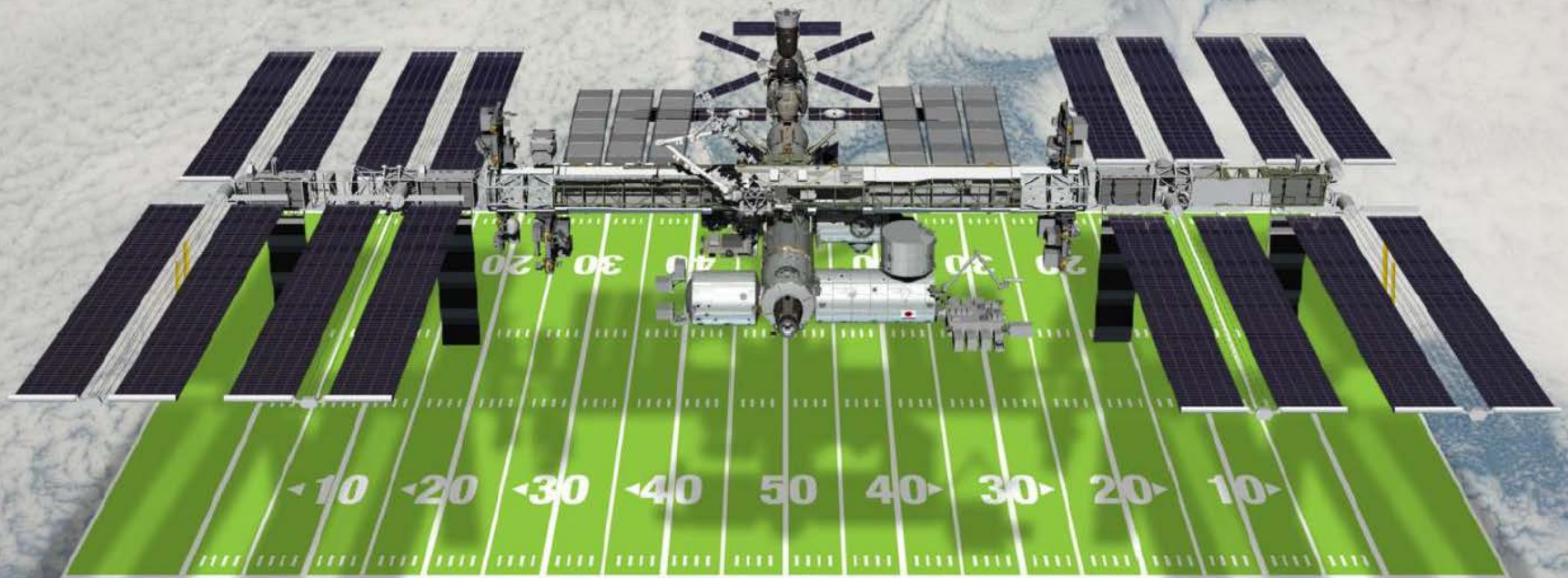


The image shows the International Space Station (ISS) in orbit above Earth. The station is a complex structure with multiple modules, solar panel arrays, and antennas. It is positioned in the upper left quadrant of the frame. The Earth's surface below is a mix of blue oceans, white clouds, and brownish-green landmasses. The curvature of the Earth is visible on the right side of the image.

# **International Space Station Status And a Look Forward From NASA's Perspective**

**Annual Association of Space Explorers Congress  
October 2016  
Joe Acaba, NASA Astronaut**

# International Space Station



**Spacecraft Mass: ~925,000 lb (~419,000 kg)**

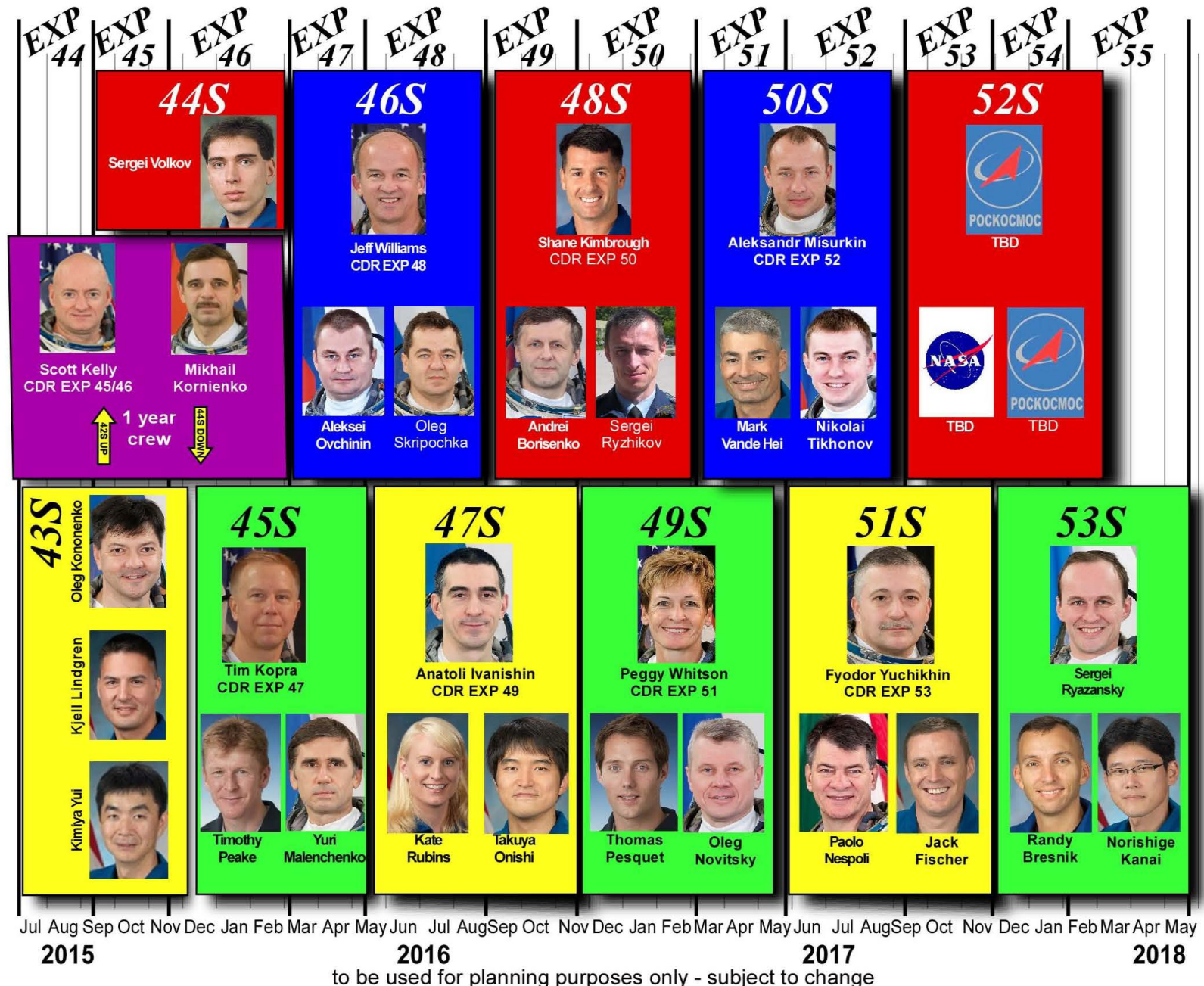
**Spacecraft Pressurized Volume: 32,333 ft<sup>3</sup> (915 m<sup>3</sup>)**

**Altitude: ~260 miles (~415 km)      Inclination: 51.6°**

**Velocity: 17,500 mph (28,200 kph)**

**Science Capability: Laboratories from four international space agencies –  
US, Europe, Japan, and Russia.**

# Proposed ISS Crewmember & Flight Surgeon Assignments as of 9/14/15



to be used for planning purposes only - subject to change



- **Systems Update**
- **Operations and Habitability**
- **Extra Vehicular Activity**
- **Research**
- **Exploration**

# Motion Control System

The biggest update for MCS is the migration of several activities to US control instead of RS control. In the past year we have performed the following activities on US control.

- Progress undock from SM Aft on CMG momentum management (used 0 kg of prop)
- Soyuz undock from MRM-1 and MRM-2 on CMG attitude hold (used less than 1 kg of prop for each undock)
- RS Solar Array Efficiency Test on CMG momentum management (used 0 kg of prop)
- Soyuz thruster test on CMG momentum management (used 0 kg of prop)
- Progress prop purge from SM Aft on CMG momentum management (used 0 kg of prop)
- Progress prop purge from DC-Nadir on CMG attitude hold (used less than 2 kg of prop)

All of these activities used to be done exclusively on RS control. By moving to US control, hundreds of kilograms of prop can be saved per year. With the reduction of Progress flights from 4 per year to 3 per year, this is especially important.

# CRONUS

## Two Major Software Transitions

X2R14 was completed in October 2015 and included updating the software on 14 MDMs, both Ku Comm Units (KCU), as well as all of the PCS.

- included the capability to perform dual berth cargo visiting vehicles
- an update to the flight software to pave the way for USCV from a C&DH perspective.

X2 PMPV R5 was completed in July 2016 and updated the software to 8 different MDMs (namely the Power Management (PM) and Photovoltaic (PV) Control Units).

