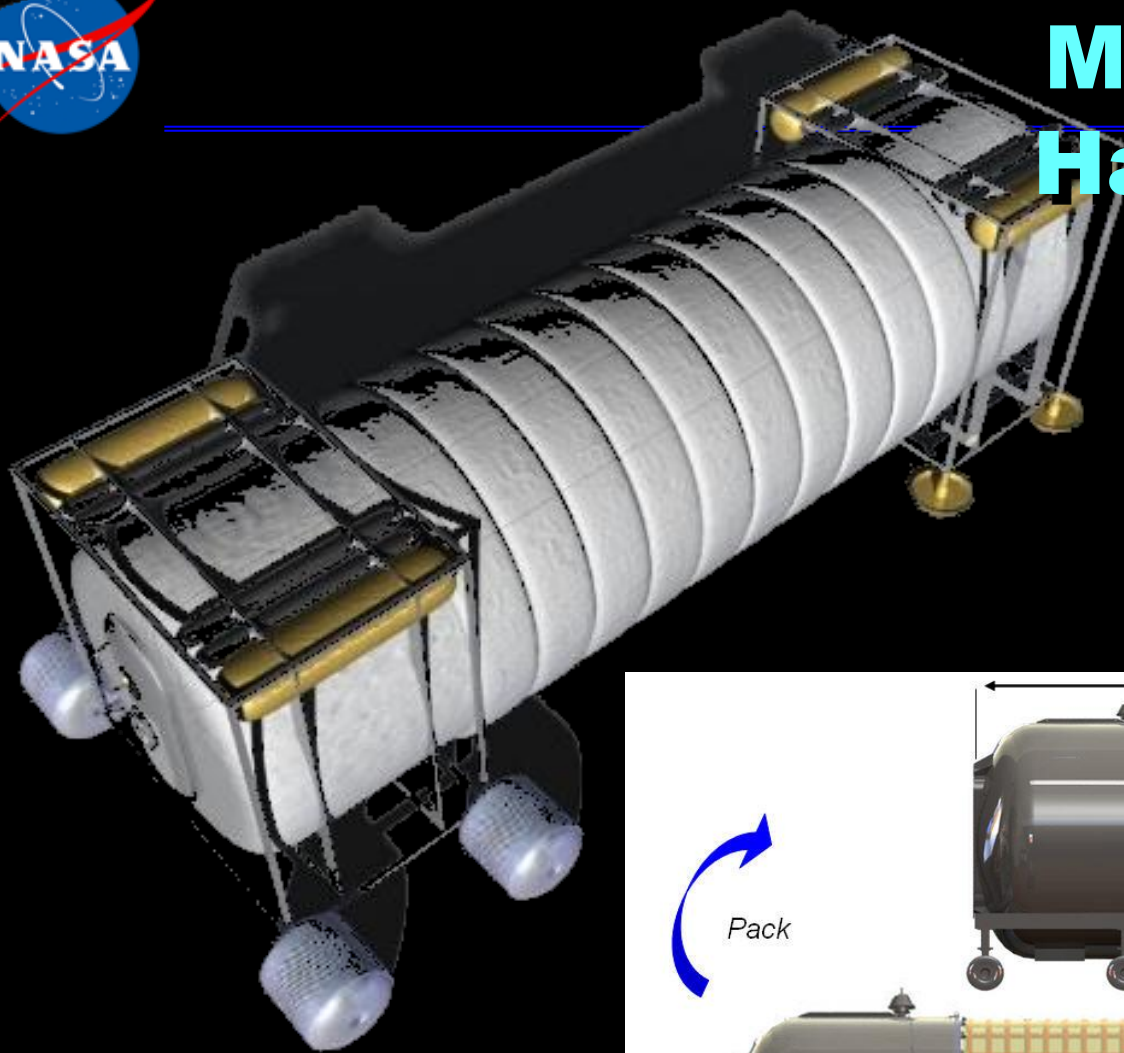
DESIGNED  
**2000**



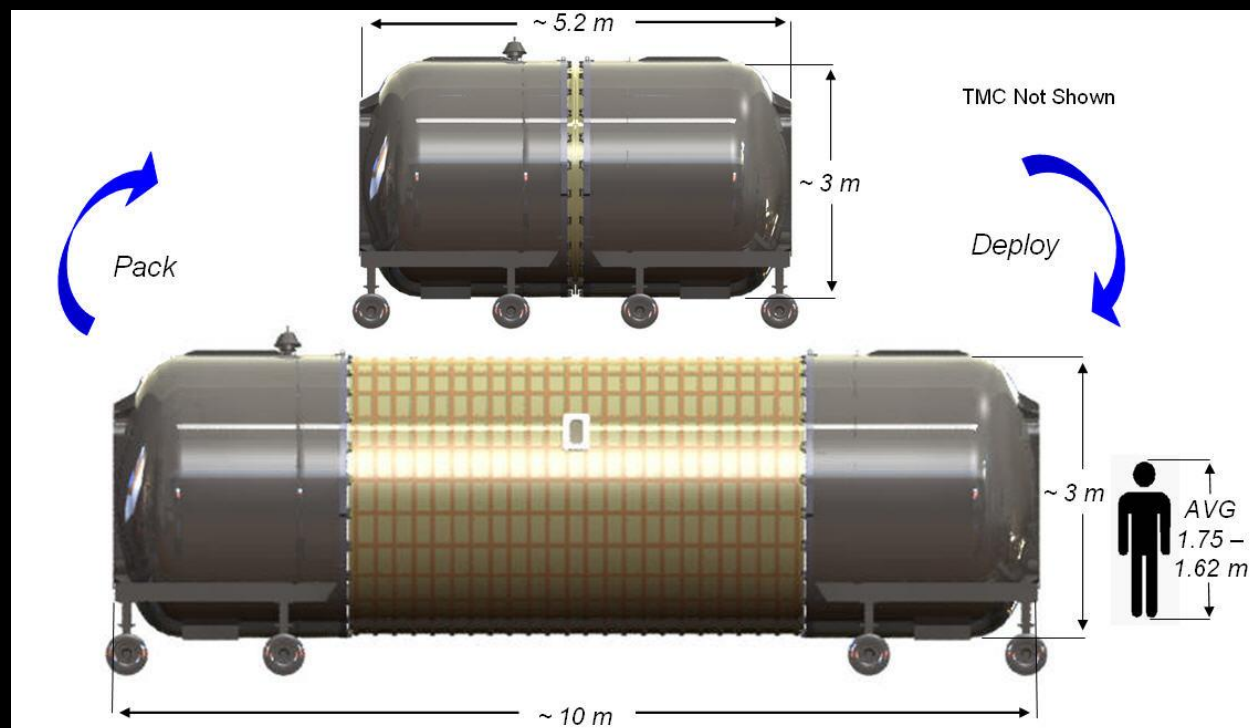




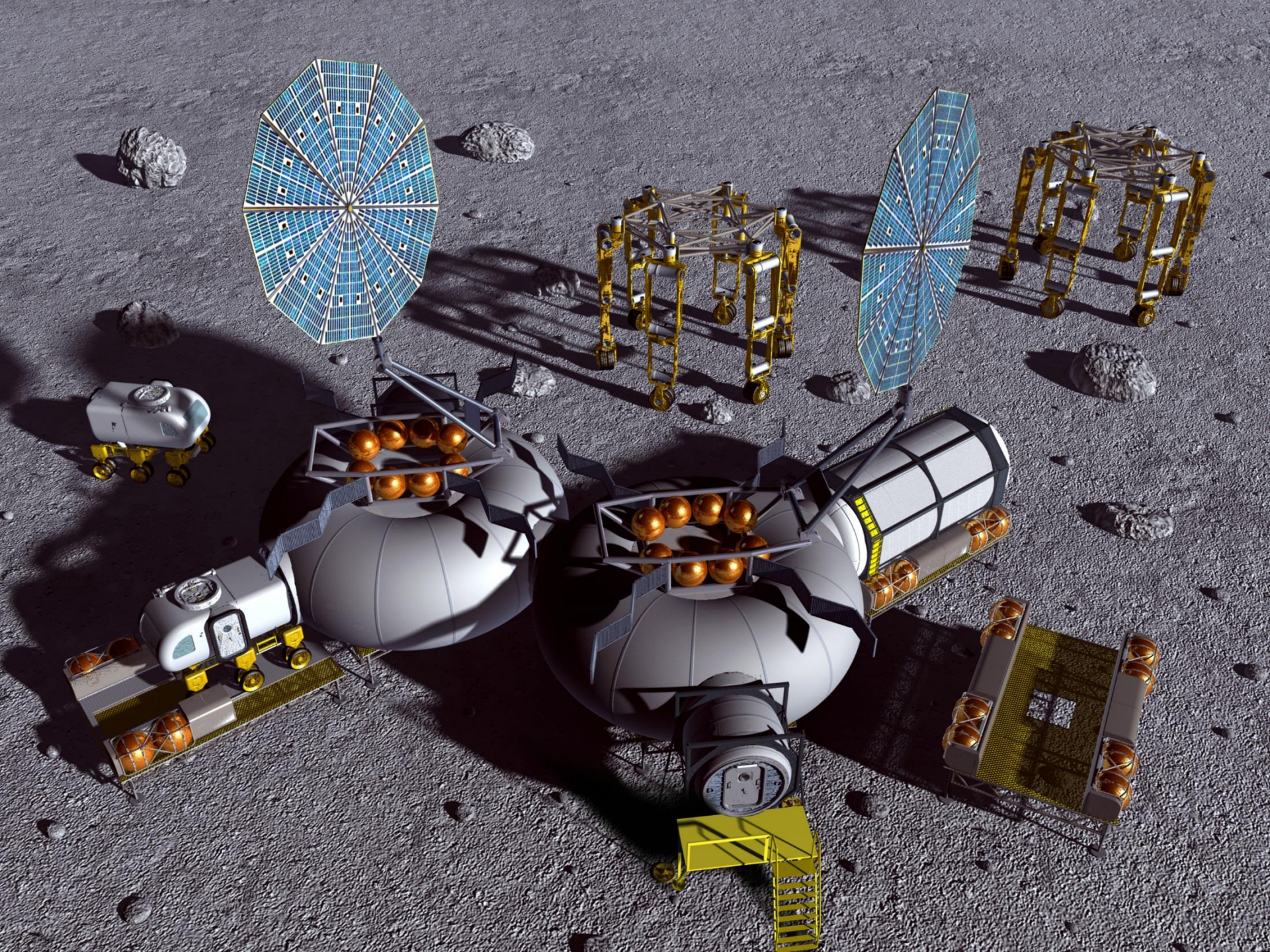
# Mid-Expandable Habitat Concept



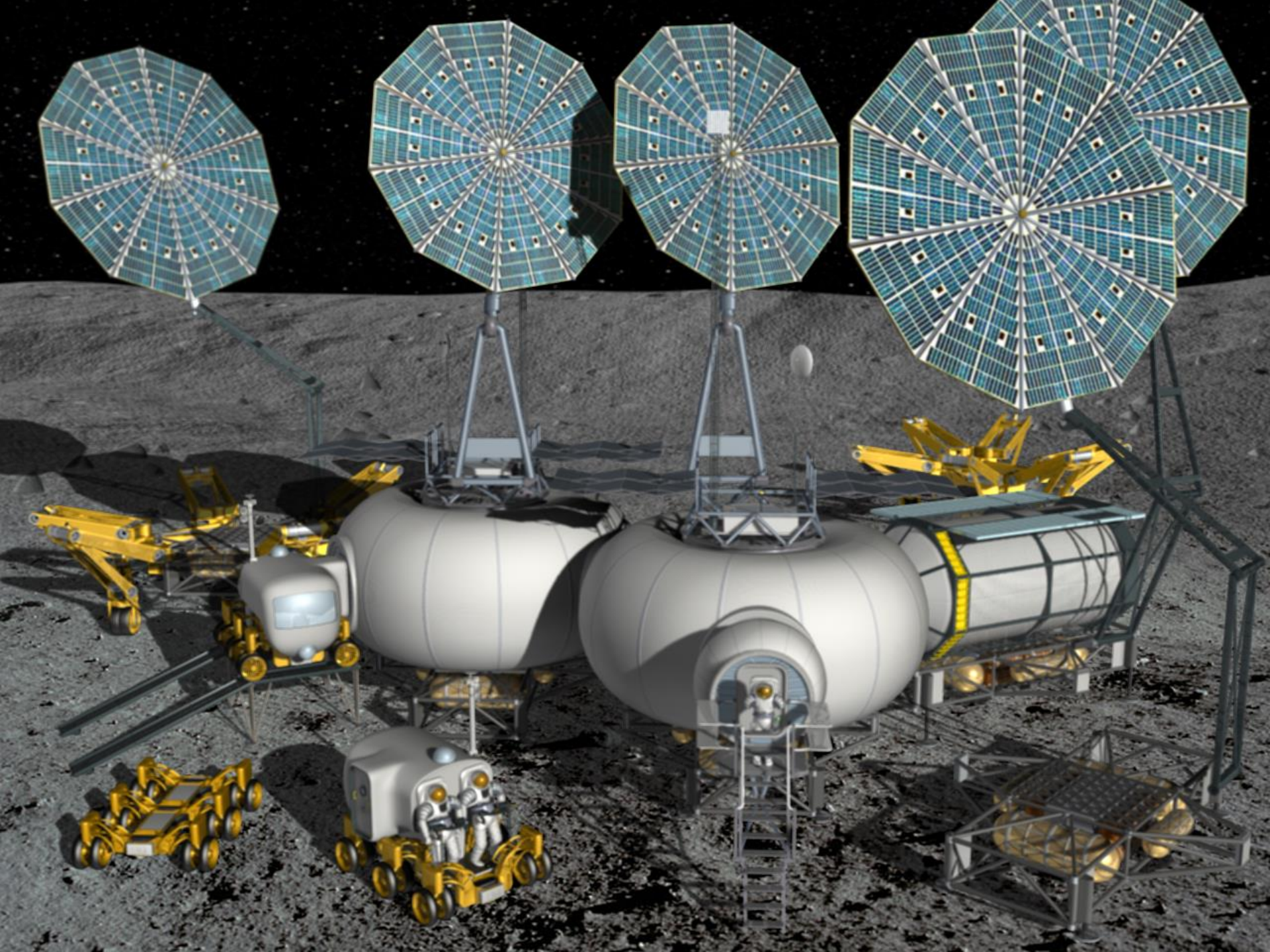
DESIGNED  
**2008**



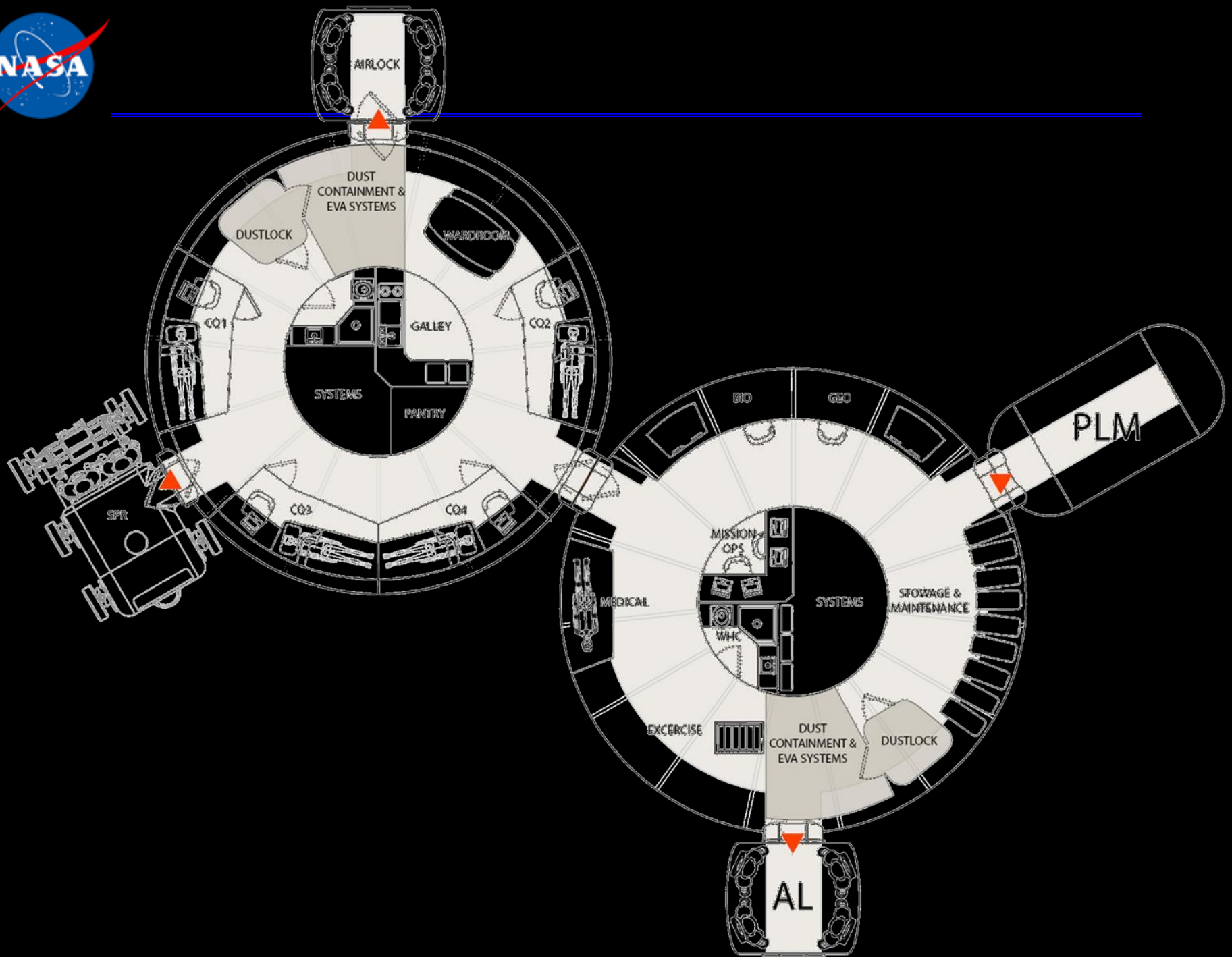




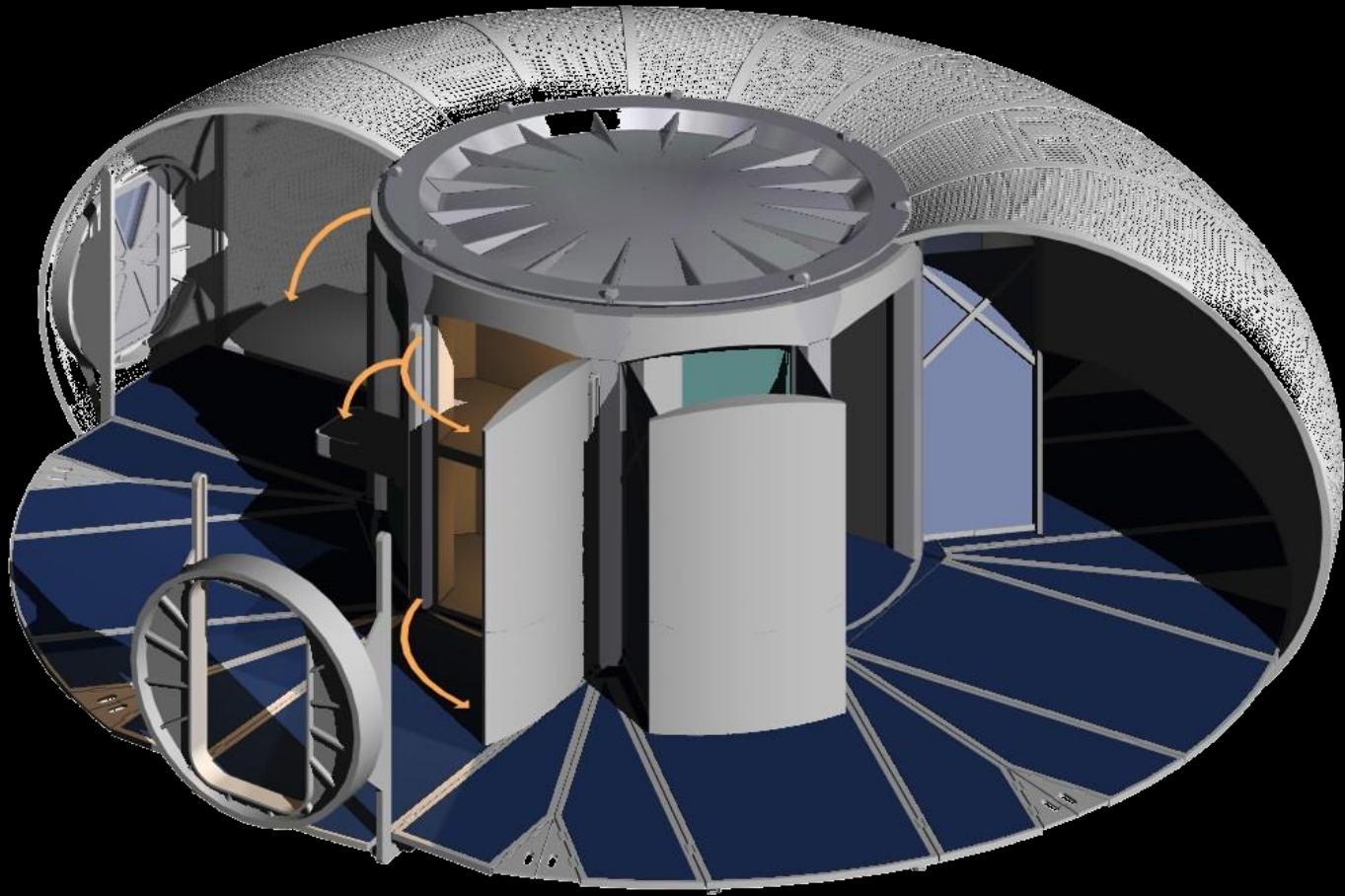
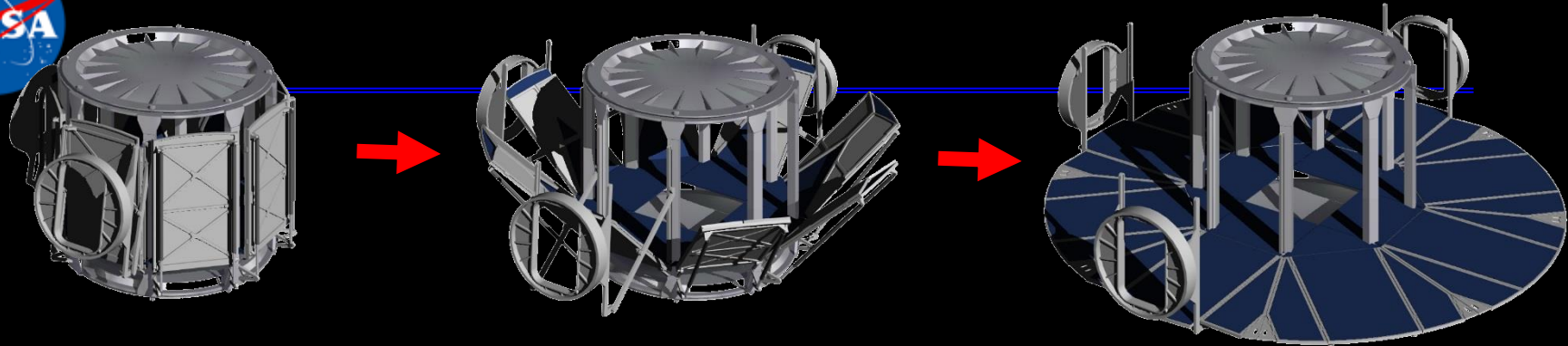


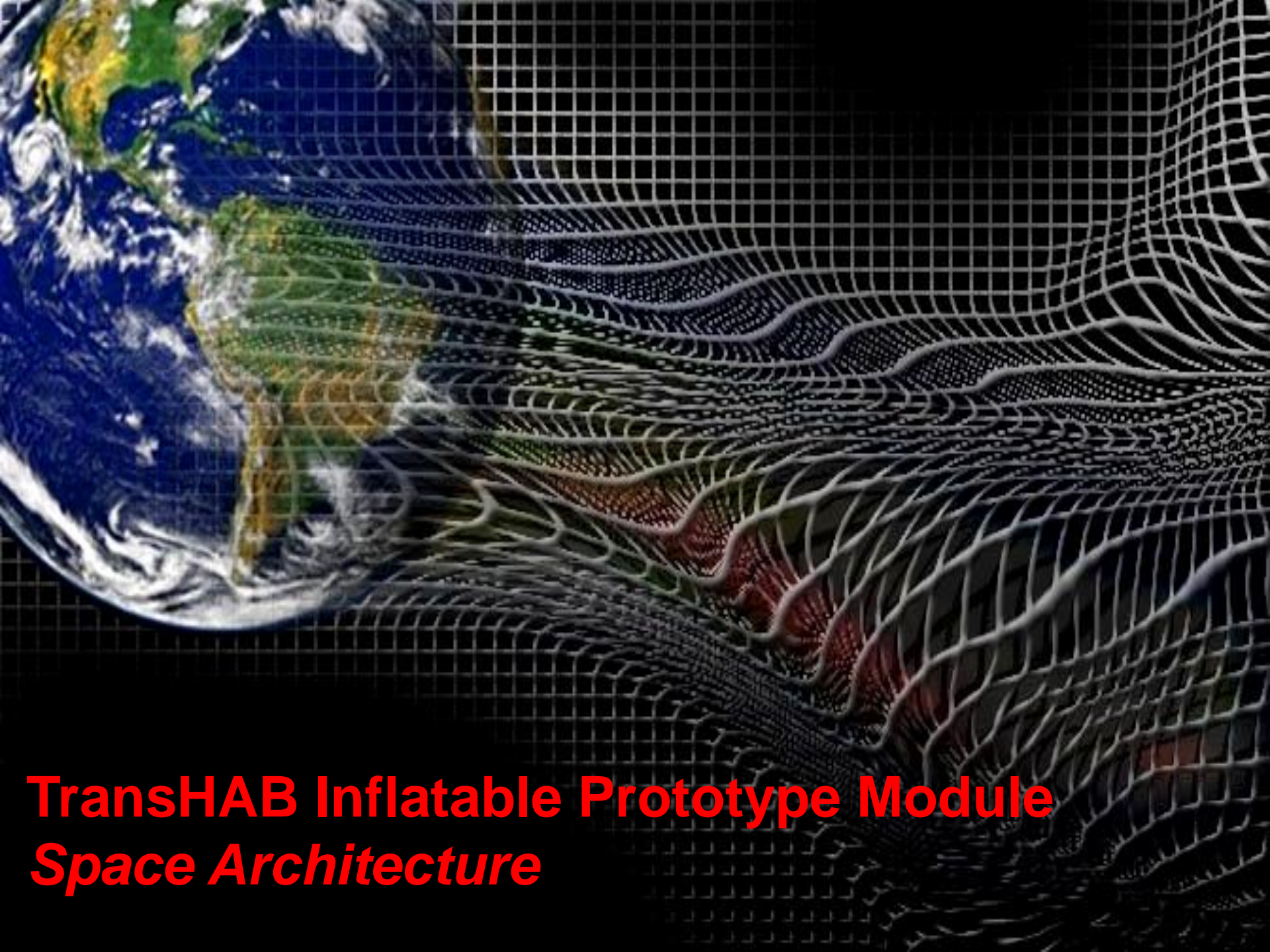












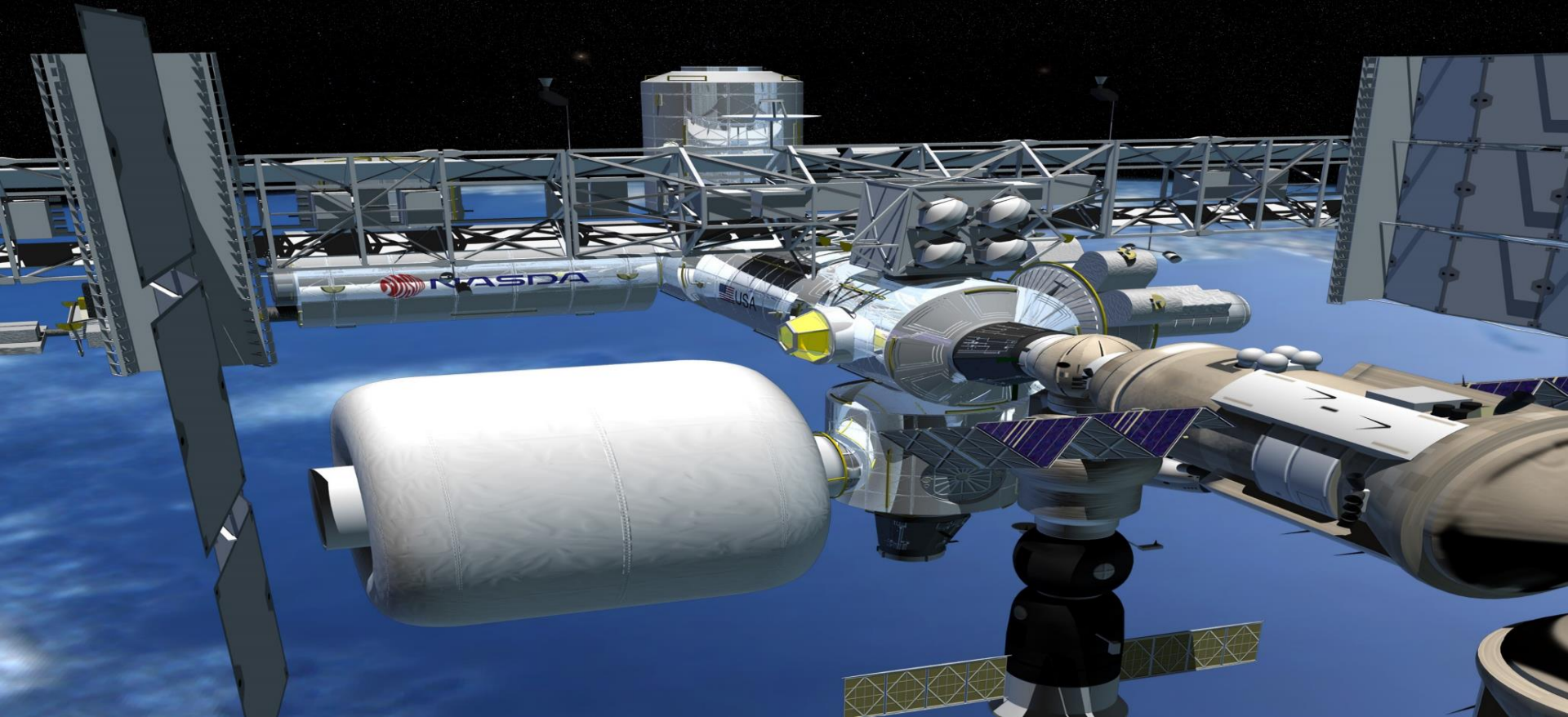
**TransHAB Inflatable Prototype Module**  
*Space Architecture*





# NASA TransHab Concept

- TransHab was a light weight inflatable habitation module for space applications
- Original 1997 concept for light weight habitat module for human mission transit to Mars
- Proposed to the International Space Station (ISS) Program as a replacement for a Hab Module





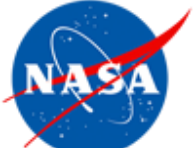