- The new software in this update included the algorithms that will manage the new Lithium Ion batteries that will be installed during the HTV-6 mission.

## Installation and RF Testing of Common Communications for Visiting Vehicles (C2V2)

C2V2 – the primary communication device between ISS and the USCV – was installed in early 2016. In April of 2016

## Installation of the External High Definition Cameras (EHDC)

- The camera assemblies are completely commercial off the shelf products (Nikon D4s with some controllers and network gear in a pressurized box)
- Aim to provide some higher resolution images of Earth than the current external video cameras and will assist in surveys of ISS.

## Mission Control Center (MCC) Upgrade

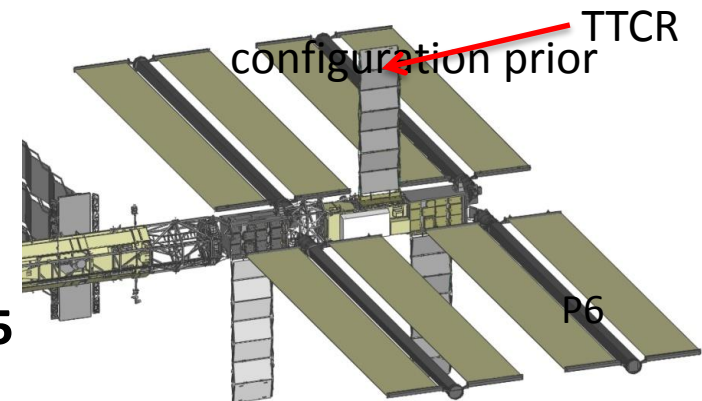
- FOD completed a five-year project to redesign and modernize the MCC for NASA's Human Spaceflight Programs in early 2016.
- The upgrade modernized the telemetry distribution and command systems in the MCC, improving telemetry and analysis tools and providing more flexible access to telemetry to allow greater flexibility to issue resolution teams.
- The MCC has undertaken change of this magnitude several times in the 60 years since the MCC was created to support the Gemini and Apollo missions.
- The original MCC team defined the control center concept and much of the architecture and electronics system was designed, developed, and constructed in-house.
- The Flight Operations Directorate is now able to use the advances in data center technology made throughout the information management industry to use commercially-available command and control tools, reducing the long-term cost of MCC operation.
- The upgraded MCC supports ISS operations today, and is positioned to provide future programs (e.g., NASA's Commercial Crew Partners and Exploration Missions) industry-leading technology to support increasingly flexible and efficient mission execution.

# SPARTAN

## • Trailing Thermal Control Radiator (TTCR)

- US EVA 20 configured PVTCS 2B to flow through EETCS and the TTCR to troubleshoot PVTCS 2B slow leak.
  - Following large leak in May 2013, PVTCS 2B determined to be source of leak.
- As part of the RTOC EVA executed on 11/6/15
  - PVTCS 2B returned to a nominal PVTCS configuration
  - TTCR Retraction was performed, but crew were unable to cinch in place due to EVA contingency.
  - TTCR was redeployed into a safe

– **TTCR successfully retracted on GMT 2016/245**





In addition, SPARTAN is supporting the program in the long term assessment of power availability for ISS.

With the addition of modules, higher traffic of visiting vehicles, new crewed vehicles and payloads, power will be one of the most challenging issues we will face.

Solar Arrays are not getting any younger which means that we will have to look at options to minimize impacts to ISS utilization. Things that we are looking at:

- Better understanding of current and upcoming system loads, power requirements (tied to the RISE effort above).

- Re-distributing loads at the MBSU level. Basically re-wiring the MBSU to better balance loads across all channels.

- Taking more advantage of higher load capacity of parallel DDCU sets.

# New Operations

- Lithium-Ion Batteries launching on HTV-6
  - Ni-Hydrogen batteries are aging
  - Lithium Ion although not expected to increase power capacity of ISS, better performance should alleviate load management in the long term
  - Two EVAs required with the help of robotics, and up to 6 EVAs if robotic operations are unsuccessful
  - 16 days of operations starting the day before HTV Capture for the nominal plan
    - SPCH for each Channel
    - Discharging 3 Battery sets per channel
    - ROBO Operations per channel
    - One EVA per channel

# ECLSS: CO2

## Resources:

- 2 CDRA's
- Vozdukh
- Amine Swingbed
- 20 US LiOH Cans

## Goal:

- 1 CDRA+ Vozdukh (Mode 1-3) = 3.1 – 3.6 mmHg
- Can get to 2.2 – 2.6 mmHg
  - Higher CDRA fan speeds, higher Vozdukh mode, Amine Swingbed

# Carbon Dioxide (CO2)

## New CO2 Management Strategy:

Integrated Ops: Both USOS and Russian Segments

Ground will plan to manage the USOS 24-Hr average PPCO2 at **3.0** mm Hg or below with nominal CO2 scrubbing configuration.

Nominal CO2 scrubbing configuration: Vozdukh in Mode 4, Lab IMV bypass duct installed, 1 CDRA configured for Max efficiency.

## Split Atmosphere Ops:

If degraded performance is noticed.

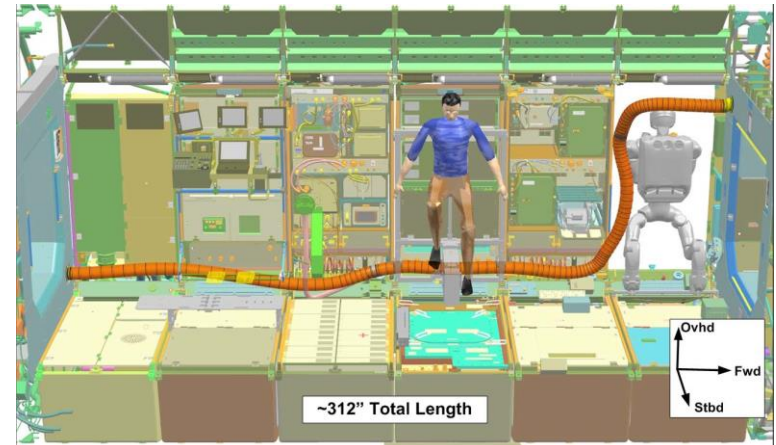
For performing diagnostics on the root cause of the increase of CO2.

## CO2 Symptom Scale:

Terrestrial normal: 0.4 +/- 0.3 mmHg

ISS:

2.0 crew notices the difference  
>3.0 crew definitely notices, "micro-fatigue", sleep is affected, performance is degraded



## Future Work

### **Need to develop more robust and capable hardware to maintain CO2 at low levels:**

Redesigning Valves to minimize breakdowns.

Increase flow rate

New Sorbent Beds

### **Innovative operational solutions**

Personal CO2 Monitors

Exploration Tech Demos: Full scale demo on ISS in 2021/2022 (4 crew at 2 mmHg); early demo early 2018.

ESA Life Support Rack (HTV-7)

# Operations, and Habitability



# Galley Rack Outfitting Timeline

Updated: August 2016

## COMPLETED:

- ❖ Sep 2015: Remove NOD1P4 ZSR, install Galley Rack [HVT-5].
  - 4 Stowage Lockers, 2 Stowage Volumes.
- ❖ Oct 2015: Install N1, Lab Mod Kits.
- ❖ Apr 2016: New HUNCH Galley Table [OA-6].

## REMAINING:

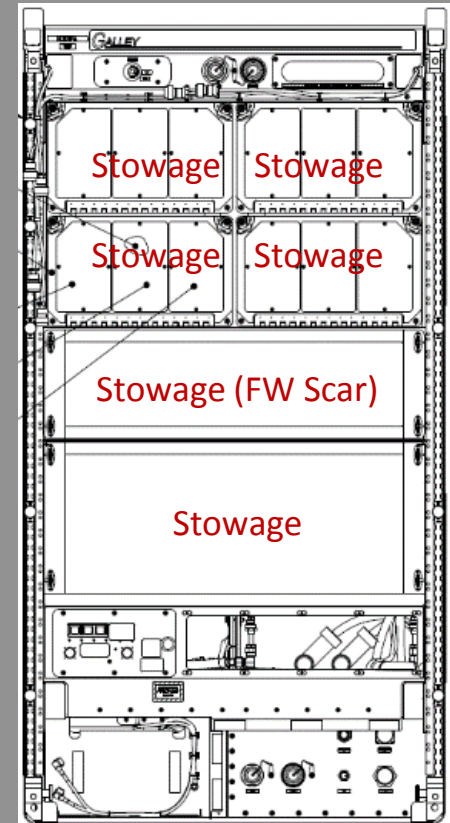
- ❖ To be scheduled: Install N2 120-VDC power cable.
- ❖ To be scheduled: Install N1 Galley Mod Kit:
  - MDM data, MTL, Potable Water, UOP Pwr.
- Dec 2016: Galley Control Panel, Power Supply [HTV-6].
  - Install existing Food Warmer, Ethernet Switch.
  - Swap 4 Stowage Lockers with existing MERLINS, PWD from Lab.