# TransHab (Inflatable Space Habitat)

- U.S. Patent granted

DESIGNED  
**1997**



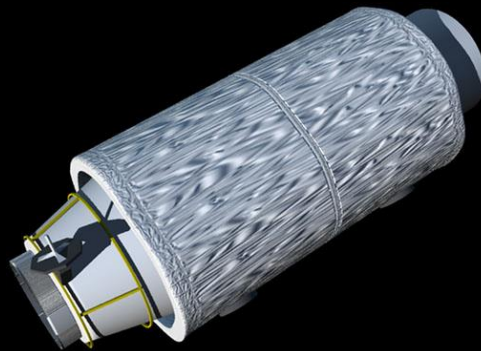




# Transportation Constraints



**TransHab Launch Package**

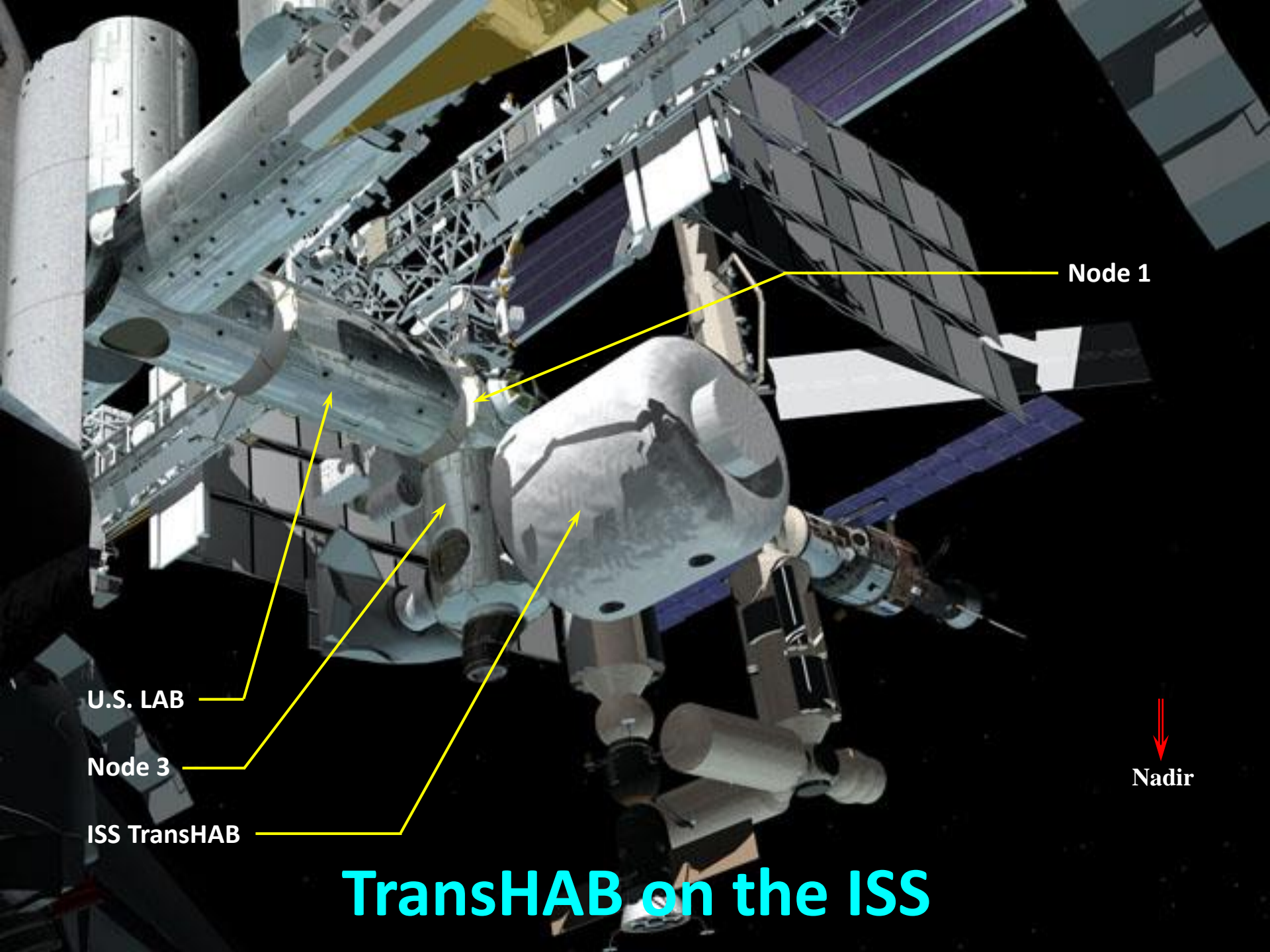


**Robotic Arm Removal  
& Installation on ISS**



**Inflated TransHab**





Node 1

U.S. LAB

Node 3

ISS TransHAB

Nadir

# TransHAB on the ISS



# ISS TransHAB

**Level 4:** Pressurized Tunnel

**Level 3:** Crew Health Care

**Level 2:** Crew Quarters & Mechanical Room

**Level 1:** Galley & Wardroom







## ISS TransHAB Functions

- Private Crew Quarters
- Galley & Dining
- Meeting area for entire ISS crew
- Health Care & Exercise
- Hygiene
- Stowage
- Crew Accommodations
- Environmental Control & Life Support System (ECLSS)
- Communications
- Command, Control & Data Handling
- Protection during Solar Particle Events