## RESULT:

- Outfitting complete: Dec 2016

## OTHER UPGRADES:

- ❖ New Galley Food Warmers: Jan 2017 [OA-7], Feb 2017 [SpX-11]

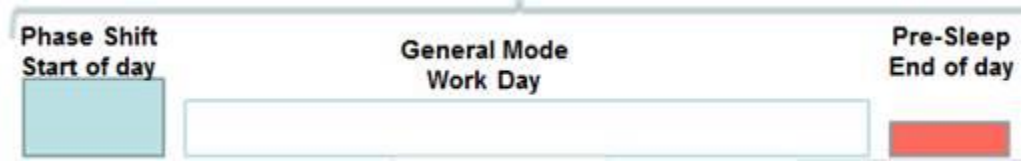


# Lighting

- The SSLA project is a result of the ISS Vehicle Office's effort to replace the existing GLA Station lighting system. Currently ISS is outfitted with 85 Possible GLA locations. The inventory of GLA spares will expire by the last quarter of 2017. The first set of SSLAs will arrive on ISS in 2016.



- The Crew Quarters and Node 2 will be outfitted first then the remainder of Station will be replaced by attrition as they fail.





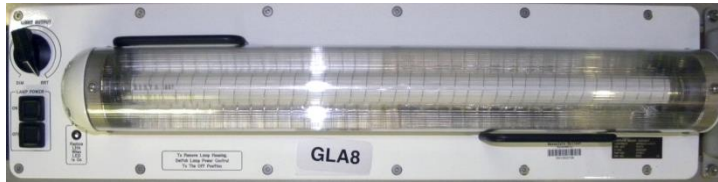
# Pioneering LED Research

- The Solid-State Lighting Module (SSLM), is a Station Development Test Objective (SDTO) sponsored by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to demonstrate the advantages of Light-Emitting Diode (LED) lighting systems within the spacecraft environment.

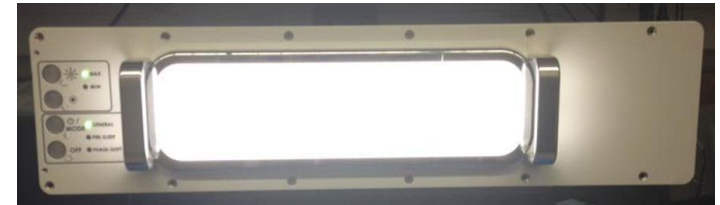


# Operational Differences

GLA



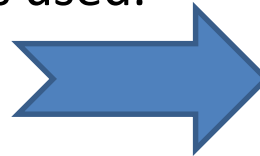
SSLA



Dimming Control	Knob/Dial	Touch Sensitive Up/Down Buttons (Duration of touch affect intensity)
Unit On/Off Control	Pushbutton Switch (Separate on/off function)	Touch Sensitive Multi-Mode Buttons (No physical detent, Touch "on," Touch "off")
Color of Light	4000 Kelvin Corrected Color Temperature	6500, 4500, & 2700 Kelvin Corrected Color Temperatures
Spectrum of Light	Classic Fluorescent Spectrum	Broad Spectrum with peaks in the blue, green, and red visible wavelength region
System On/Off Control	SRCA on/off will switch system of lights on/off	SRCA on/off will switch system of lights through different color temperature modes
Indicators	The GLA lamp is the indication the system is working.	One indicator for "Max Bright" and three indicators for the different color modes

# Stowage on ISS

- Currently, ISS stowage is divided between all the different IPs.
  - There are share consumables and office supplies but most hardware is stowed within each partner's module.
- Stowage space on ISS is calculated by “Cargo Transfer Bag Equivalent”, based on the size of the bags used.
  - 1 CTBE = 10” x 17” x 10”
  - 1.86 ft<sup>3</sup>
  - 0.05 m<sup>3</sup>
- ISS has ~2350 CTBE – equivalent to a normal 2 car garage, packed floor to ceiling.
  - NASA has ~1700 CTBE but is losing 262 CTBE in the coming years



# Stowage on ISS

- Several new racks are being launched for new science experiments and new systems racks, which will replace stowage racks. All IPs will need to reduce their hardware onboard to reduce stowage levels.
  - In the future, we may need to share stowage locations for hardware that all IPs share.
    - Ex: Hardware for the Waste Hygiene Rack (ie. toilet)
  - Russian has been borrowing most of the stowage space in the FGB from NASA until MLM launches. NASA may need to reclaim that space.
  - New US commercial crew vehicles will be using vehicle ports that had been used as a secondary purpose for stowage.

# PMM (NASA Stowage Module)



# NOD2 Vehicle Hatch Ports



Vehicle ports were being used as stowage locations when US crew vehicles were not using them. Once US commercial crew vehicles start flying, these areas will have to be clear of stowage.

# Exercise

- During USCV handovers, will be 7 USOS crew on board
  - How to schedule all Resistive Exercise (RE)? (1.5 hours x 6 days x per crewmember)
  - How to accommodate Russian crew with RE.
    - Current Russian RE sessions on ARED are per ISS Program agreement and not ground prescribed.
- 7 RE sessions x 1.5 hrs/session = **10.5 hrs**
  - Equivalent to typical length of crew day
  - More RE sessions = less timeline flexibility
  - **Creates unavoidable conflicts with rules regarding timing of exercise & meals**
    - 6 hr btw meals
    - 1 hr btw Postsleep and Exercise; 1:15 btw Midday Meal and Exercise
- Mitigations
  - Shorten RE session duration (exercise requirements discussions ongoing)
  - Allow RE workout overlap (discussions ongoing) - 30 mins currently allowed, but not practiced
  - One less crewmember gets RE for a day (last resort)
  - Fly additional RE hardware to ISS. (This has additional challenges: location, Isolation, etc)

		Tue 8/11 (223)																	
GMT		05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
US/Central		00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
ISS CDR			POSTSLEEP	MC	D	EXERCISE-AF				MIDDAY					EVE	D	EVE	PRESLEEP	SLEEP-ISS
FE-1			POSTSLEEP	MC	D		EXERCISE-AF			MIDDAY					EVE	D	EVE	PRESLEEP	SLEEP-ISS
FE-2			POSTSLEEP	MC	D			EXERCISE-AF		MIDDAY					EVE	D	EVE	PRESLEEP	SLEEP-ISS
FE-3			POSTSLEEP	MC	D					EXERCISE-AF	MIDDAY				EVE	D	EVE	PRESLEEP	SLEEP-ISS
FE-4			POSTSLEEP	MC	D					MIDDAY		EXERCISE-AF			EVE	D	EVE	PRESLEEP	SLEEP-ISS
FE-5			POSTSLEEP	MC	D					MIDDAY			EXERCISE-AF		EVE	D	EVE	PRESLEEP	SLEEP-ISS
FE-6			POSTSLEEP	MC	D					MIDDAY					EXERCISE-AF	D	EVE	PRESLEEP	SLEEP-ISS

**Potential Option: 15 min overlap on one side only - 7 REs/day**



# Extra Vehicular Activity



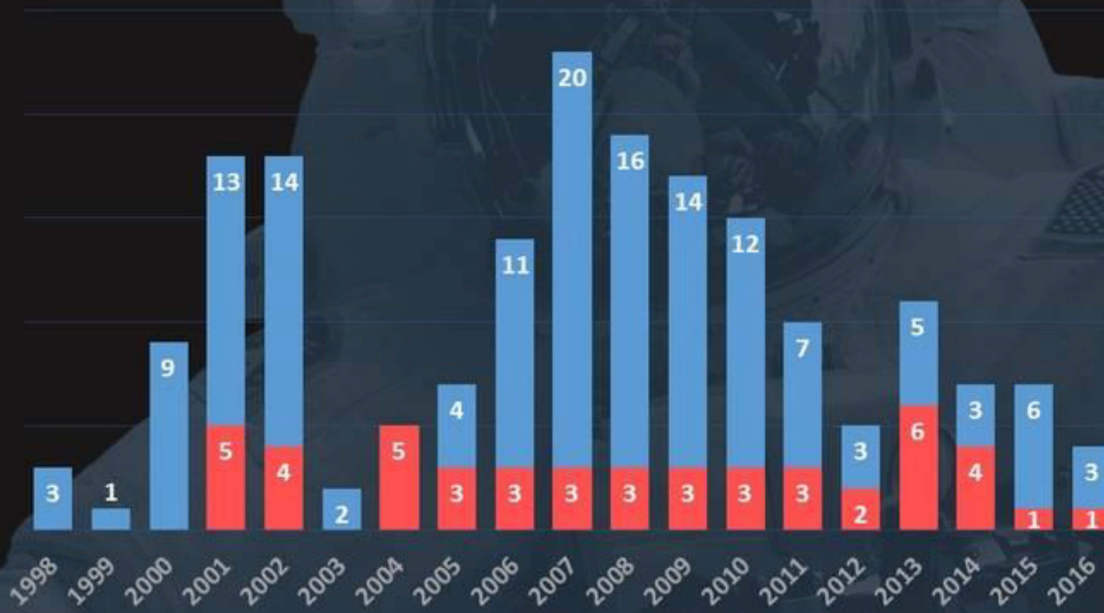
# 195 Spacewalks at the International Space Station



146  
Spacewalks in  
U.S. Spacesuits

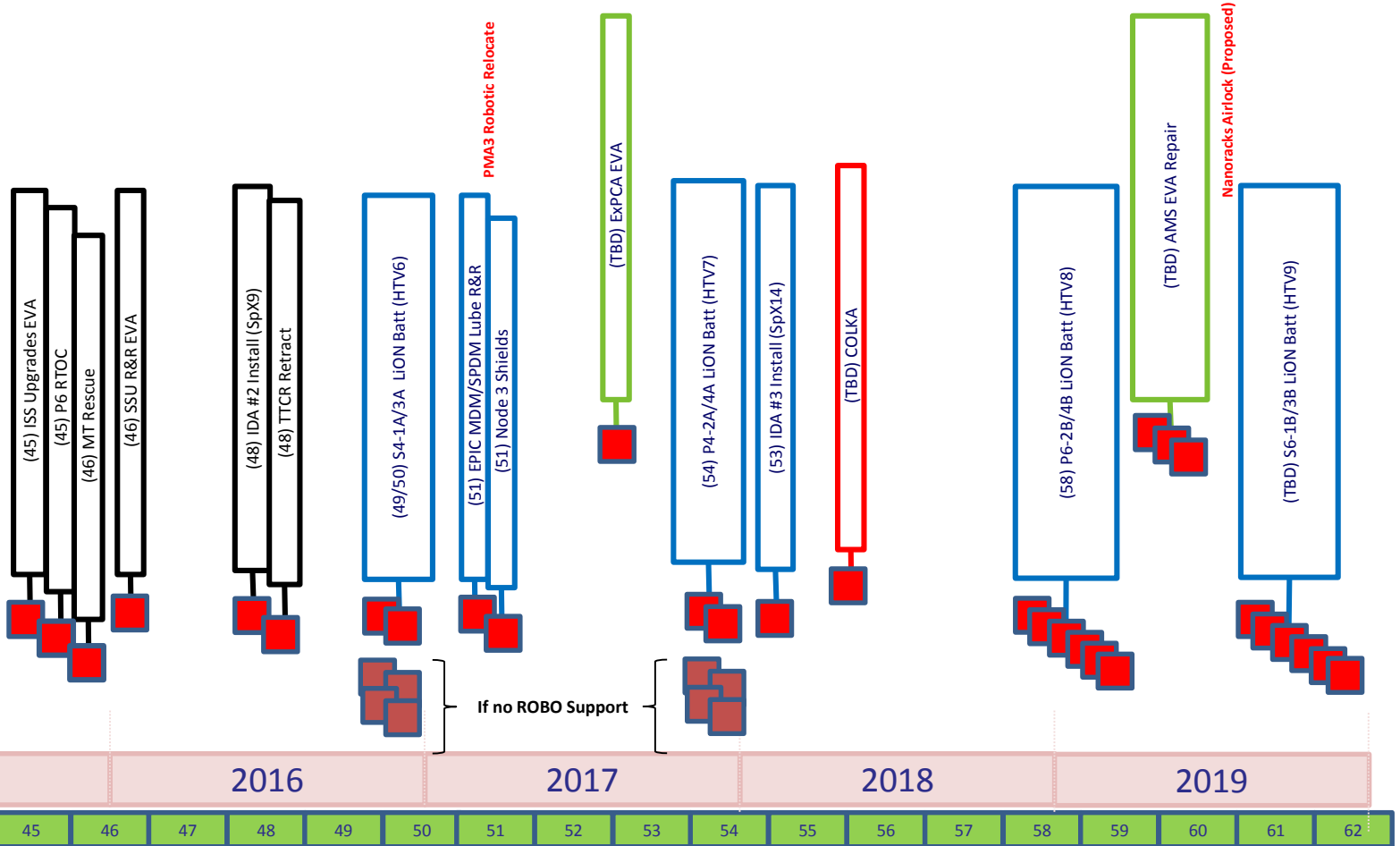


49 Spacewalks  
In Russian  
Spacesuits



# EVA Long Range Plan

Updated (09/07/16)



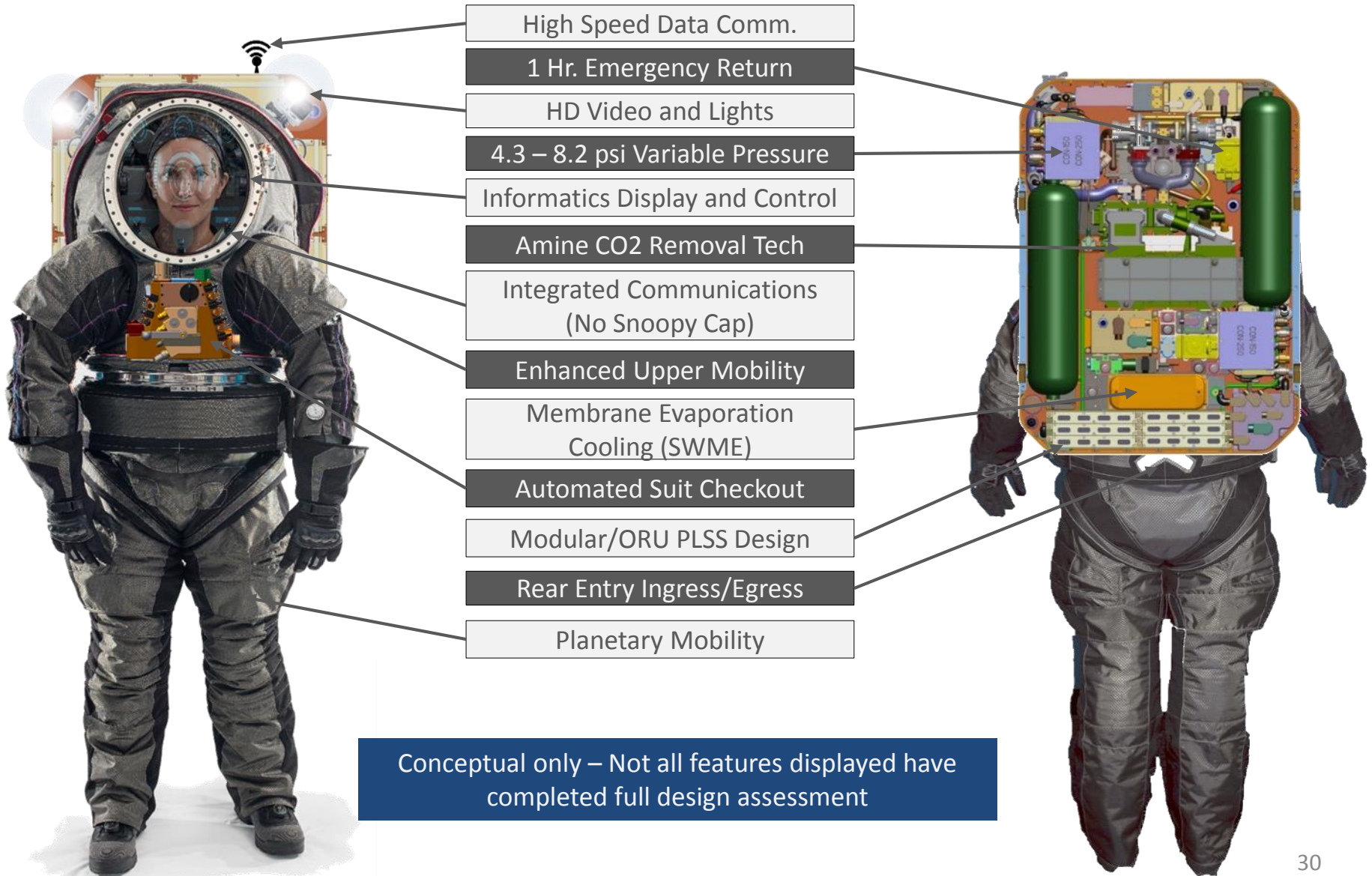


# EVA Suit Technology Development

# Development Objectives

- To mature technologies and capabilities that will enable future EVA exploration systems for any of the proposed design reference missions
  - Incorporating lessons learned from 30+ years of EMU operations
  - Designing for the different environments of the potential destinations
  - Developing hardware that enables scientific exploration and supports the operational concepts of the potential destinations
- To produce real cost, performance, and reliability data through building and testing high-fidelity systems
- To systematically develop EVA technologies and systems to assist in closing gaps for an integrated humans to Mars mission in the 2030s

# NASA Exploration EMU Reference Architecture



# Portable Life Support System Technology Development

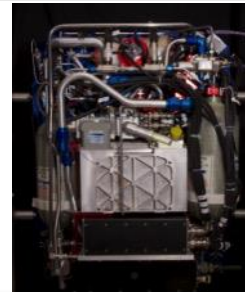
**COMPLETE** ✓

**PLSS 1.0  
(Breadboard)**



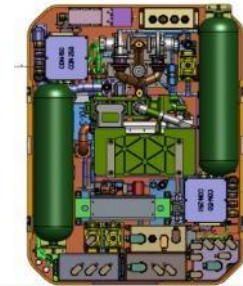
**COMPLETE** ✓

**PLSS 2.0  
(Packaged GN2)**



**FY16/17/18**

**PLSS 2.5 (xPLSS)  
(Flight prototype)**



**Purpose:**

- Schematic validation with models
- Component pneumo-hydraulic integration

- Packaged lab unit
- System level performance

- Flight design without paperwork (GN2/Air only)
- Integrated system performance

**Hardware:**

- Prototype: RCA, Fan, SWME, POR, SOR
- Balance COTS/Instruments

- 2<sup>nd</sup> gen prototypes: RCA, SWME, POR, SOR
- 1<sup>st</sup> gen prototypes: remainder