# ISS TransHab

Hatch Door

Inflatable Shell

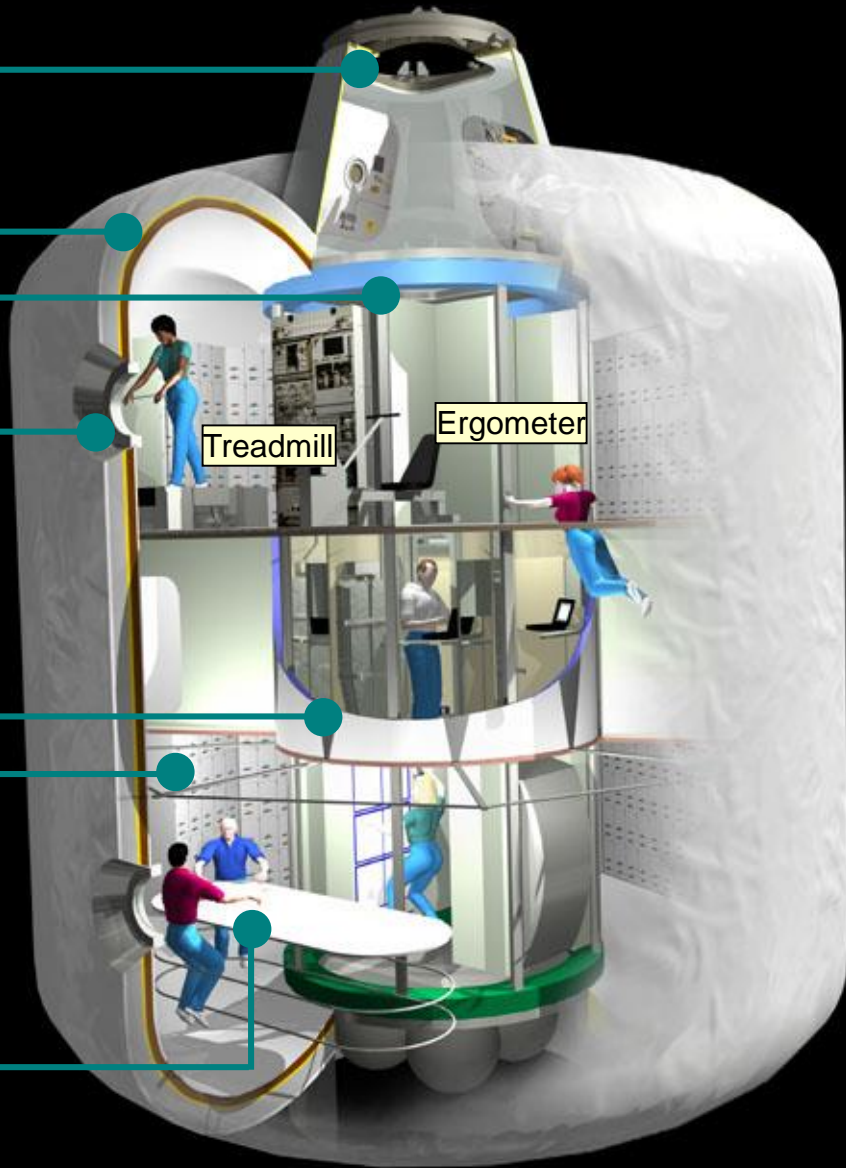
Central Structural Core

20" Window (2)

Integrated Water Tank

Soft Stowage Array

Wardroom Table



Level 4: Pressurized Tunnel

Level 3: Crew Health Care

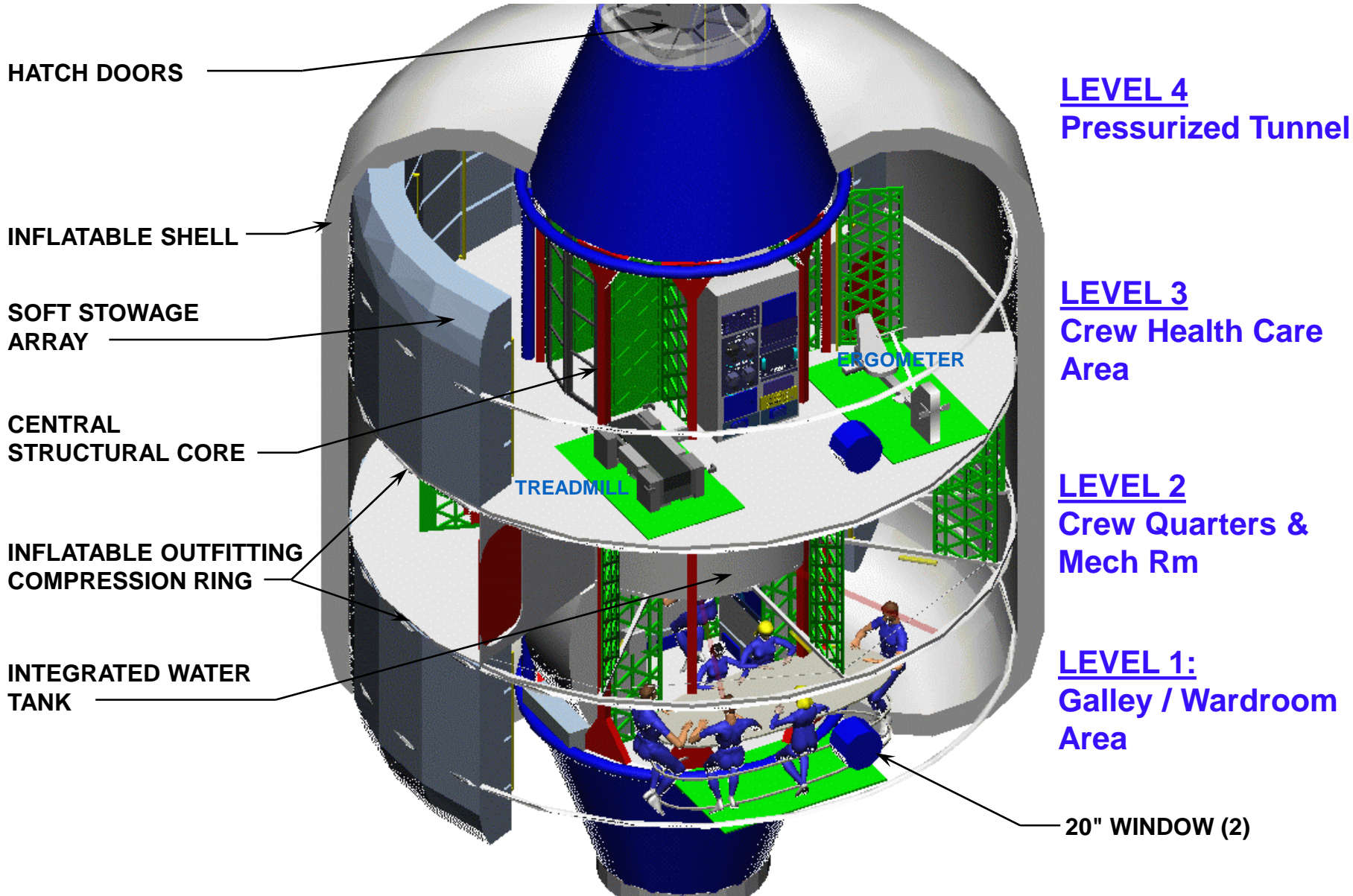
Level 2: Crew Quarters and Mechanical Room

Level 1: Galley and Wardroom





# TransHab Architecture





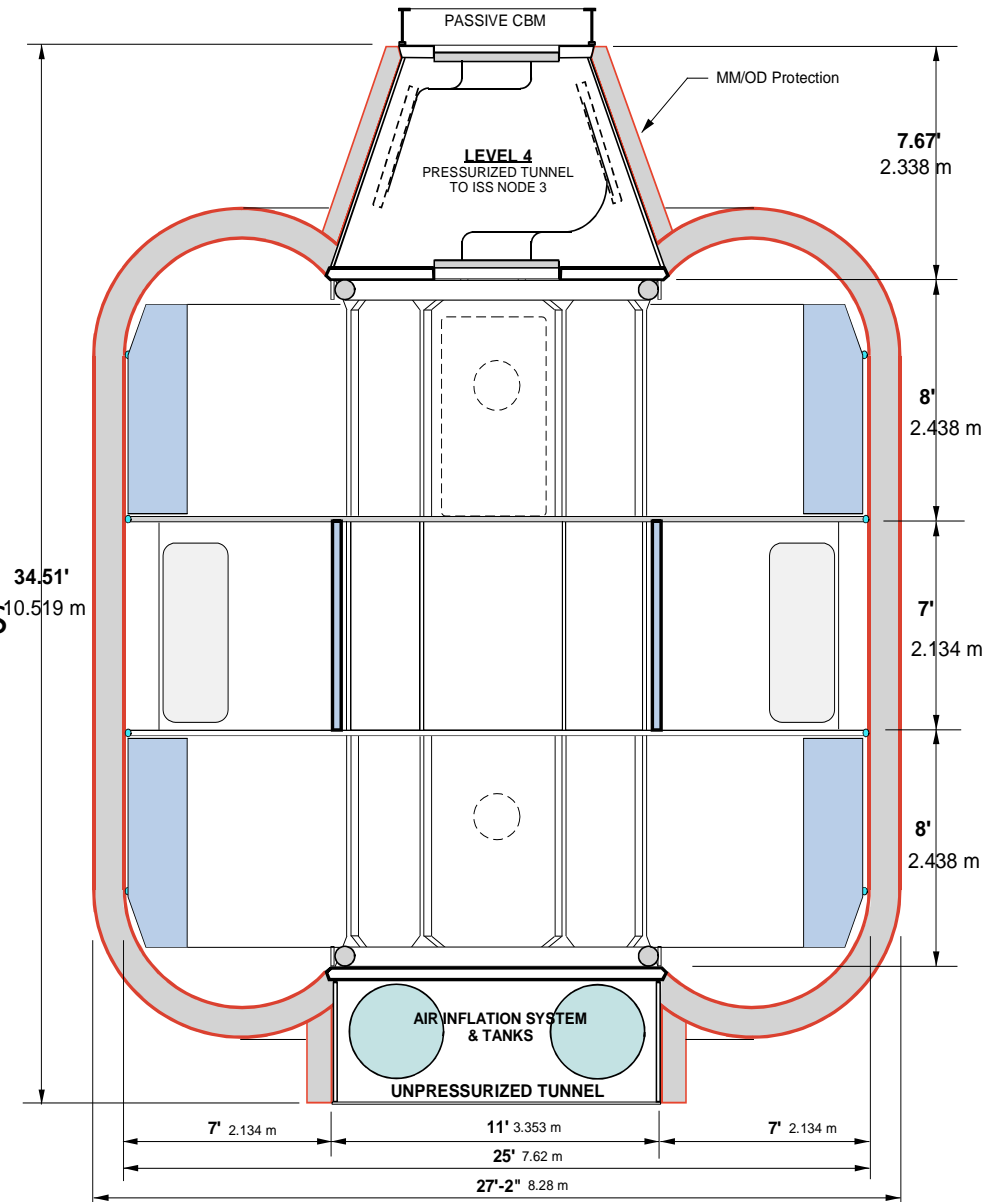


# TransHab Specs

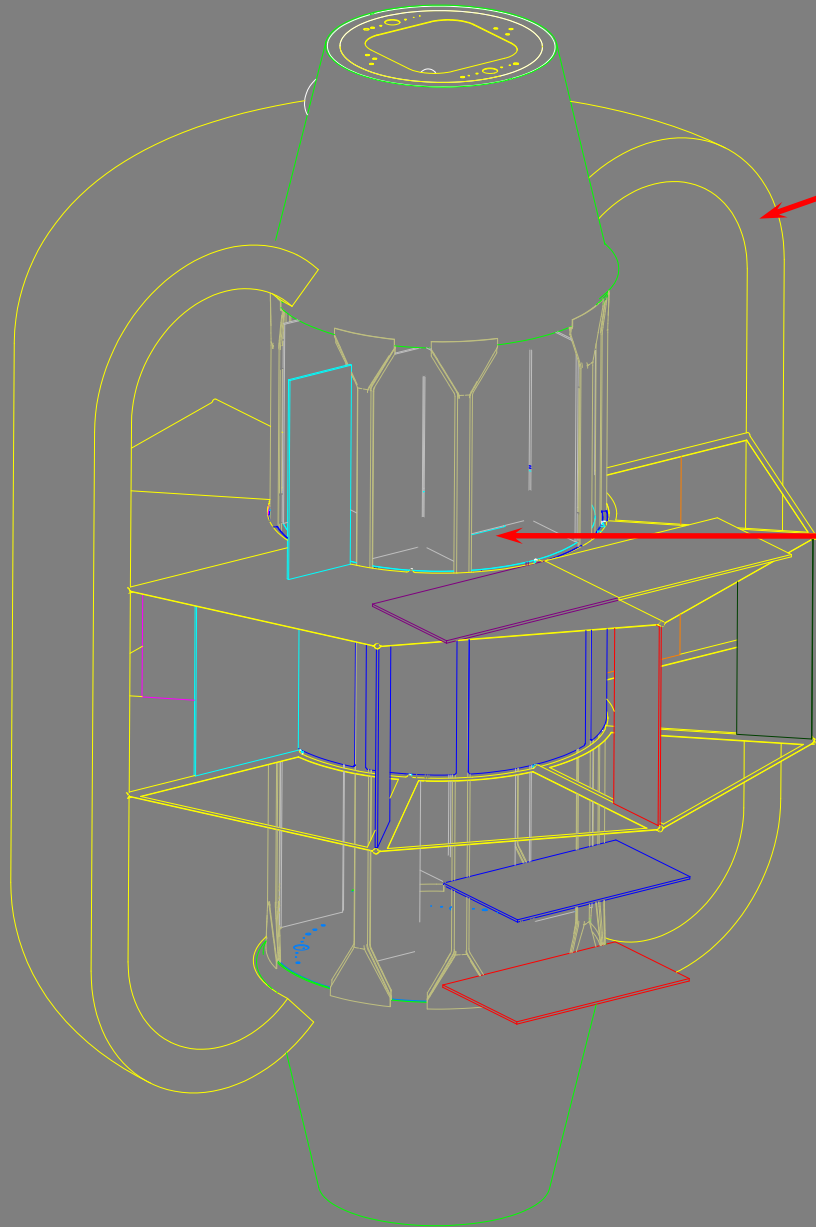
- Overall Length = 10.5 m
- OA Deployed Width = ~8.3 m
- Internal Diameter = 7.6 m
- Packaged volume = 342 m<sup>3</sup>
- Deployed volume = ~161 m<sup>3</sup>
- ConOps
  - Packaged around Hard Core
  - During Launch-goes to vacuum except Tunnel
  - Removed from Cargo Bay & Berthed to ISS
  - Slowly inflated with warmed air. Equalize & stabilize.
  - Crew unpack and assembly.
  - Checkout and verify operational

SHELL Vol = 11631 ft<sup>3</sup> (329.37 m<sup>3</sup>)  
TUNNEL Vol = 446 ft<sup>3</sup> (12.63 m<sup>3</sup>)  
Total Vol = 12077 ft<sup>3</sup> (342.0 m<sup>3</sup>)

2.74x larger an ISS Lab/Hab Module  
Vol. (4414 ft<sup>3</sup>, or 125 m<sup>3</sup>)



# General Structural Configuration

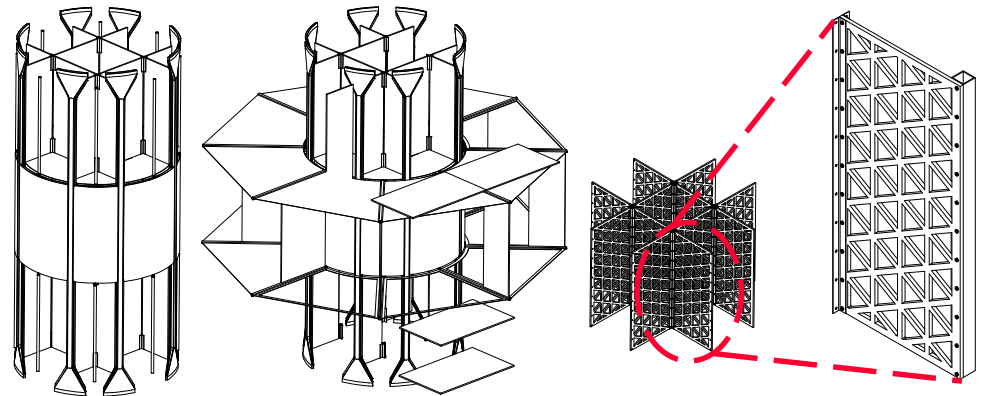


## **Multi-Layer Inflatable Shell**

- Multi-Layer Insulation Blankets
- Micrometeoroid / orbital debris Protection
- Optimized Restraint Layer
- Redundant Bladder With Protective Layer

## **Central Structural Core**

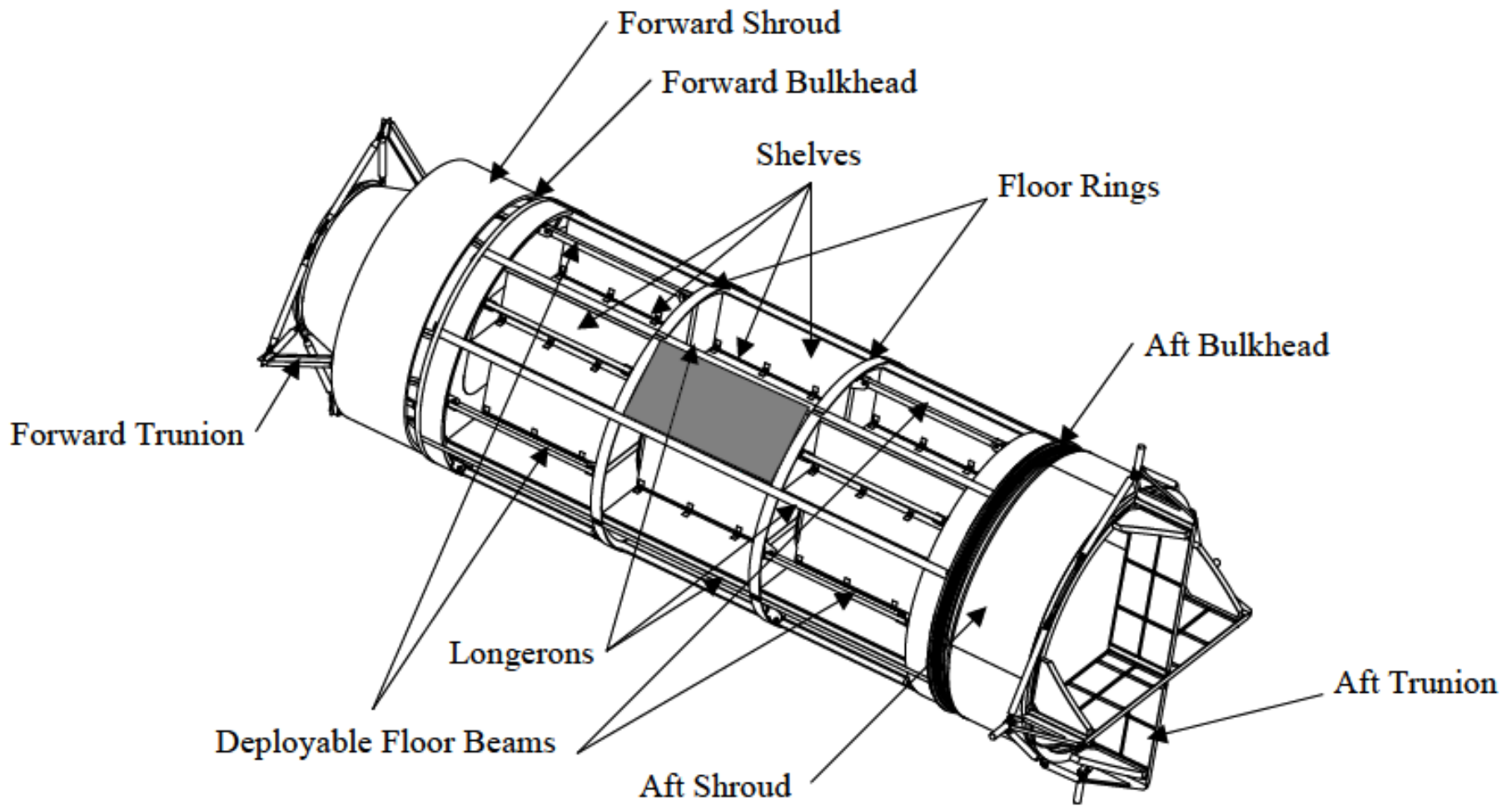
- 2 Tunnels
- Composite Core With Integral Water Tank
- Repositionable Composite Isogrid shelves
- Floor Struts With Fabric Flooring







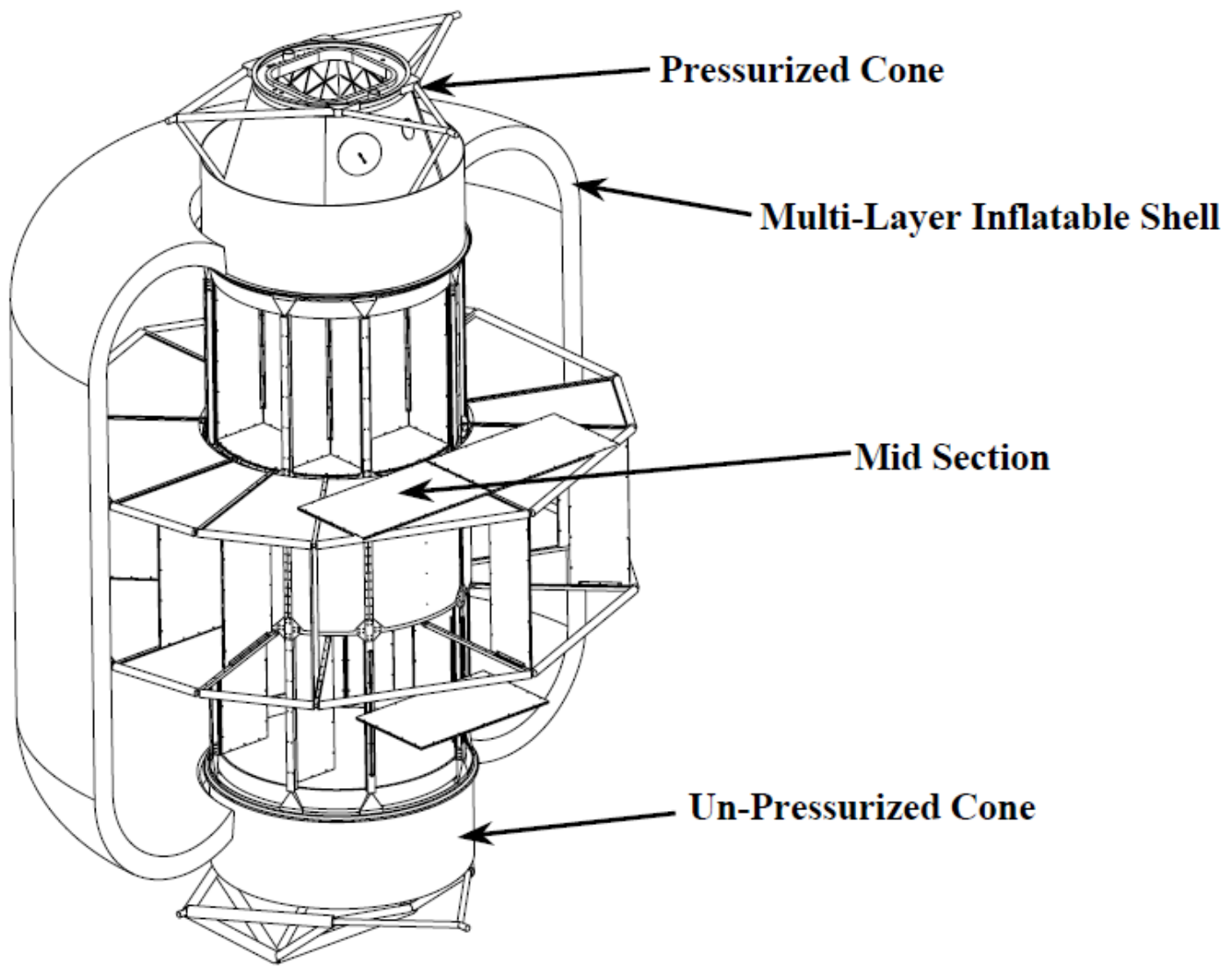
# Structural Hard Core





# Structural Overview

---



Pressurized Cone

Multi-Layer Inflatable Shell

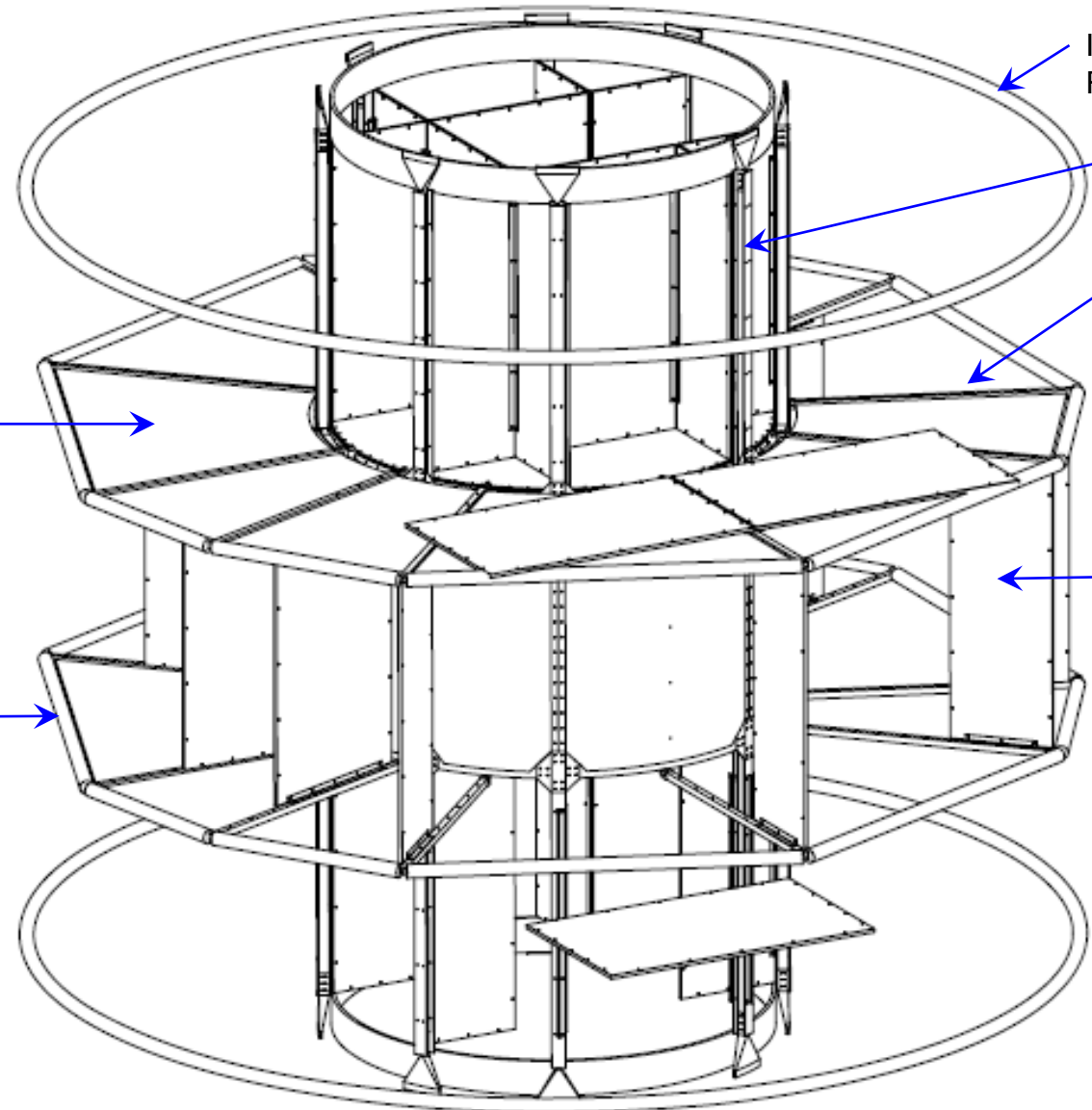
Mid Section

Un-Pressurized Cone



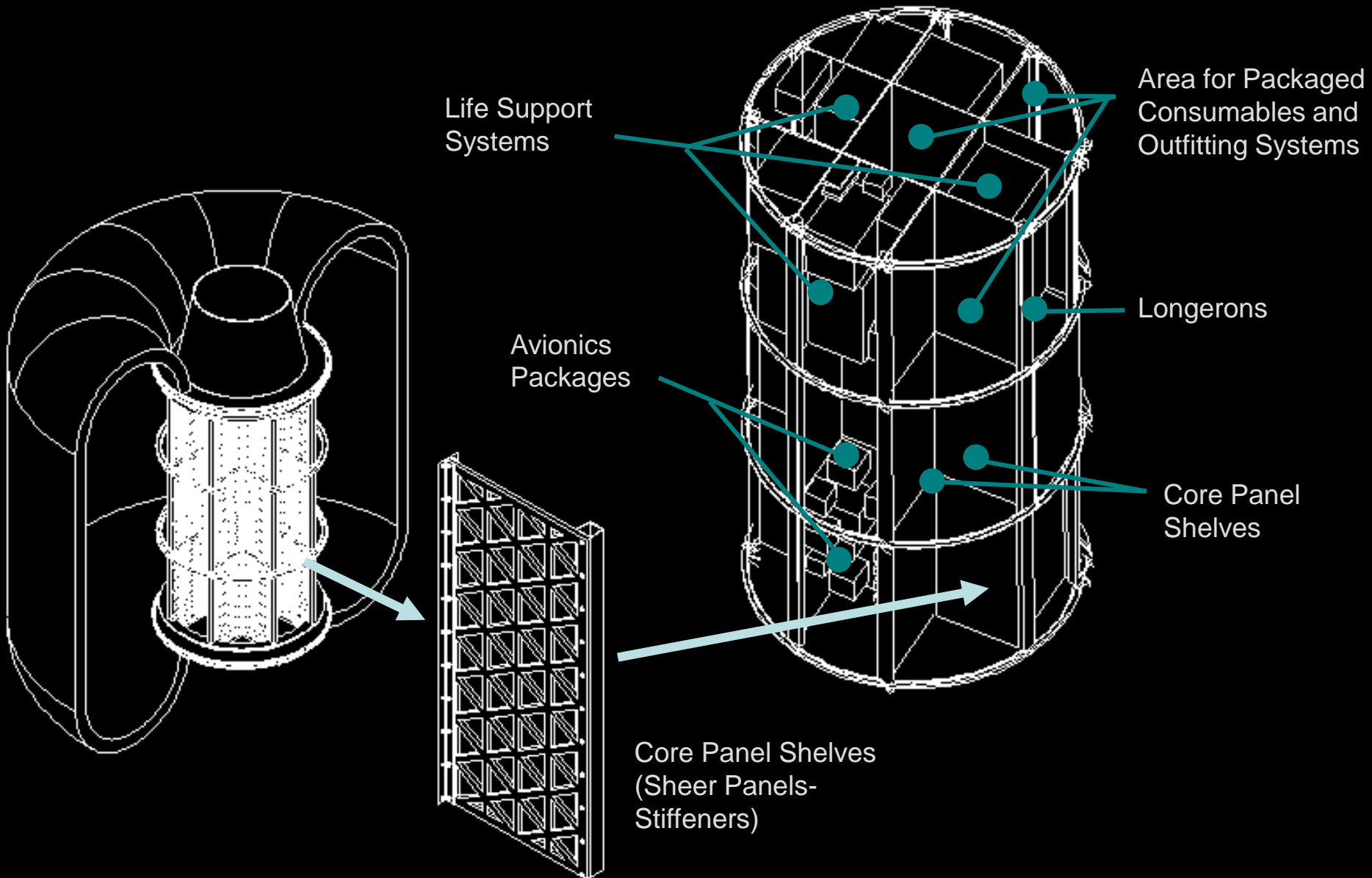


# Deployed Internal Structure Overview



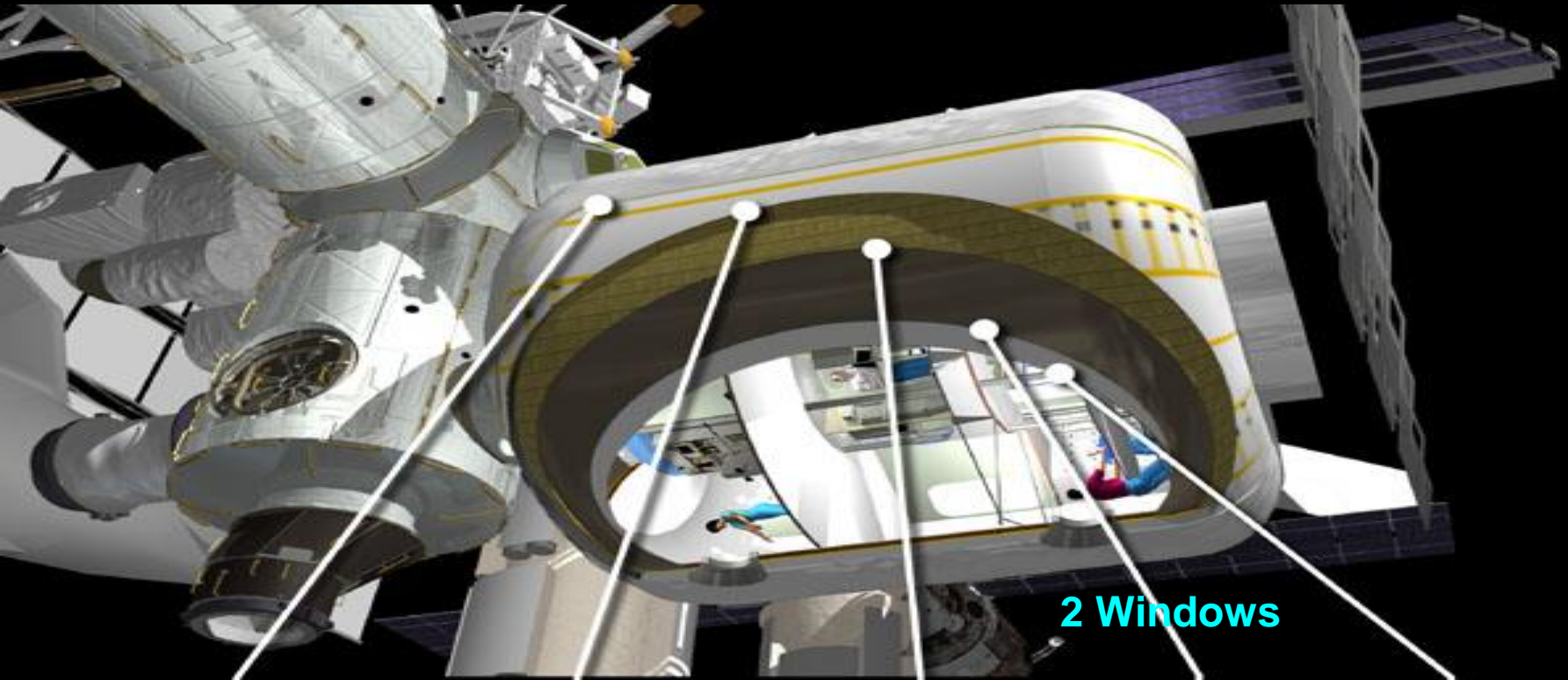


# Subsystems Packaged in Core





# Multi-Functional Layered Inflatable Pressure Shell



2 Windows

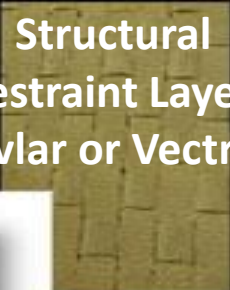
External Thermal Blanket



MOD Shielding



Structural Restraint Layer: Kevlar or Vectran



Redundant Bladders

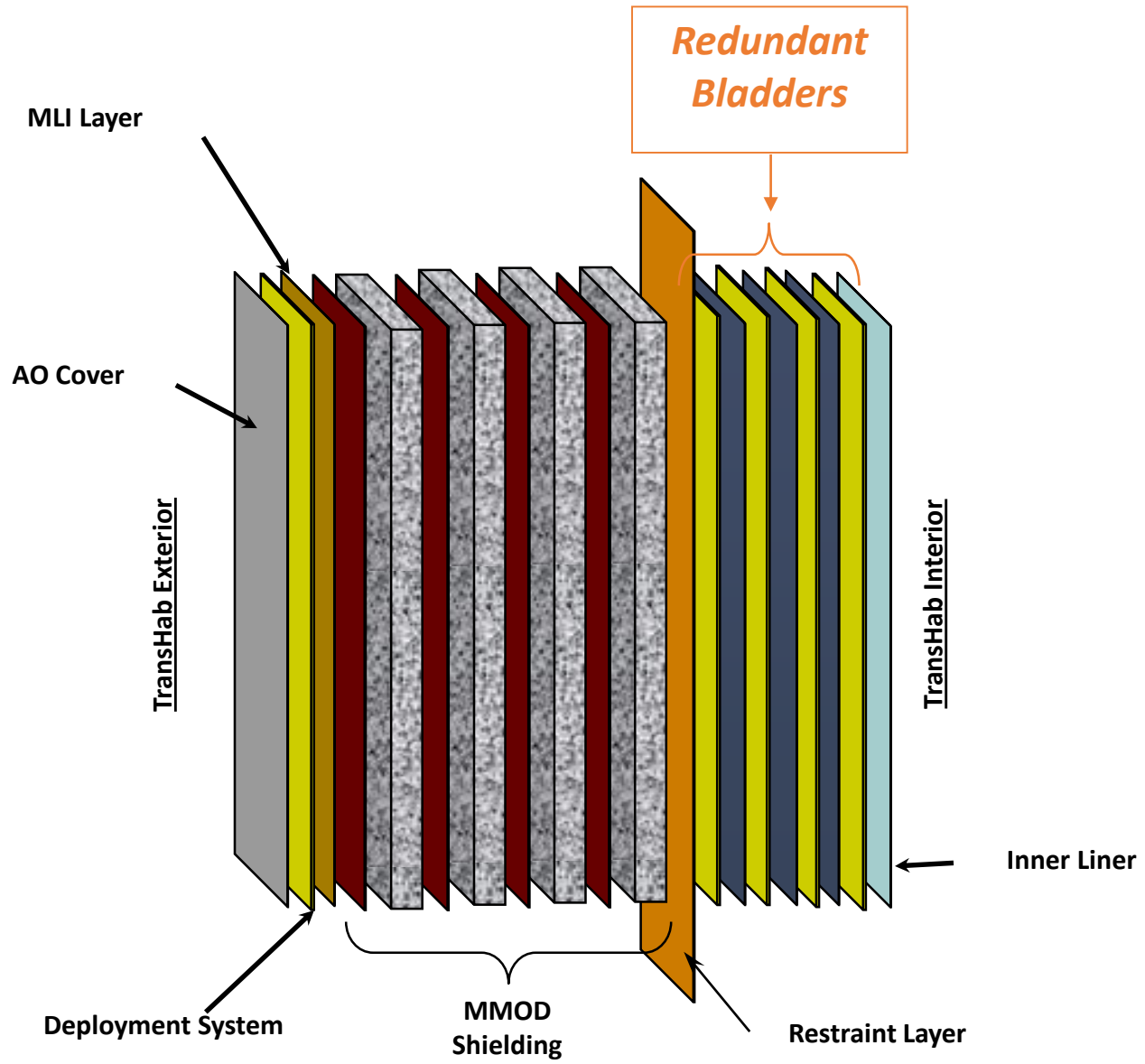


Internal Scuff Barrier