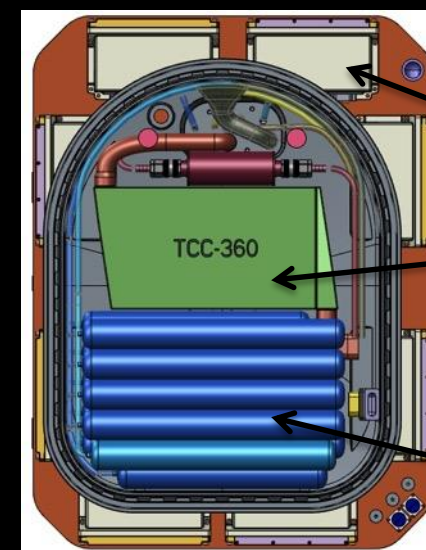
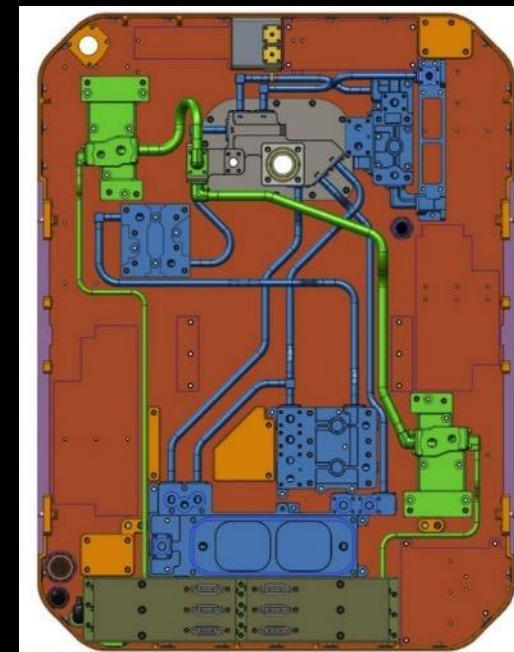
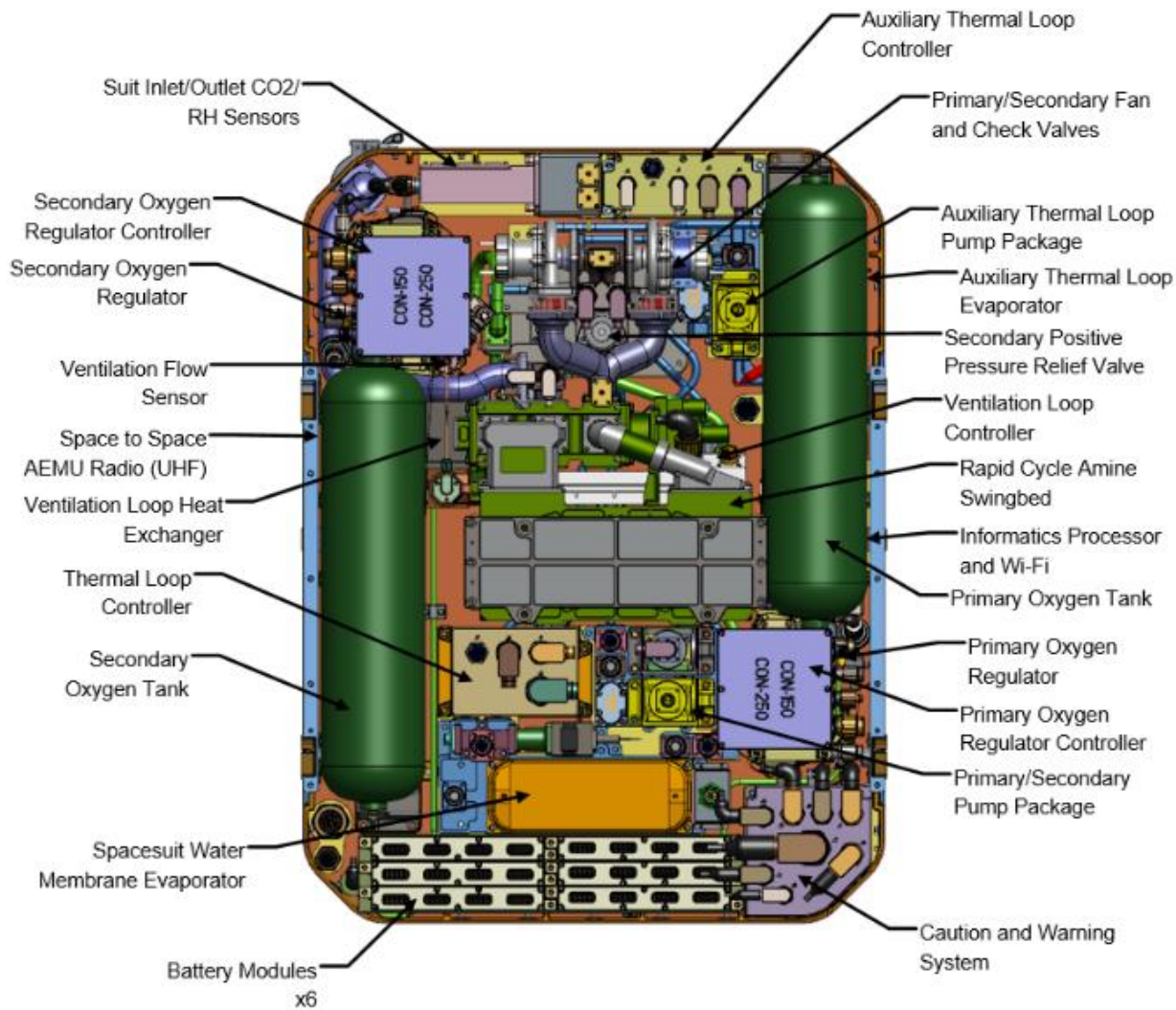
- 3<sup>rd</sup> gen prototypes; RCA, SWME, POR, SOR
- 2<sup>nd</sup> gen prototypes: remainder

**Testing:**

- 8 simulated EVA transient profiles
- 397 hrs of full PLSS operation
- 595 hrs of SWME/thermal loop operation

- Pre-Installation Acceptance (PIA) test against system spec
- 19 psia air human-in-the-loop testing with the Mark III spacesuit (2hr EVAs)
- 25 EVAs, failure simulations, integration tests at vacuum

- PIA test against system spec
- 100 unmanned EVAs in vacuum
- Unmanned thermal vacuum testing
- Pressurized launch vibe testing
- EMI Testing
- Static Magnetics Testing





# Pressure Garment Technology Development

2005

CxP

2010

ETDD/ETDP

2012

AES/GCD

2016

MK III 1992



WEI 1998



REI 2006



- Exploration mission tradestudy support via timeline analysis and end-to-end analog testing with pressurized suits, robotic assistants, and mid-fidelity vehicles/habitats
- Exploration pressure garment requirements development
  - Suit fit and strength analysis
  - Extensive multi-suit mobility studies
  - Suited joint torque
  - Dust/dirt protection and mitigation
  - Suit mass and center of gravity

Z-1 2011



- Mobility demonstrator
- First prototype compatible with delta pressure suitport don/doff evaluations
- Optimized for larger crew population

Z-2 2016



- Highest fidelity planetary prototype since Apollo
- Rated for 100% oxygen environments
- Certified for testing in the NBL
- Optimized for smaller crew population

# Z-2 Design Features

Hybrid Composite Hatch  
(Carbon/S-Glass/AL)



Integrated Comm. Systems

Ti Waist Bearing  
w/1.75" Integral  
Sizing Ring

Composite Brief

2 Bearing Toroidal  
Convolute Soft Hip

Ankle Bearing

Gen 2 Adjustable  
Walking Boot

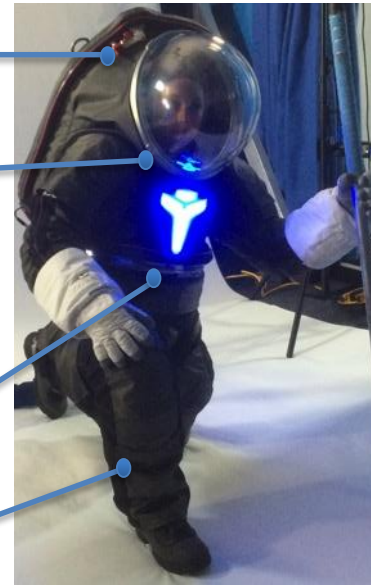
Removable SIP  
(not shown)