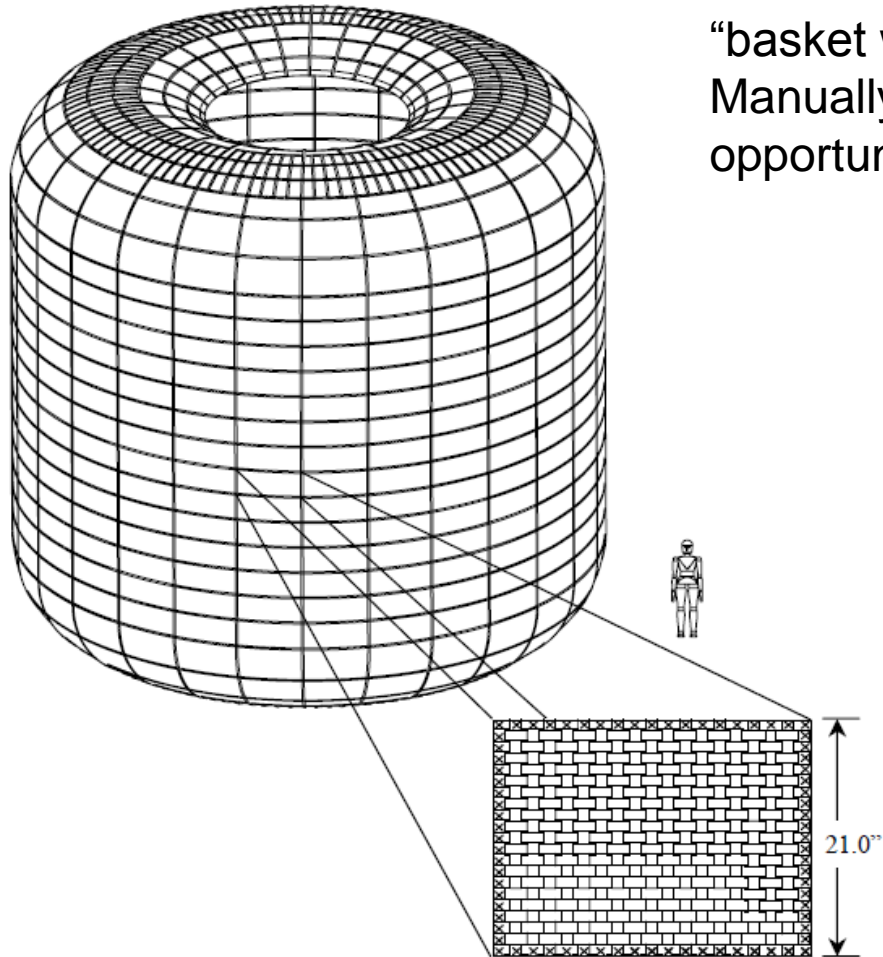
# Multi-Layer Shell Configuration Overview







# Inflatable Restraint Layer

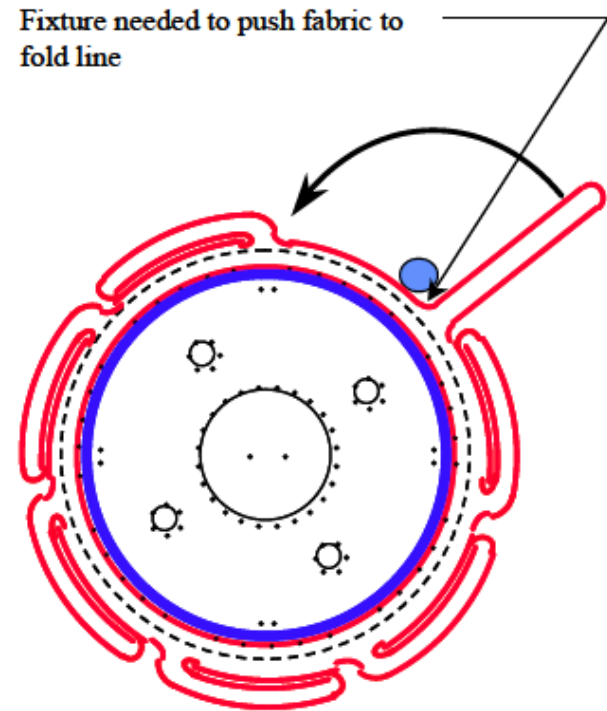
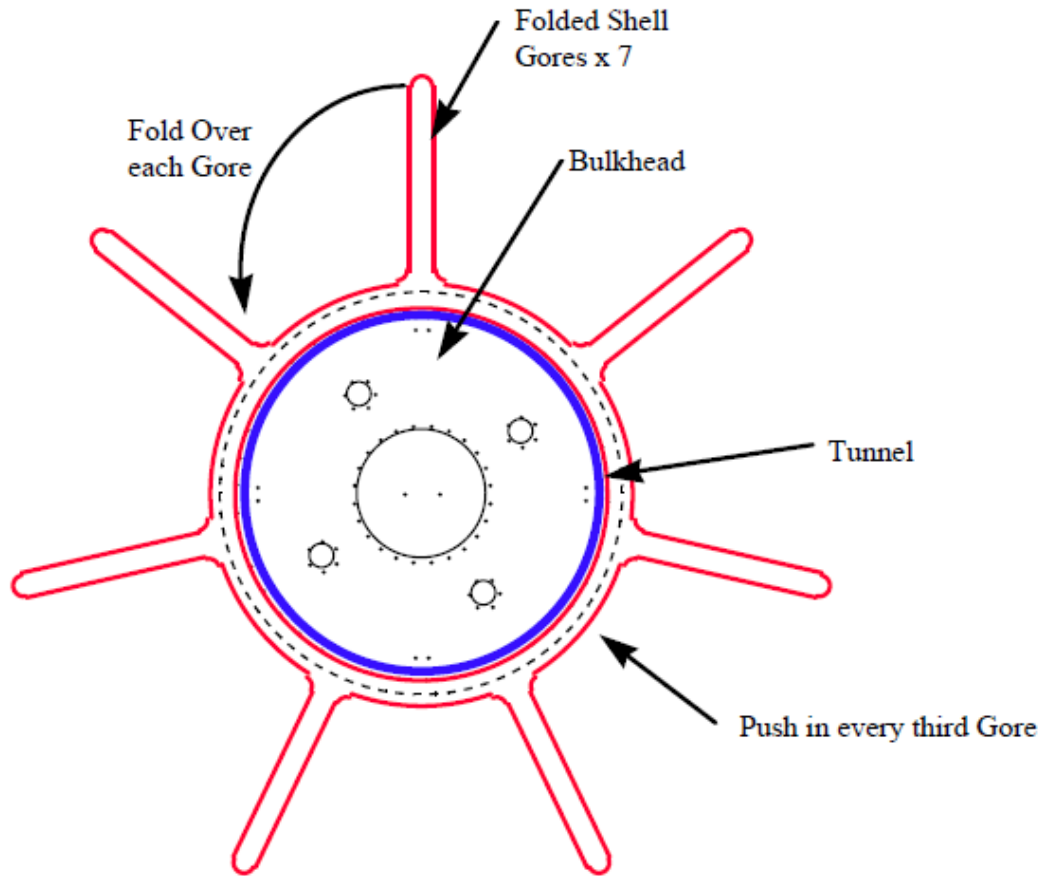


“basket weave” manufacturing approach. Manually labor intensive and many opportunities for human error.





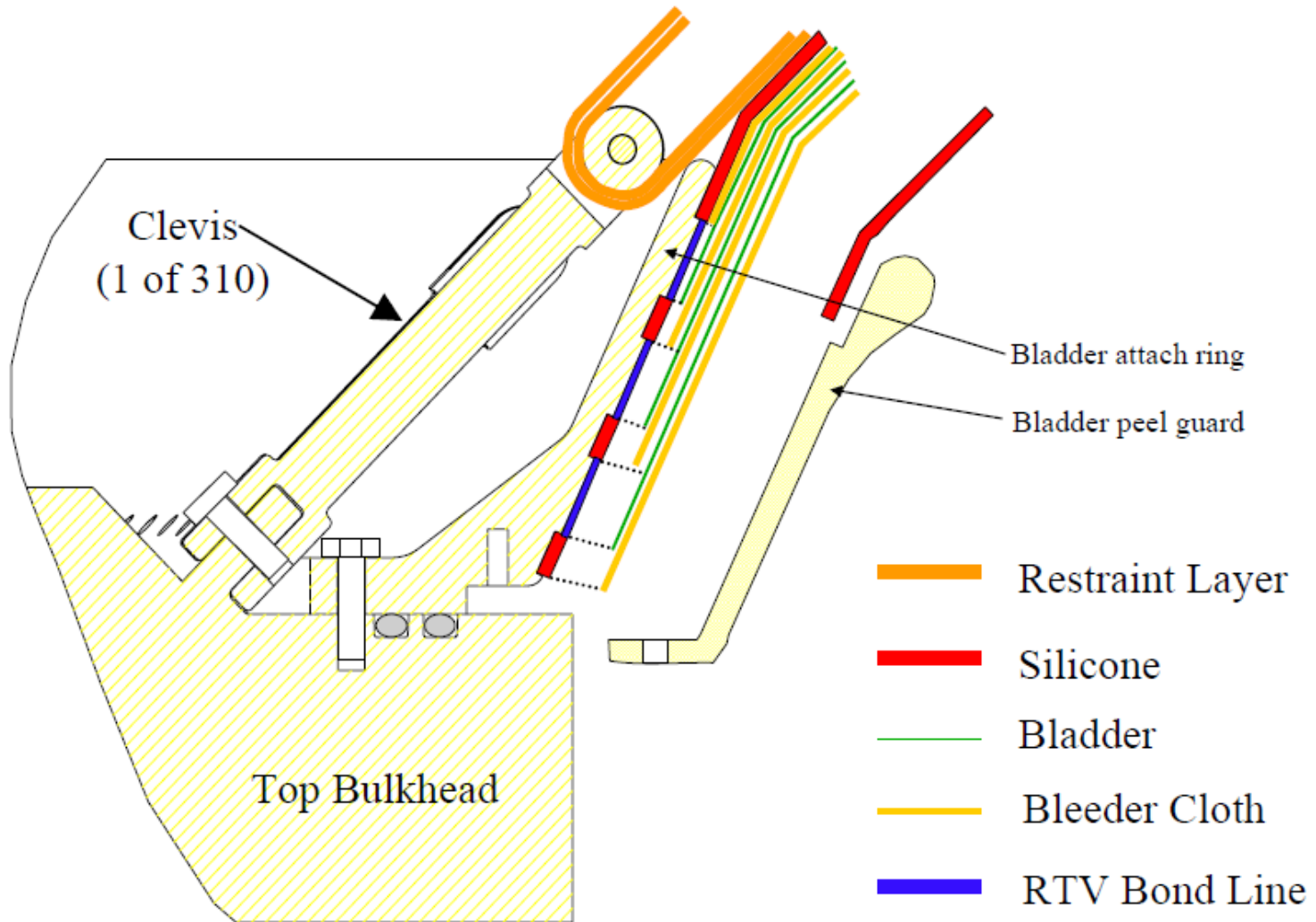
# Packaging & Folding





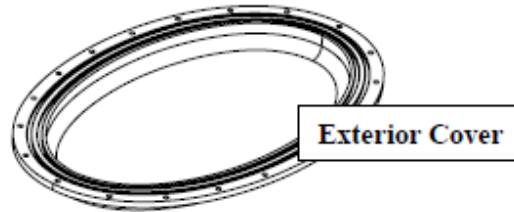
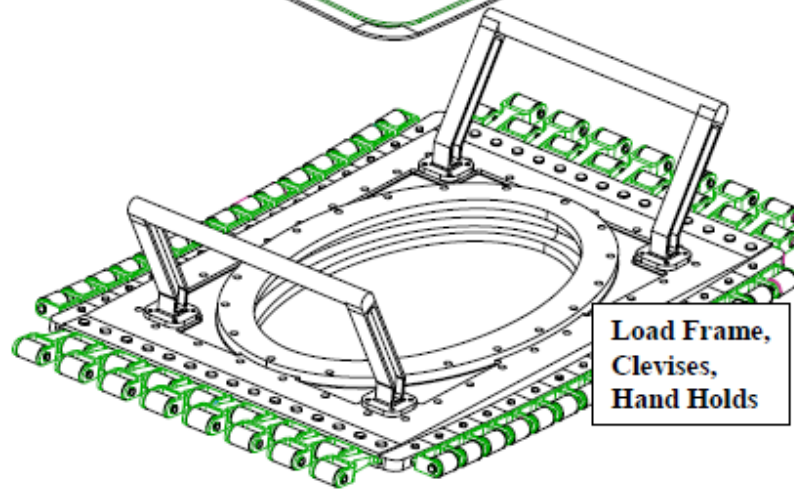
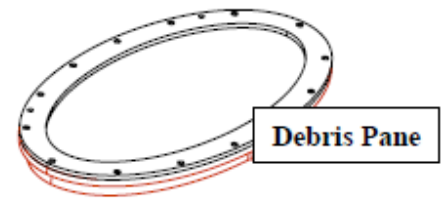
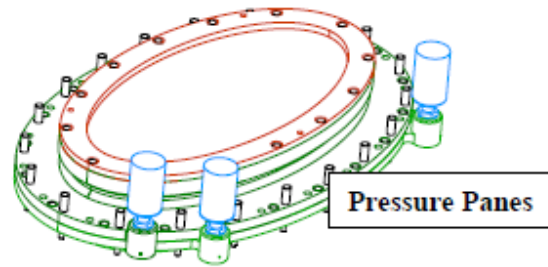
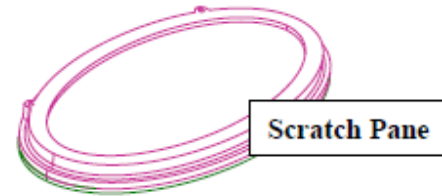
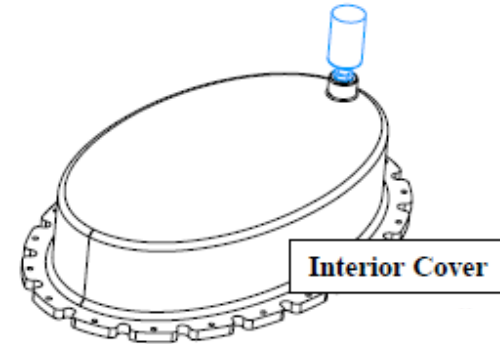
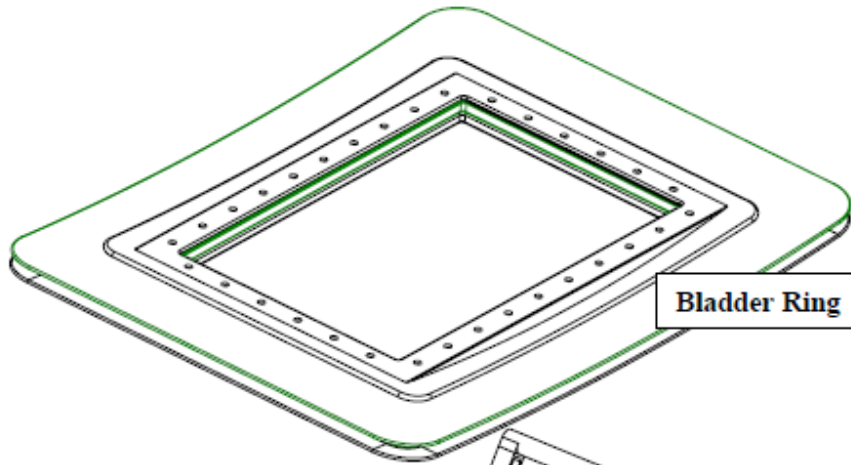