13x11 Elliptical  
Hemispherical  
Helmet

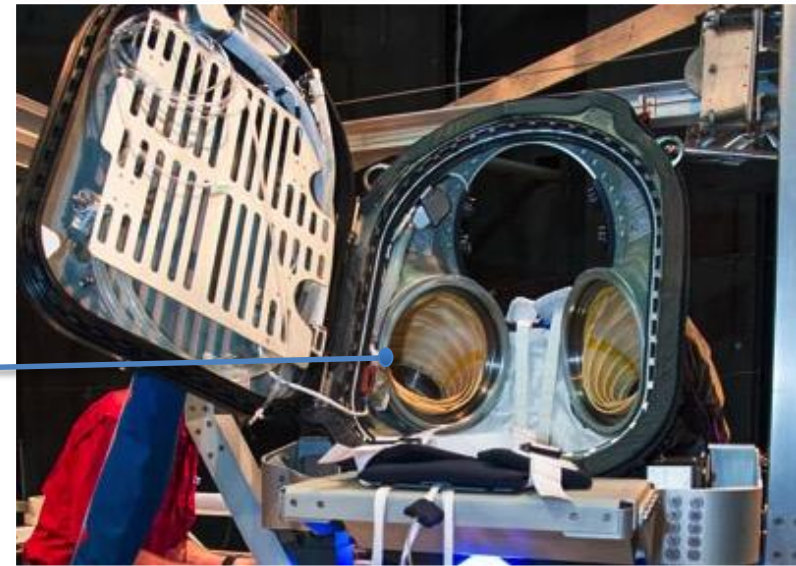
2 Bearing  
Rolling Convolute  
Shoulder

RC Waist Joint

EMU Style  
Acme  
Thread FAR



Composite HUT  
(Carbon/S-Glass)  
(1" Vernier Sizing)



# Energy Mobility Testing

- Goal: Evaluate suited mobility at the system level by measuring metabolic cost of functional tasks in different space suits
  - Alternative to traditional approach to defining mobility
- Approach: Performed testing with 6 subjects and 3 suits (Mark III, REI, Demonstrator) and measured rate of CO<sub>2</sub> production
- Results: Statistically relevant differences between similar suit architectures performing functional tasks exist
  - Method shows great promise to be robust and reliable, but needs continued refinement



Walking  
Full body

Side Step

Stair Climbing

Upper body

# Research





# ISS Research Highlights



National Aeronautics and Space Administration



## Five major Earth benefits themes



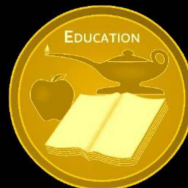
Human Health



Earth Observation and  
Disaster Response



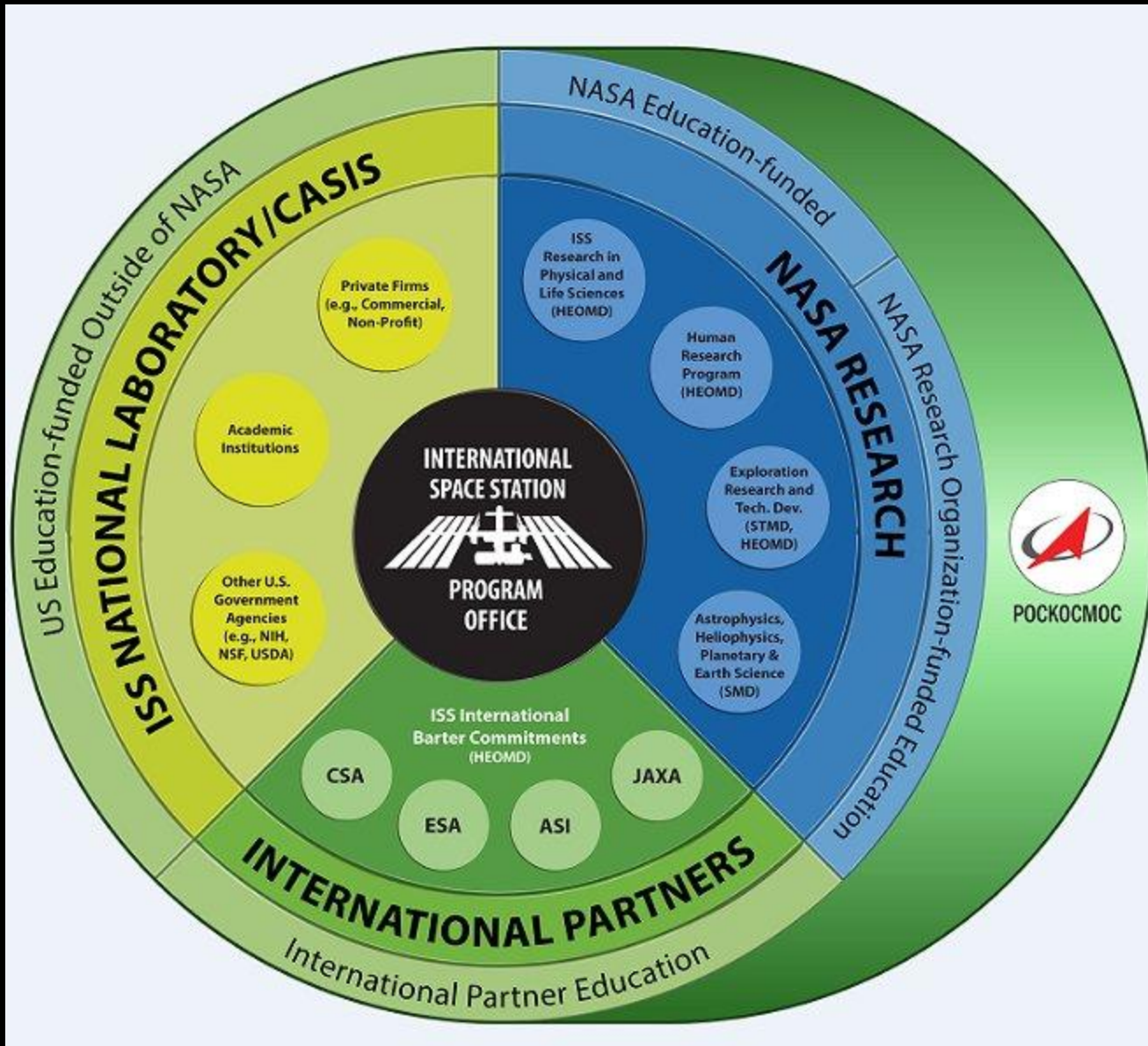
Innovative Technology



Global Education



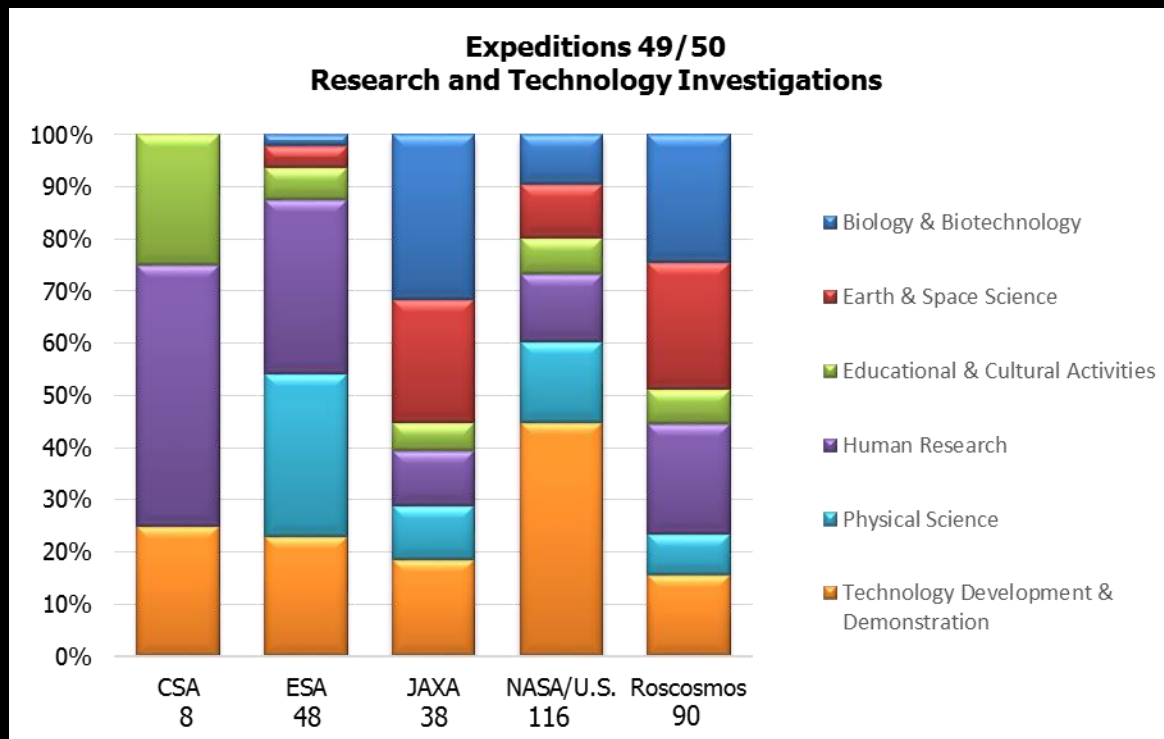
Economic Development  
of Space



# ISS Research Statistics

## Number of Investigations for 49/50: 300

- 116 NASA/U.S.-led investigations
  - 56 NASA/U.S.
  - 6 Roscosmos (Preliminary Data)
- 184 International-led investigations
  - 2 CSA
  - 11 ESA
  - 9 JAXA
- 84 New investigations
  - Over 800 Investigators represented
  - Over 1300 scientific results publications (Exp 0 – present)



**Estimated Number of Investigations Expedition 0-50: 2275\***

*Working data as of July 31, 2016*

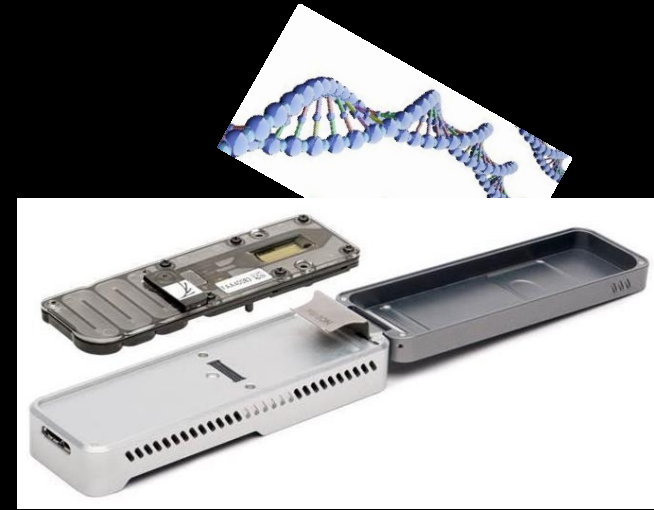
*\*Pending Post Increment Adjustments*



# Featured Investigations: Technology Development and Demonstration

## Biomolecule Sequencer

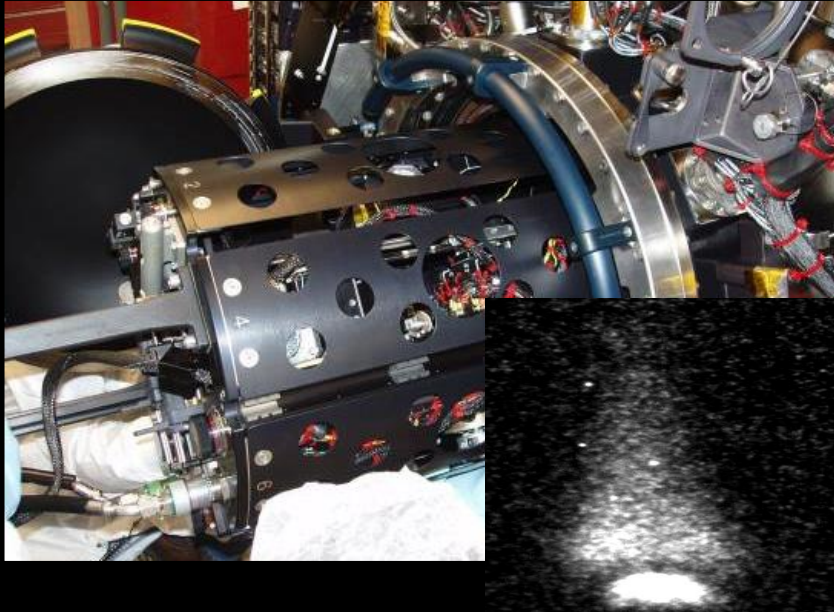
- The Biomolecule Sequencer investigation seeks to demonstrate, for the first time, that DNA sequencing is feasible in an orbiting spacecraft. A space-based DNA sequencer could identify microbes, diagnose diseases and understand crew member health, and potentially help detect DNA-based life elsewhere in the solar system.
- Biomolecule Sequencer runs started August 26<sup>th</sup> with Kate Rubins performing the first activation.
- Upcoming NASA Sciencecast will focus on why we are testing the capability in space.



# Biomolecule Sequencer Live Demo

# Featured ISS Investigation:

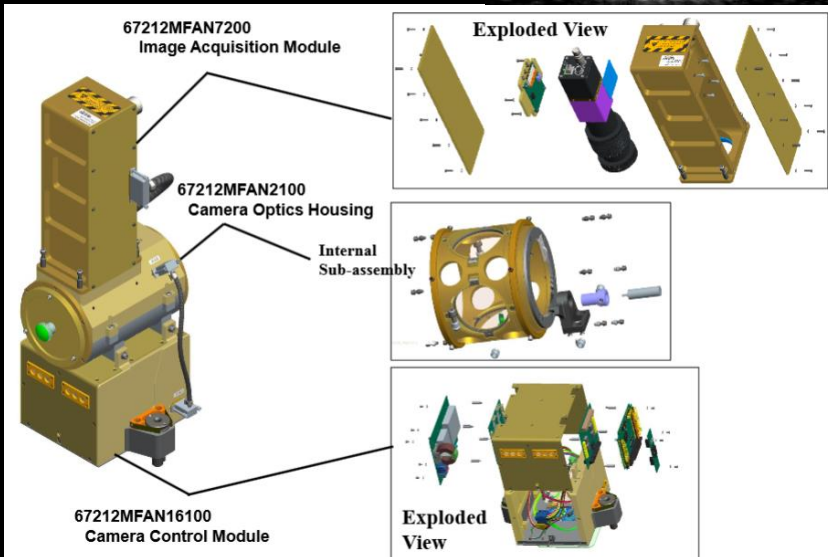
## Combustion Research: Cool Flames Investigation



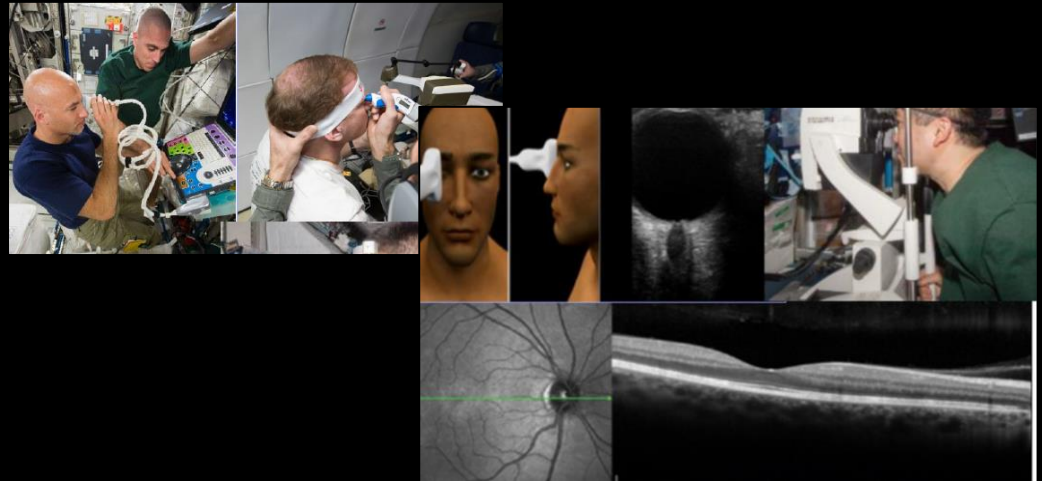
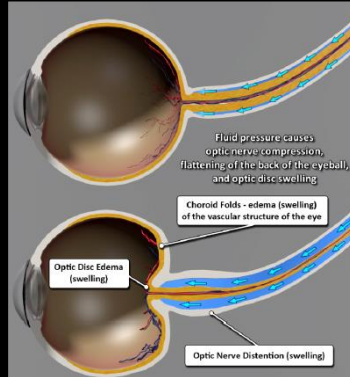
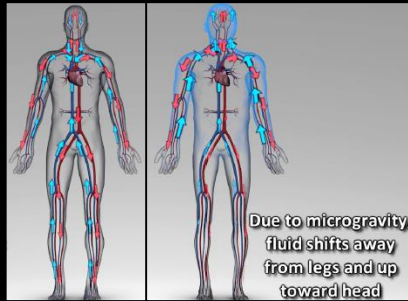
Multi-user Droplet Combustion Apparatus (MDCA) is being upgraded to support the award winning CFI experiment.

Upgraded hardware includes:

- A new MDCA radiometer array that automatically adjusts signal gain based on flame intensity
- New CIR camera with integrated light intensifier and rotating filter barrel
- New gigabit Ethernet enabled Image Processing and Storage Unit.
- The new hardware will be launched on OA-5 in Fall 2016, and is expected to be integrated into the CIR by the end of the calendar year.