# Notional Shell Structural Interface





# Notional Window Detail



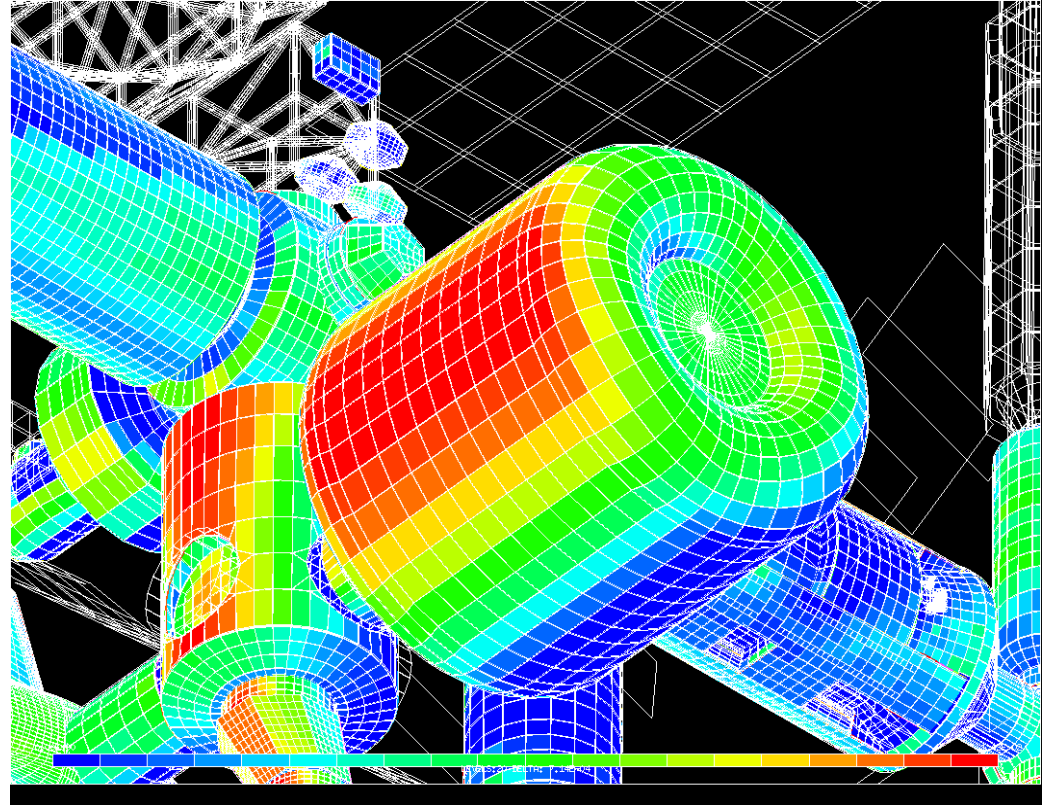




# Goal 1: MM/OD Test

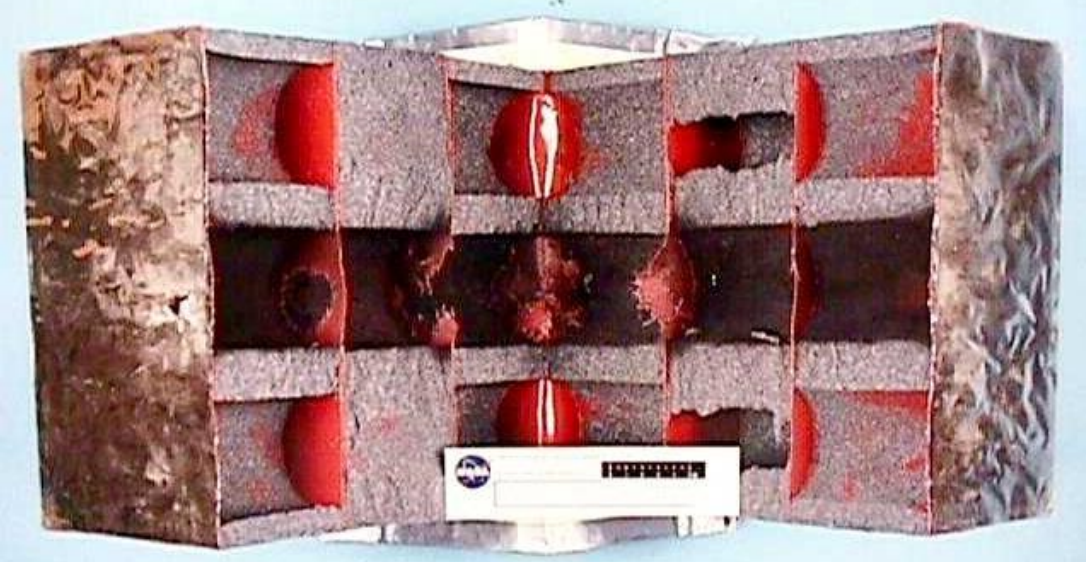
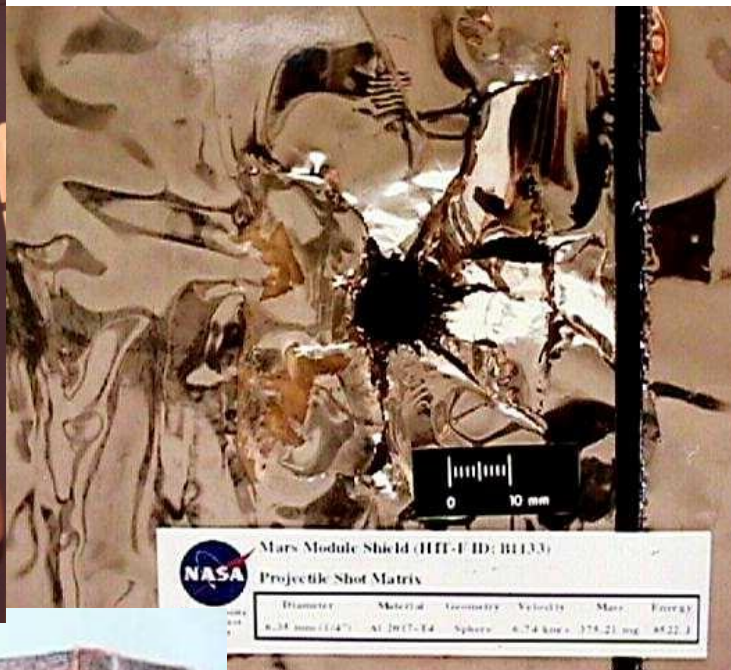
---

- Requirement: HAB shall have a minimum of 0.9820 Probability of No Penetration (PNP)
- Designed and Build MMOD Shield
- Made test shots
- Shot after Shot
- Current shell configuration tested projectiles up to 1.7 cm diameter
- Due to the large size of TransHab, the Shielding required to meet the PNP is larger than the standard modules.





# The Inspector







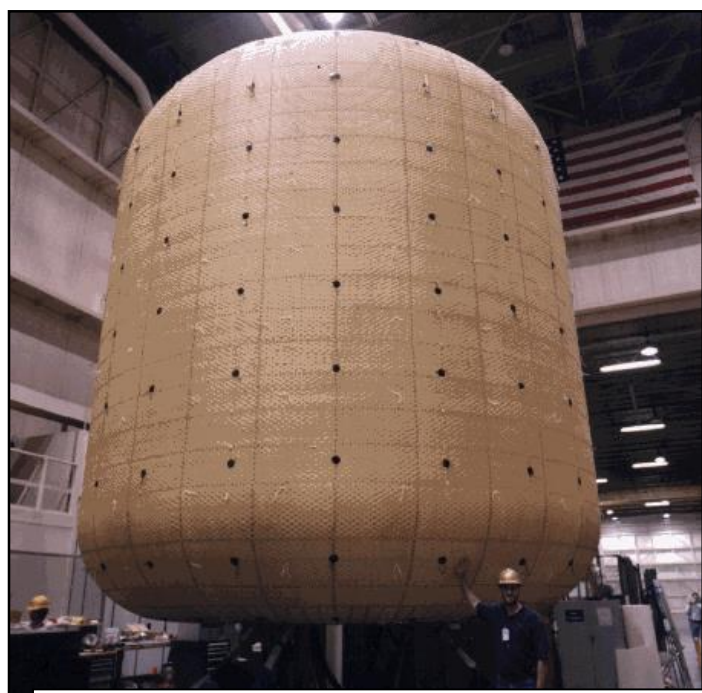
# Full-Scale Testing



**Shell Dev. Unit-1 (30psid )**



**Shell Dev. Unit-2 (60psid )**

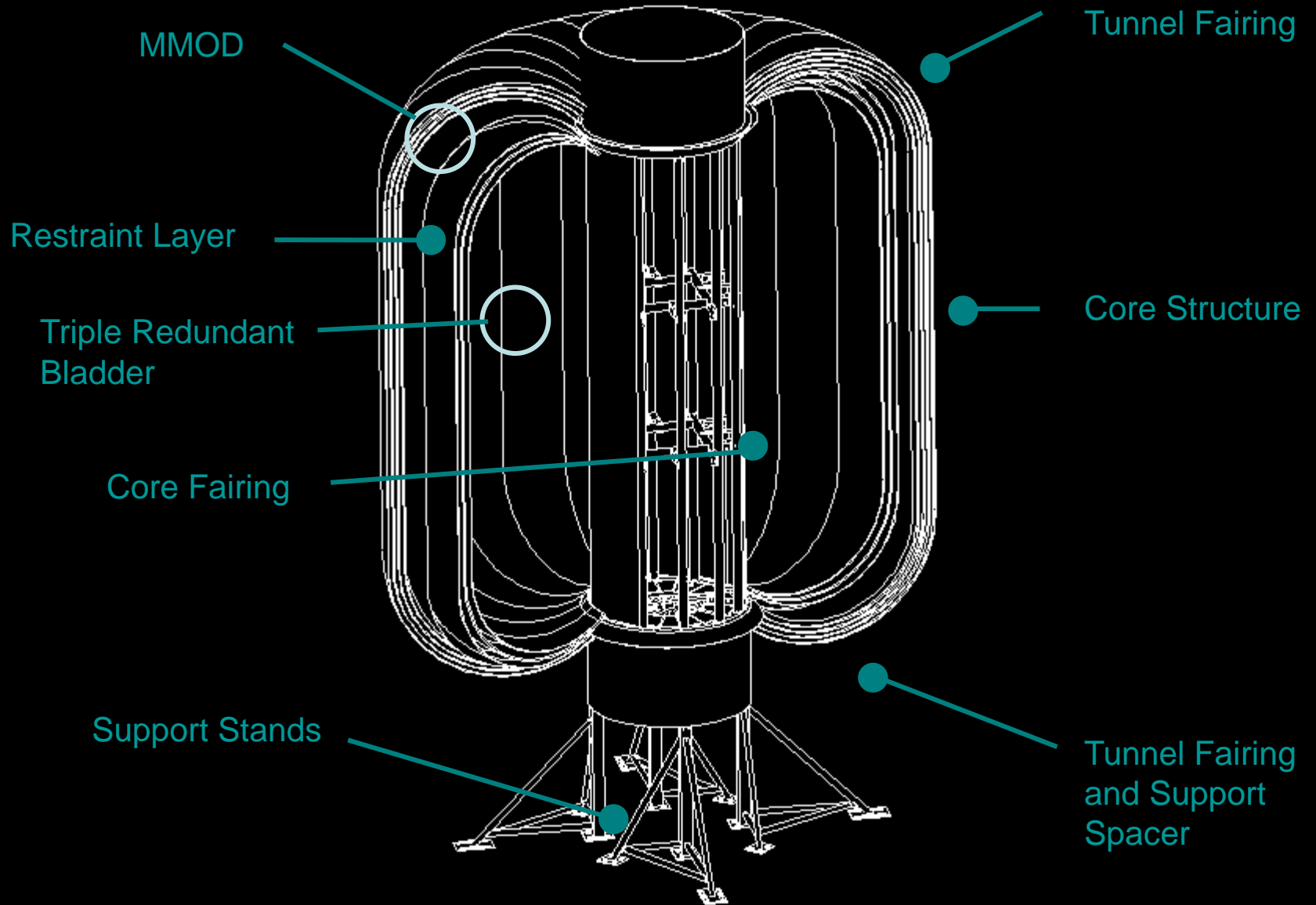


**Shell Dev. Unit-3 Full-scale Deployment in a Vacuum Environment**





# Full Scale Development Unit







# TransHab Full Scale Shell Development Unit (SDU-3)



First Inflation: November 17, 1998



## ***TransHab Full Dia Shell Development Unit (SDU-2)***

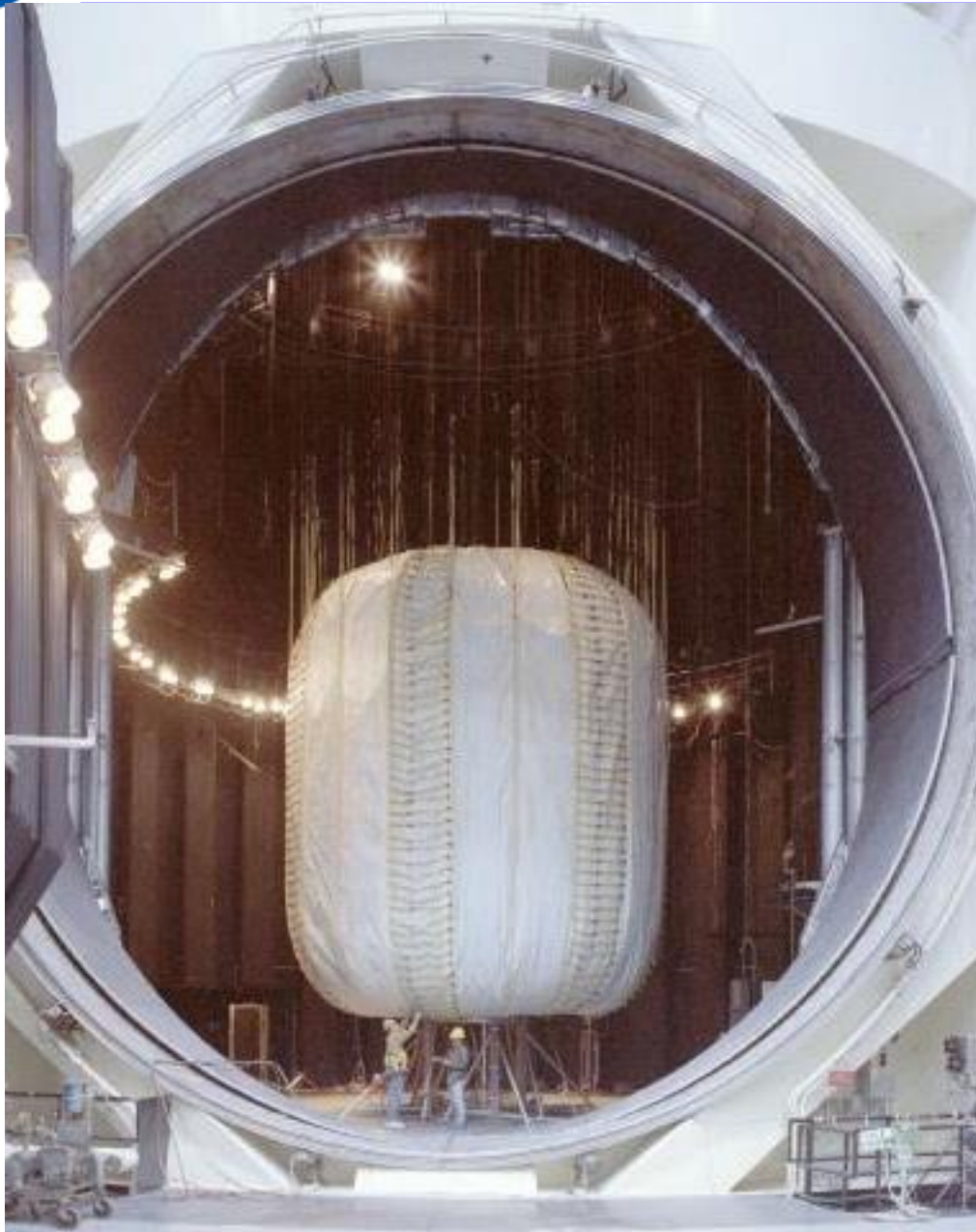
- **Focused on Restraint Layer**
  - Fabric to hard structure interface
  - Manufacturing Processes
- **Built Shell to test Restraint & Interface Stresses**
- **Built Test Unit for Hydrostatic Test to S.F. = 4.0**
  - Full Diameter w/ Reduced Hgt.
  - Non-Flight like Core and Bladder
  - Pressurized w/ Water to Equivalent of 4X Operating Pressure and Held for 5 Minutes





# ***Full Scale Shell Development Unit (SDU-3) Vacuum Test***

---

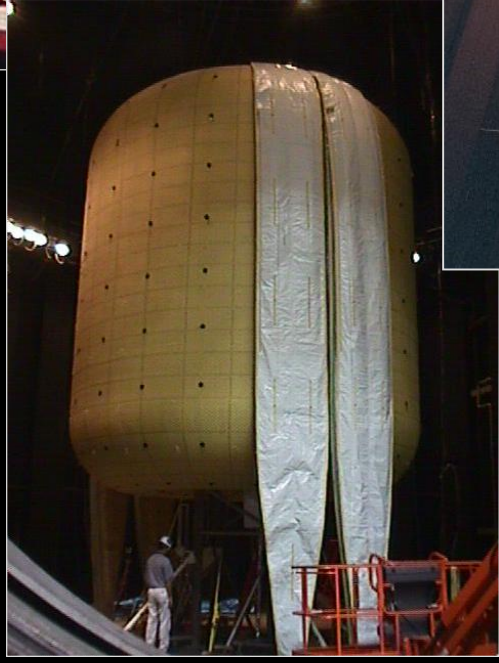
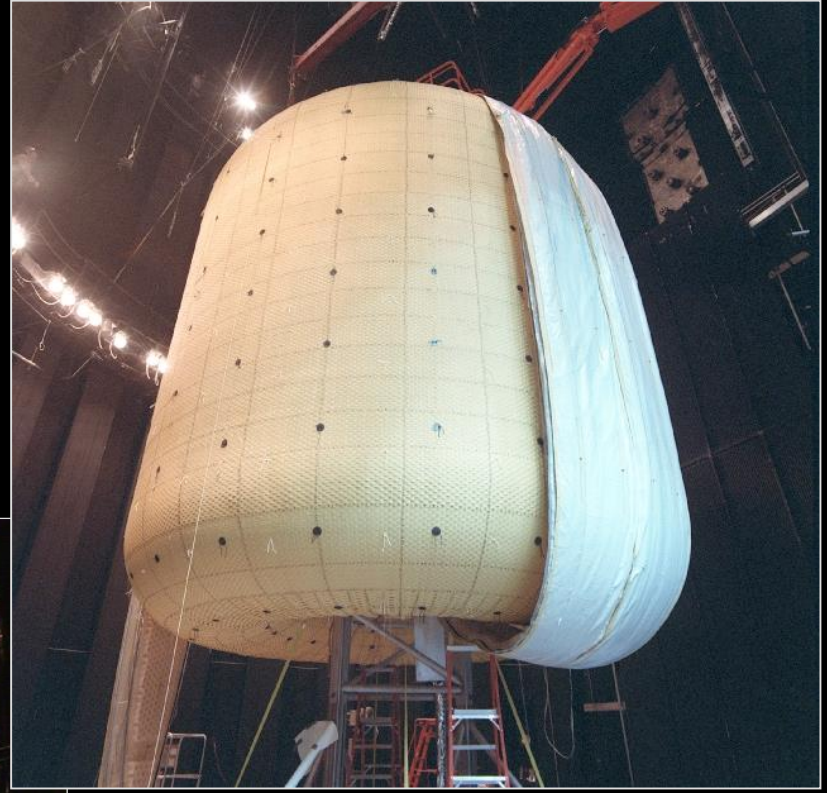


## **Demonstrated:**

- **Folding of Shell**
- **Packaging for Shuttle Payload Bay**
- **Operation in a Vacuum**
- **Deployment of Shell**
- **Inflation of Module**



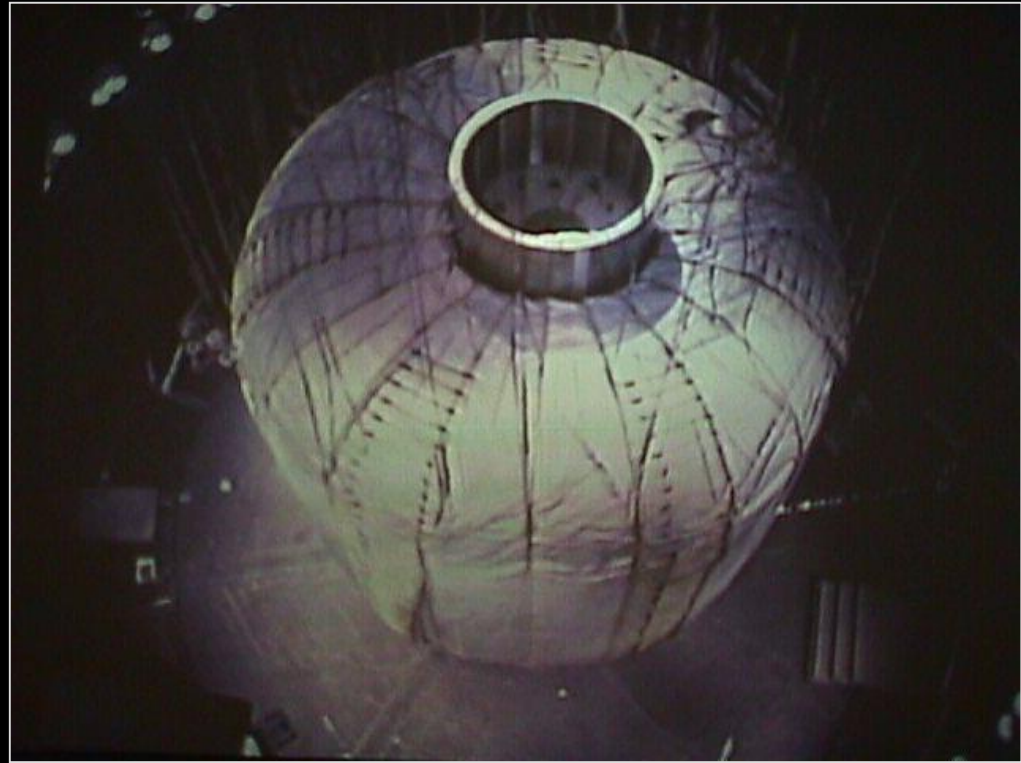
# SDU-3 Installation of MM/OD Gores



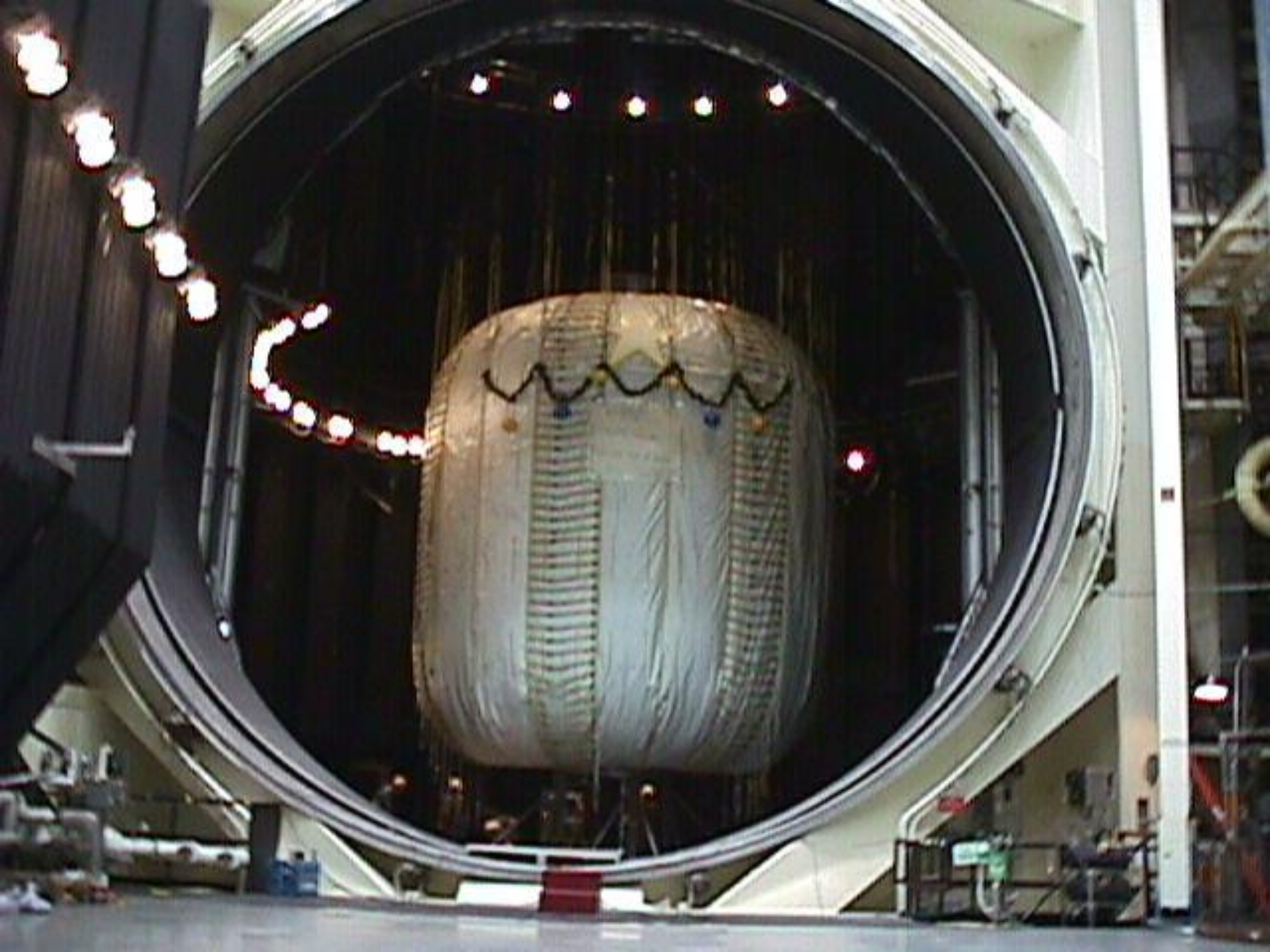




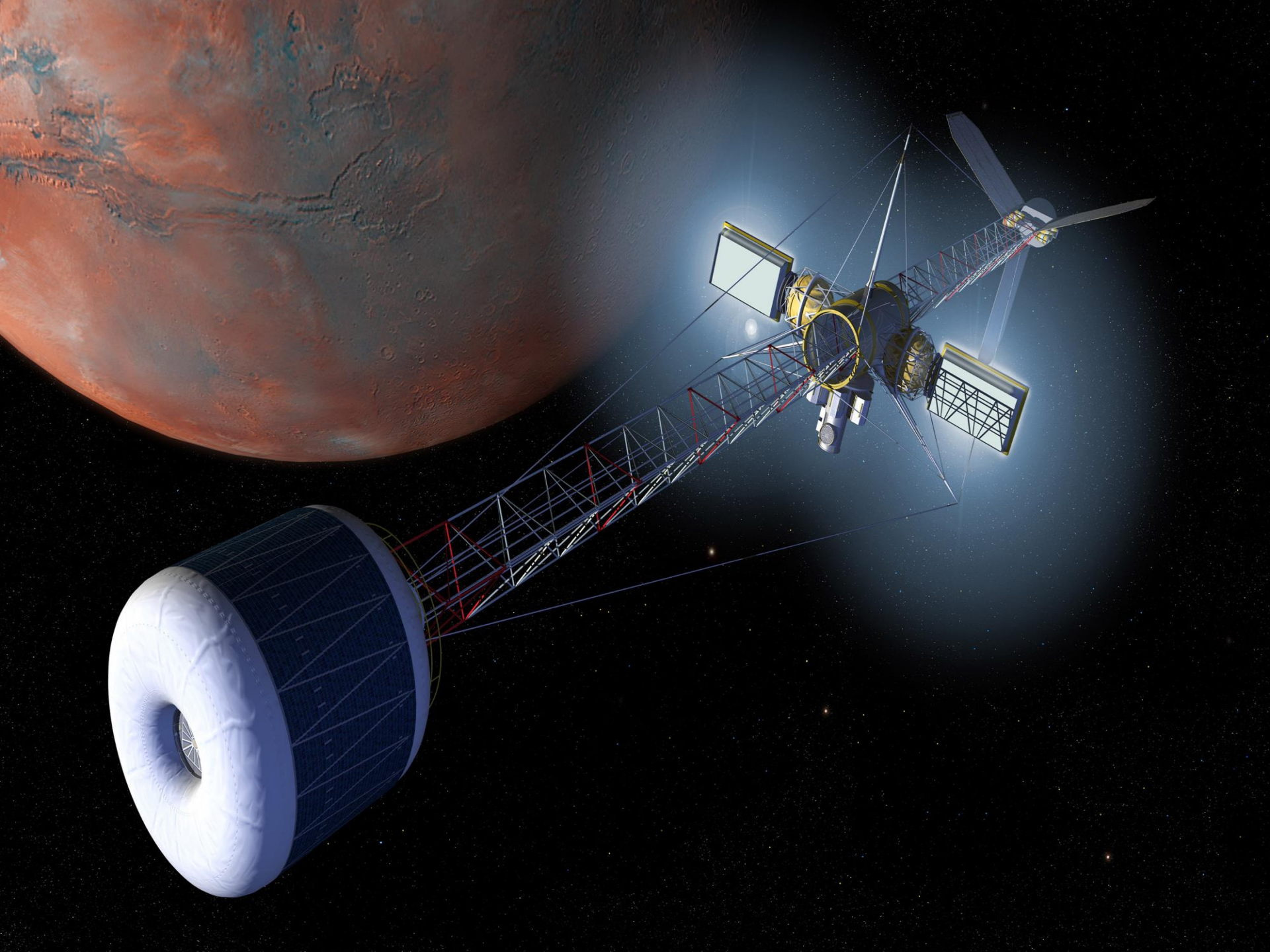
# TransHab Full Scale Shell Development Unit (SDU-3)



Vacuum Deployment Test: December 21, 1998









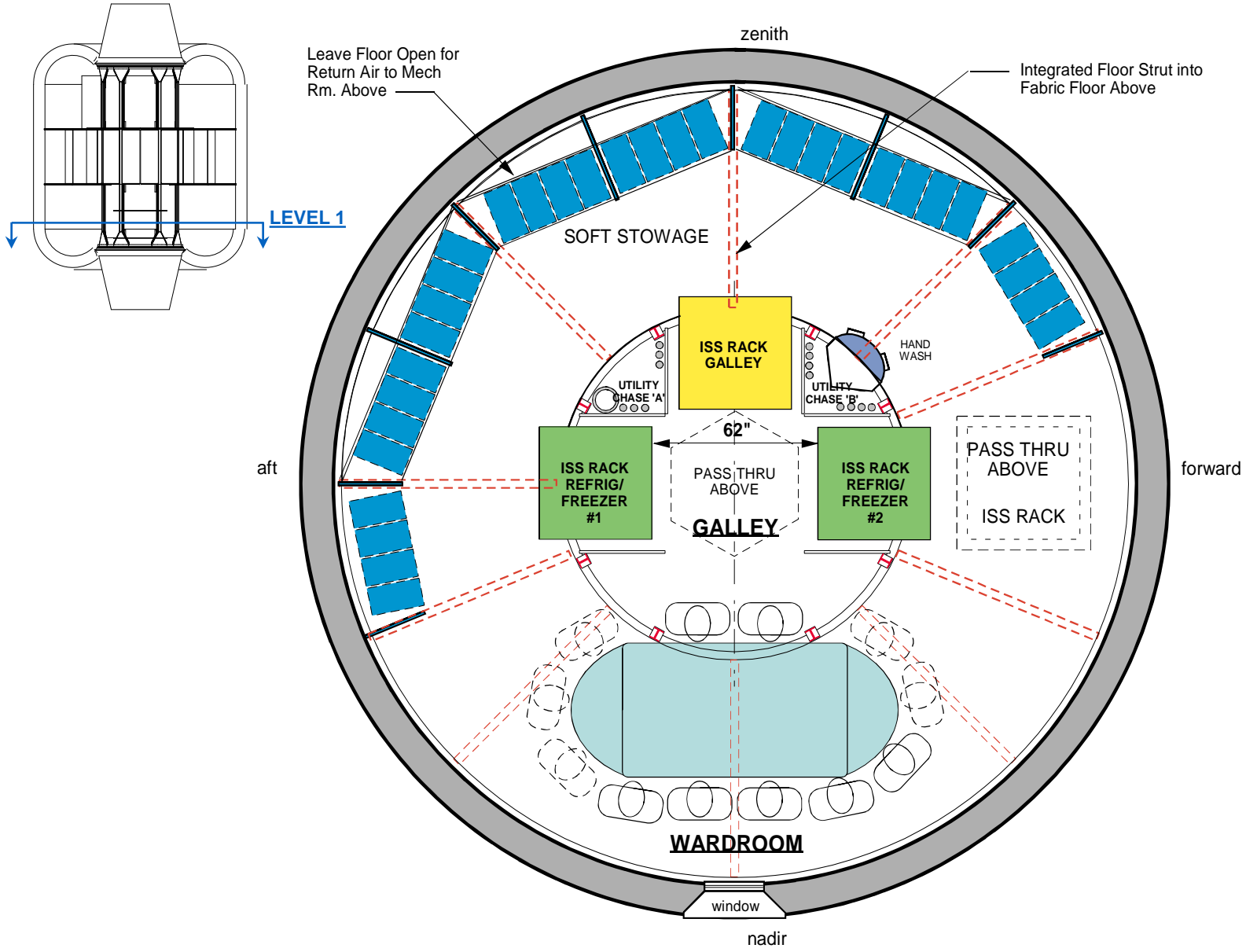
---

# BACKUP



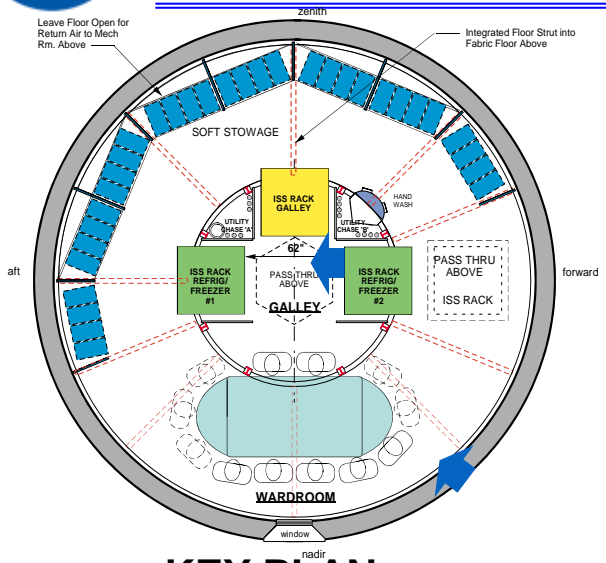


# Level 1

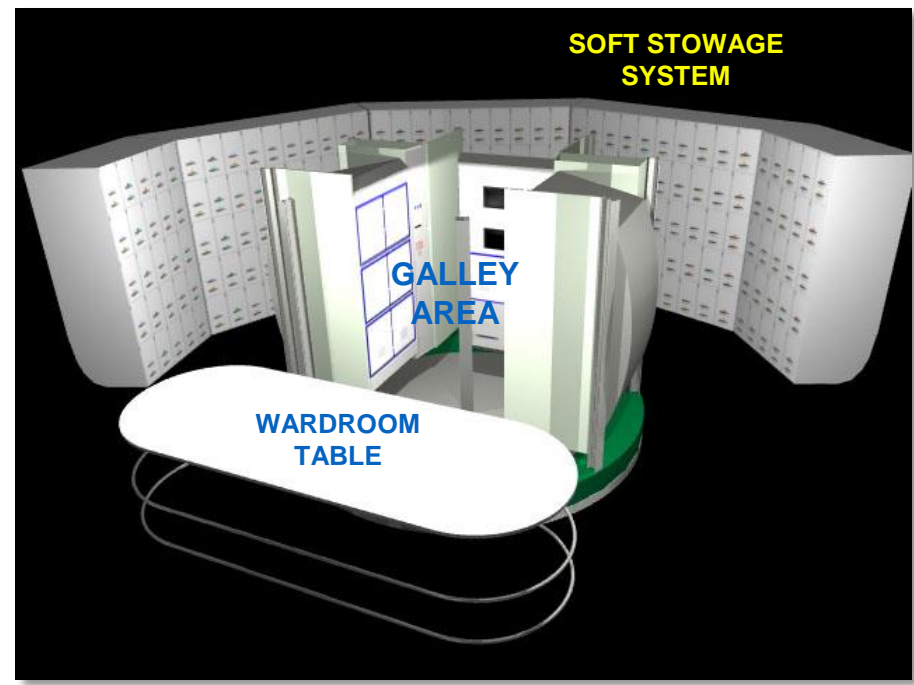




# Galley / Wardroom Area



**KEY PLAN**



**WARDROOM AREA**

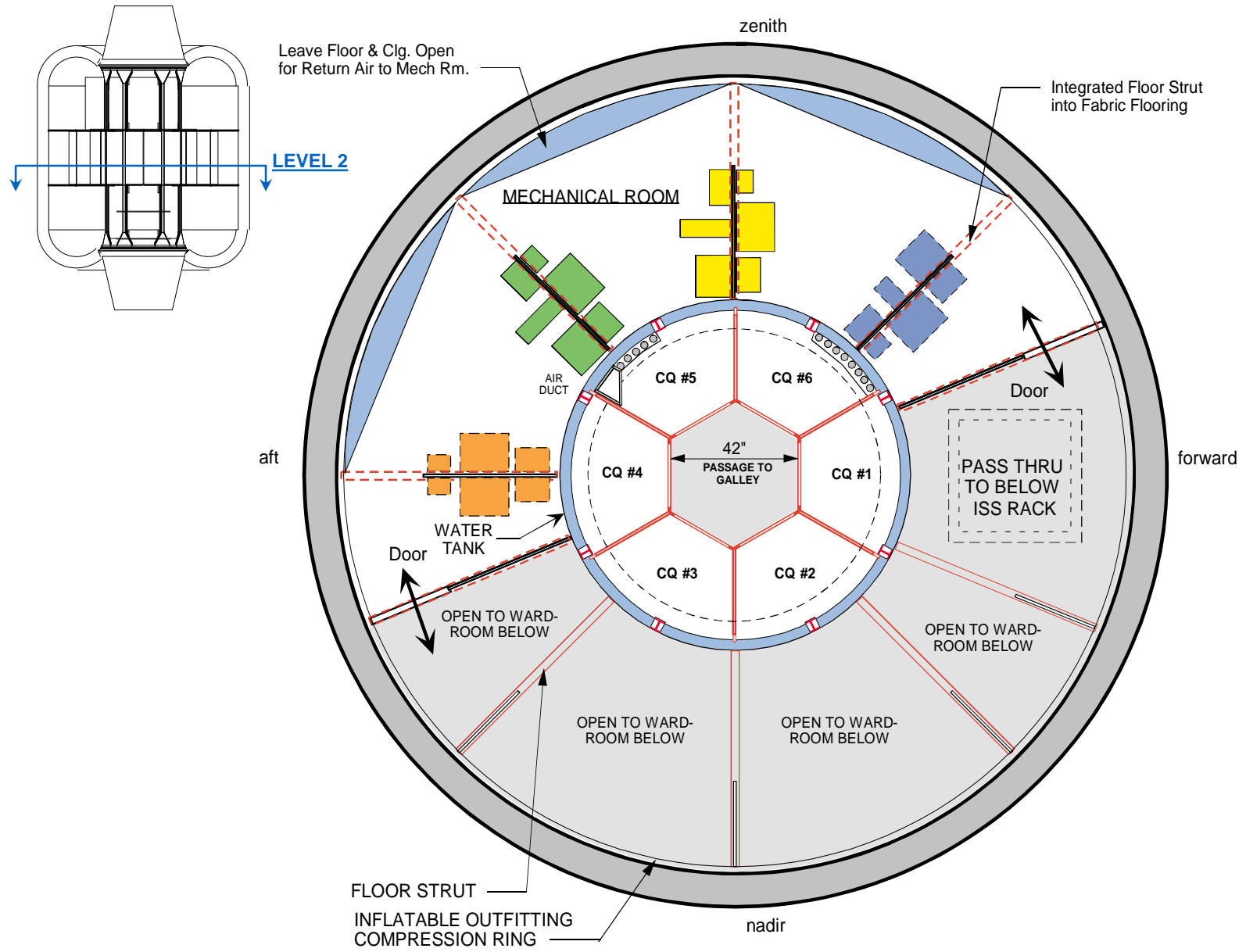


**GALLEY AREA**





# Level 2

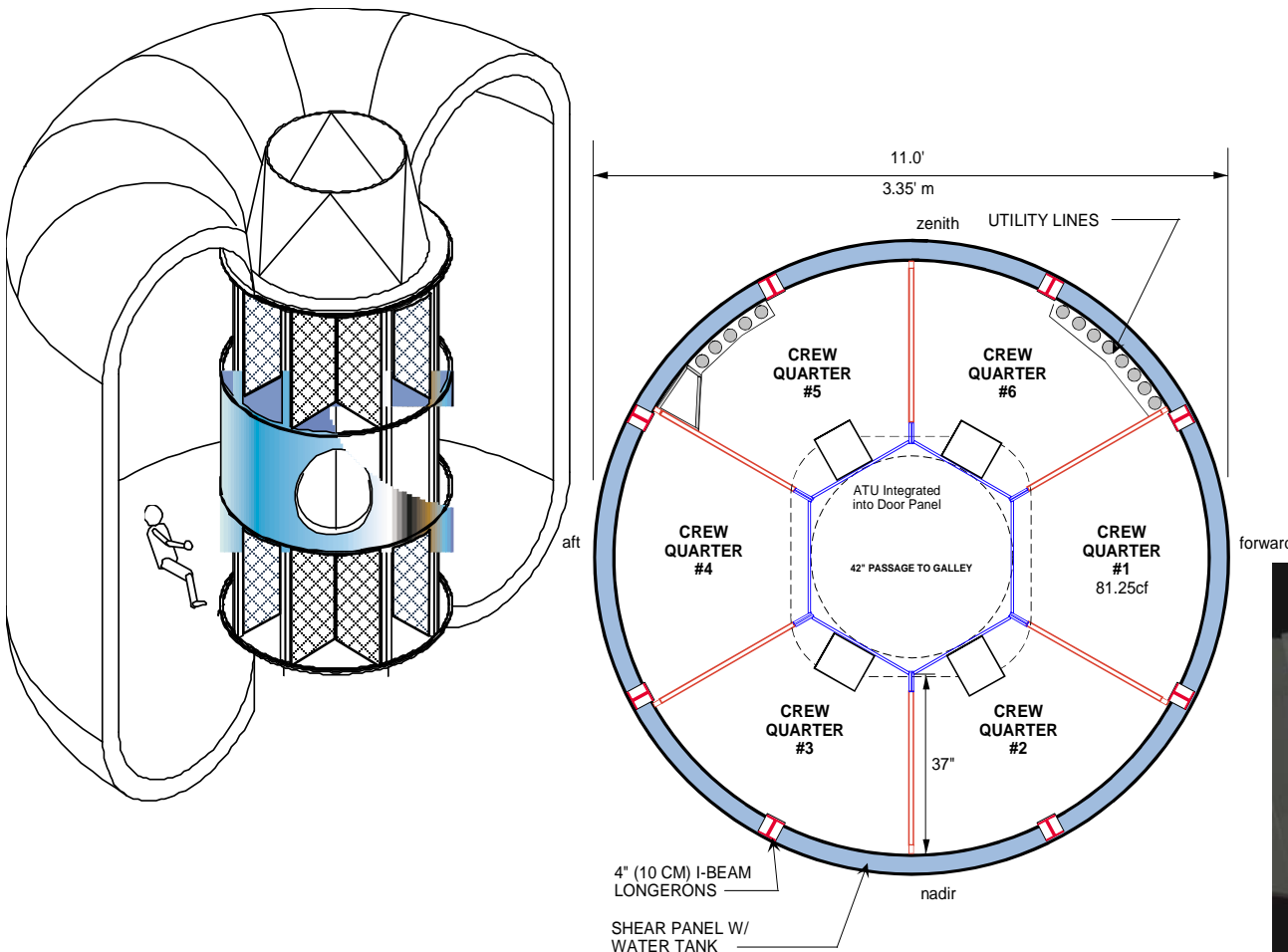




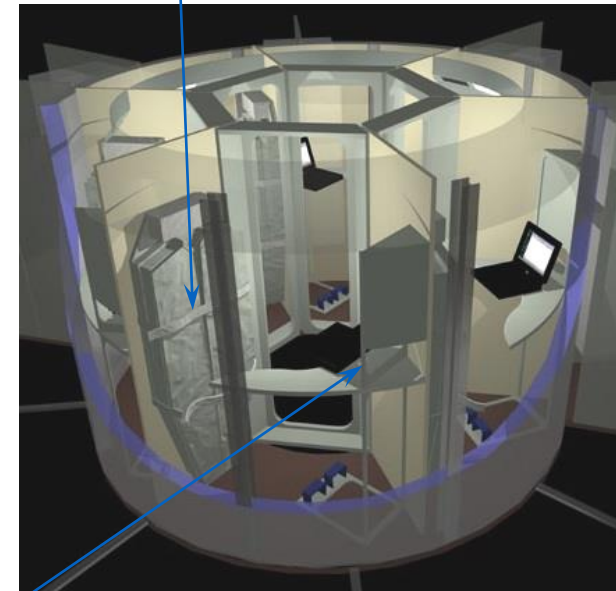
# Private Crew Quarters

**Provides:** (design for 0g)

- 6 Crew Quarters
- **81.25 ft<sup>3</sup> of Volume:**
  - 27% Larger than ISS Rack
  - ISS Rack Crew Quarter = 64 ft<sup>3</sup> +/- (without bump out)
- Private Space
- Quiet Space
- Sleep Area
- Personal Stowage Area
- Radiation Protection



**Sleeping Restraint**



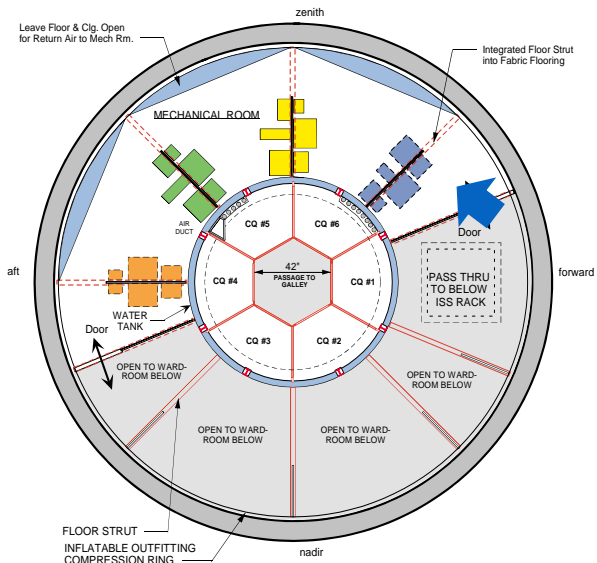
**Typical Crew Quarter**

Crew Personal Unit: Entertainment & Work  
Substation Unit: Light Weight Frame and Fabric That Packages Into a Box.

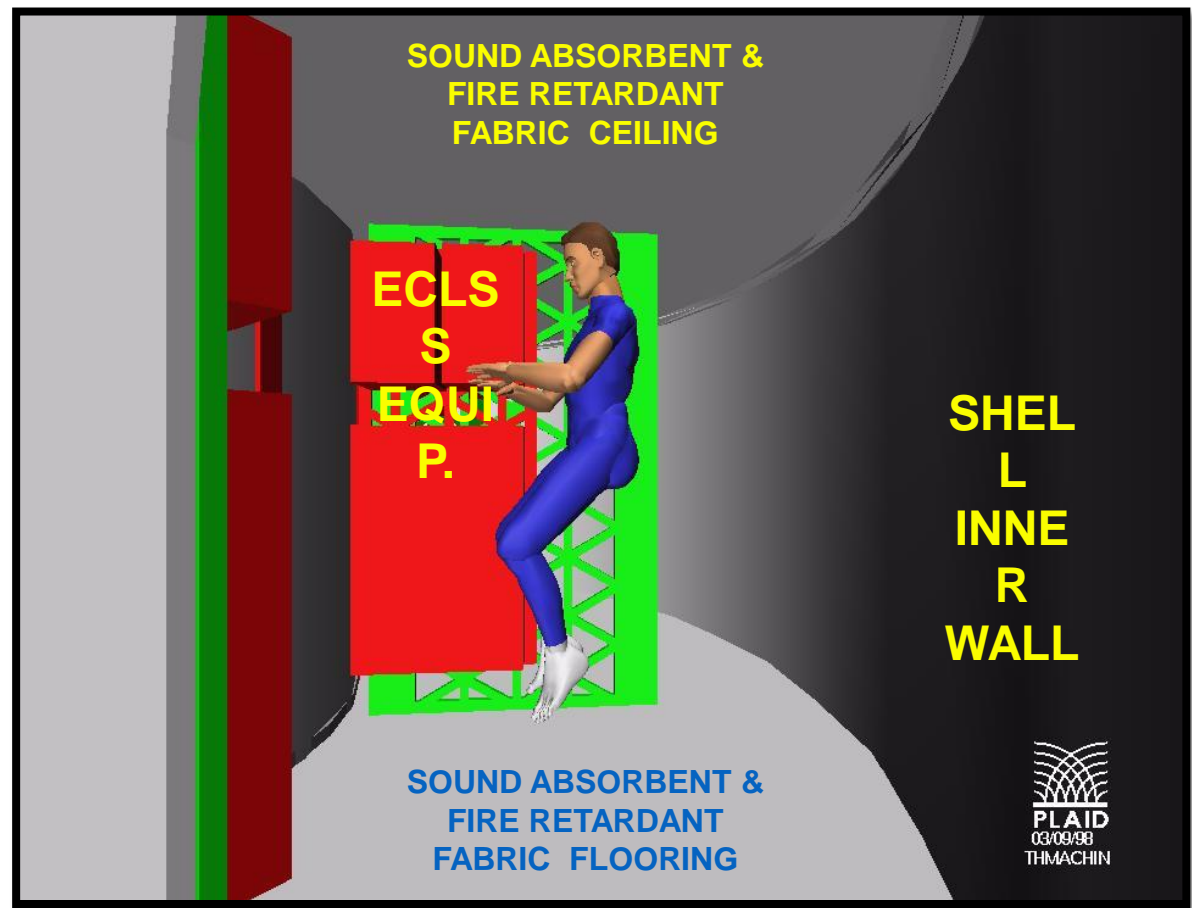




# ECLSS Equipment Area



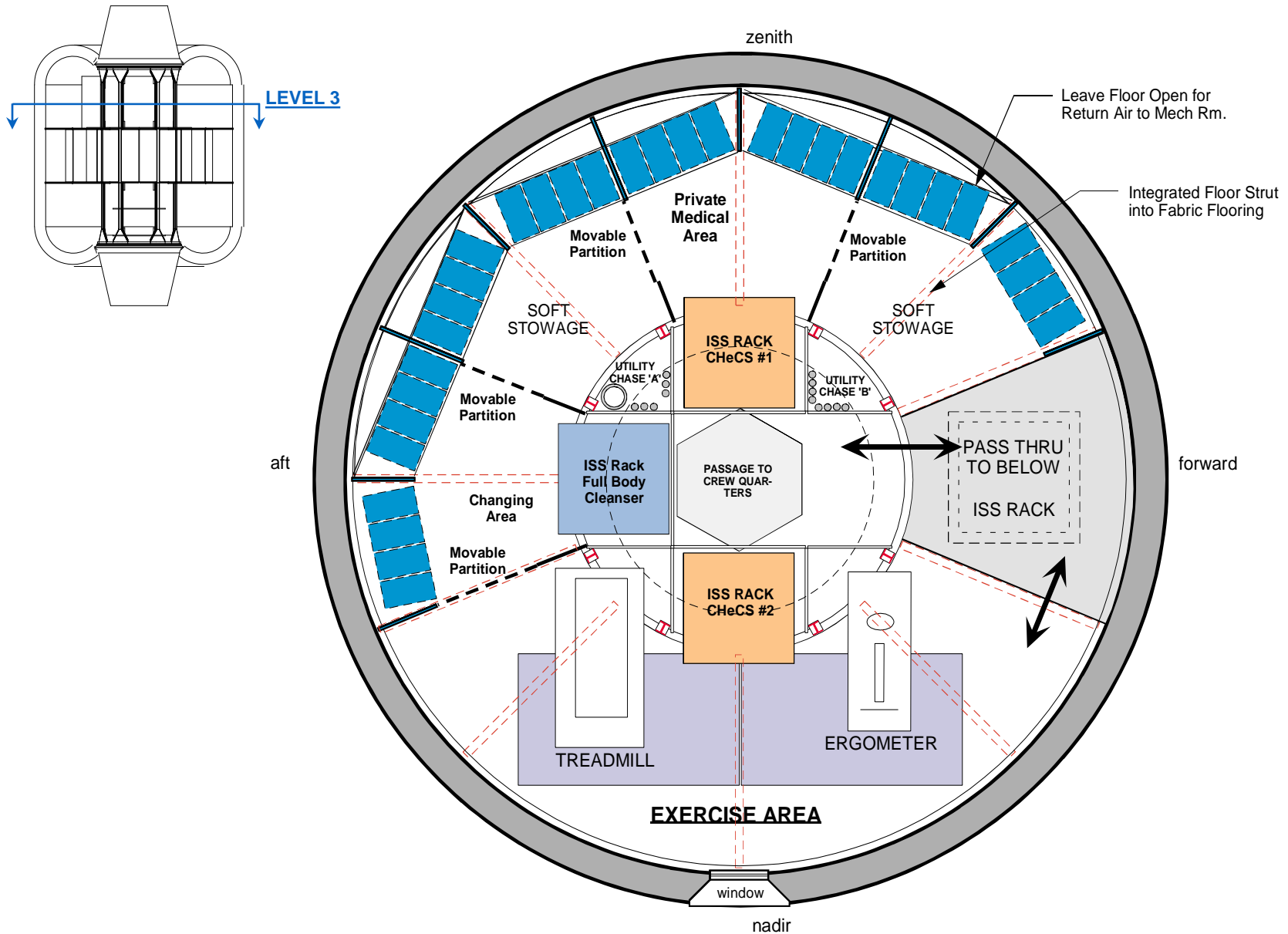
**KEY PLAN**



**MECHANICAL ROOM**



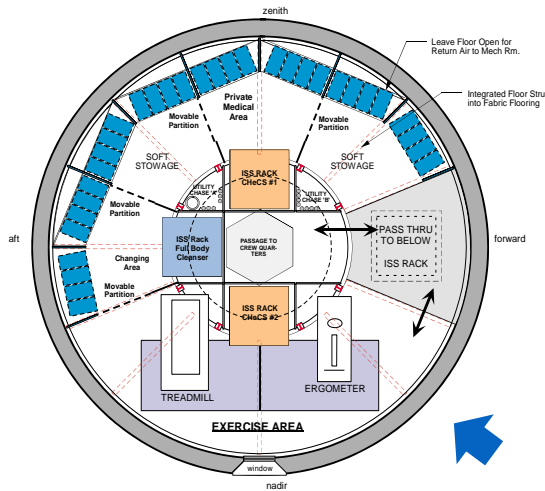
# Level 3



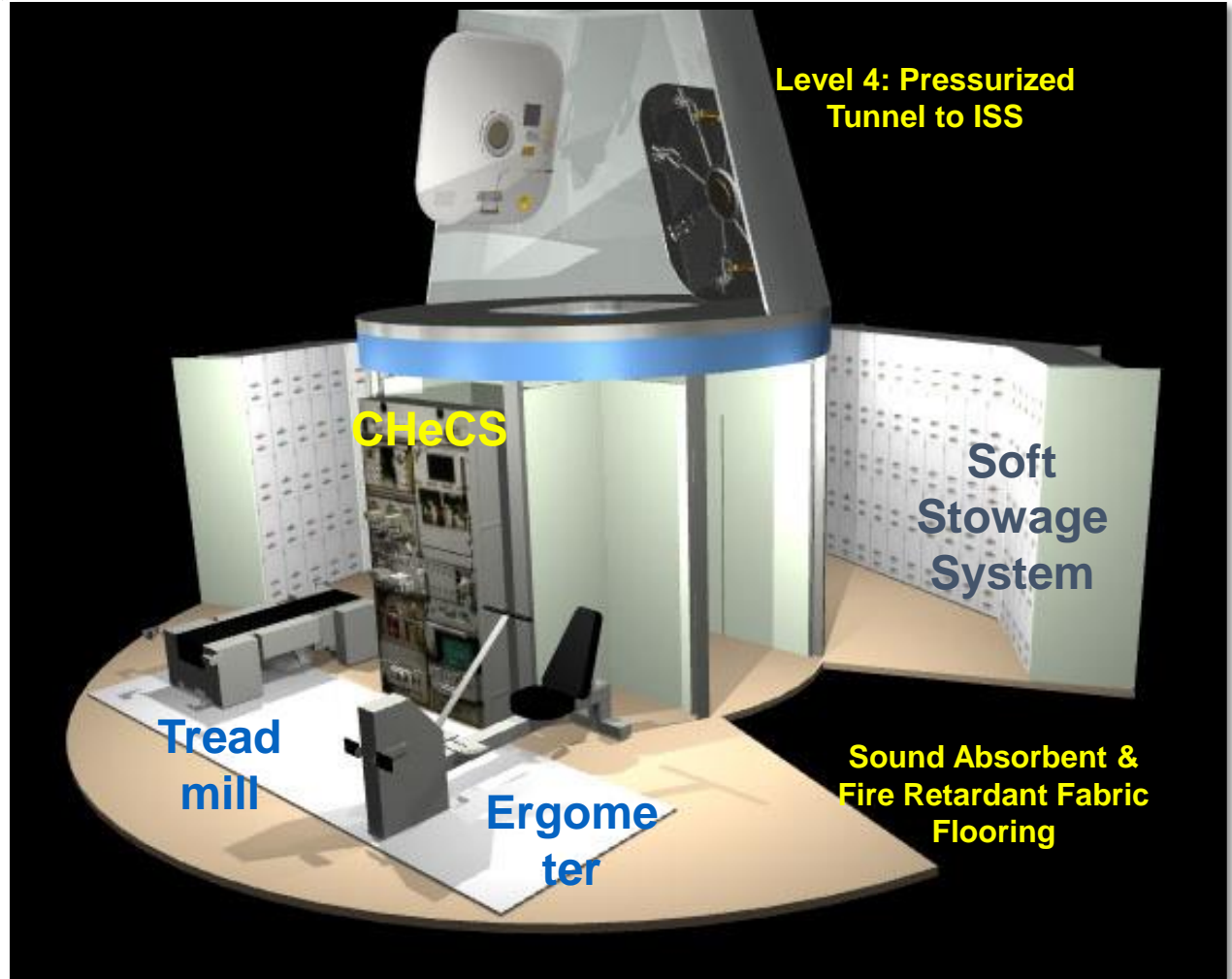




# Crew Health Care Area



**KEY PLAN**



**EXERCISE AREA**