# Relation of the CCFP to the Fluid Shifts Experiment



## Transmission of Intracranial Pressure to the Ear

CCFP = Cerebral and Cochlear Fluid Pressure

TMD = Tympanic Membrane Displacement



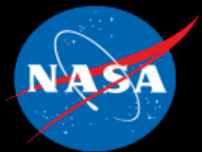
Outer Ear ← middle ear ← inner ear ← Intracranial pressure

University Hospital Southampton NHS





# ISS Research Resources (public)



ISS Research & Technology  
<http://www.nasa.gov/iss-science/>



@ISS\_Research



ISS Research Blog "A Lab Aloft"  
<http://go.usa.gov/atI>



ISS Research Explorer App  
(Apple App Store and Google Play)

**ISS Benefits for Humanity**

15 Ways the International Space Station is Benefiting Earth

INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION  
Benefits for Humanity

ISS Benefits For Humanity  
- 2nd Edition (2015)


Benefits of ISS Research

**Areas of Benefits**

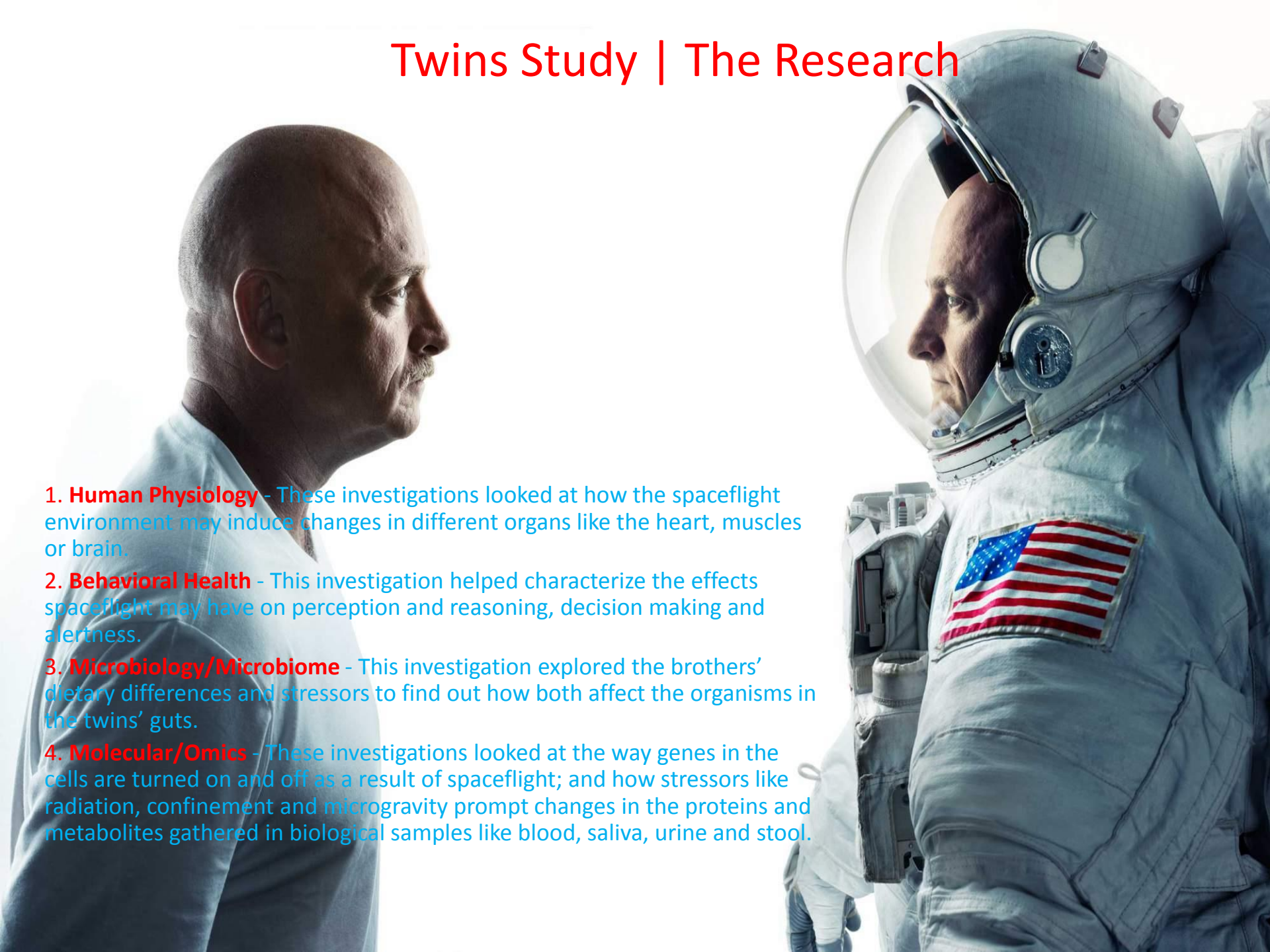
- Economic Development of Space
- Innovative Technology
- Human Health
- Global Education
- Earth Observation and Disaster Response

Benefits: [www.nasa.gov/stationbenefits](http://www.nasa.gov/stationbenefits)

# One-Year Mission | The Research (7 Areas of Focus)

- 
- 1. Functional** - These investigations examined the changes in crew member performance of functional tasks after 12 months in a low-gravity environment: Field Test and Functional Task Test.
  - 2. Behavioral Health** - These investigations examined psychological effects of long-duration spaceflight on crew members by conducting cognition tests, neuromapping studies, sleep monitoring, journaling analyses and a reaction self-test.
  - 3. Visual Impairment** - These investigations will examine ocular health and the body's response to fluid shifts in a weightless environment. This includes examining techniques to measure intracranial pressure.
  - 4. Metabolic** - These investigations examined integrated immune, salivary markers, biochemical profiles and the relationship between biological markers of oxidative and inflammatory stress and the risk for atherosclerosis in a long-duration, weightless environment. An integrated immune monitoring strategy also will be validated.
  - 5. Physical Performance** - These investigations examined exercise capability with a focus on physical performance of bone, muscle and the cardiovascular system over time in a weightless environment: Sprint Study and Hip QCT Study.
  - 6. Microbial** - These investigations examined changes in the microbiome of crewmembers.
  - 7. Human Factors** - These investigations examined how astronauts interact with their environment aboard the International Space Station focusing on fine motor performance, habitability, and training retention.

# Twins Study | The Research

- 
- 1. Human Physiology** - These investigations looked at how the spaceflight environment may induce changes in different organs like the heart, muscles or brain.
  - 2. Behavioral Health** - This investigation helped characterize the effects spaceflight may have on perception and reasoning, decision making and alertness.
  - 3. Microbiology/Microbiome** - This investigation explored the brothers' dietary differences and stressors to find out how both affect the organisms in the twins' guts.
  - 4. Molecular/Omics** - These investigations looked at the way genes in the cells are turned on and off as a result of spaceflight; and how stressors like radiation, confinement and microgravity prompt changes in the proteins and metabolites gathered in biological samples like blood, saliva, urine and stool.

# One-Year Mission | The Results



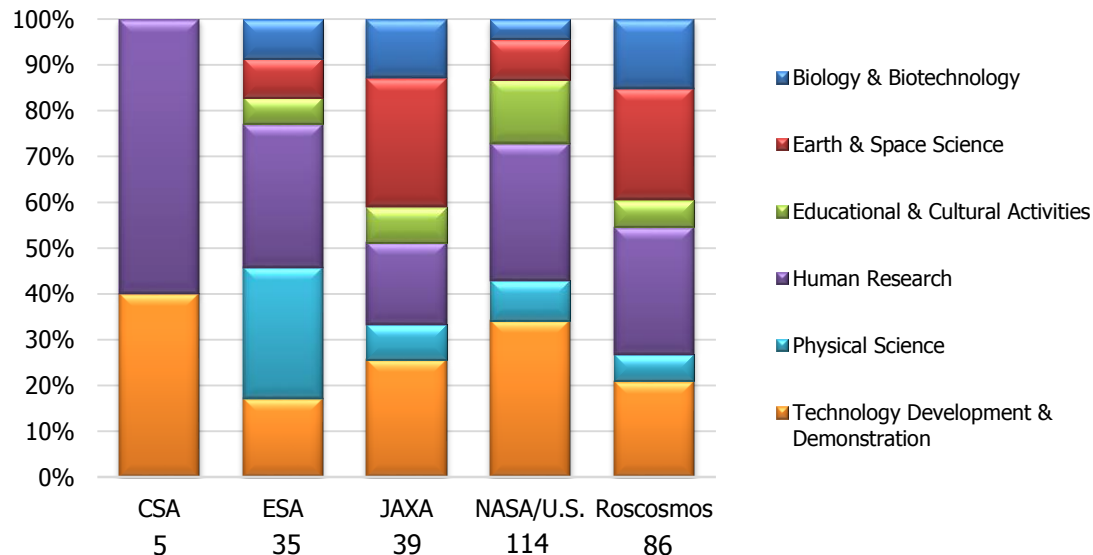
# ISS Research Statistics

Working data as of March 31, 2016

**Number of Investigations for 45/46: 279**

- 114 NASA/U.S.-led investigations
- 165 International-led investigations
- 35 New investigations
  - 1 CSA
  - 4 ESA
  - 4 JAXA
  - 25 NASA/U.S.
  - 1 Roscosmos (*preliminary data*)
- Over 800 Investigators represented
- Over 1300 scientific results publications (Exp 0 – present)

**Expeditions 45/46  
Research and Technology Investigations**



**Estimated Number of Investigations Expeditions 0-46: 2095\***



# Twins Study | The Results

**Omics: Advancing Personalized Medicine from Space to Earth - Twins Study** Principal Investigators are using **omics** to compare molecular data of retired, identical twin astronauts Scott and Mark Kelly. It compares nearly identical genomes of one twin, Scott, on a defined diet, strict exercise regime, scripted daily work schedule, and space stressors, and Mark, the other twin, on Earth engaged in normal life. The identical genome comparison allows researchers to focus on the other molecular effects of the integrated spaceflight environment.

Many researchers are contributing to the fascinating field of omics, and NASA is adding twin astronauts into the equation. The Twins Study is NASA's first step to establish a foundation and methodology to integrate space-related omics with traditional scientific activities, research plans, and data to understand how to develop a more personalized approach to reducing health risks to astronauts. This may lead to personalized countermeasure packages to heighten the safety and performance of individual astronauts as they



## Research Highlights

### *Plant Gravity Sensing-3*

#### **Space Applications**

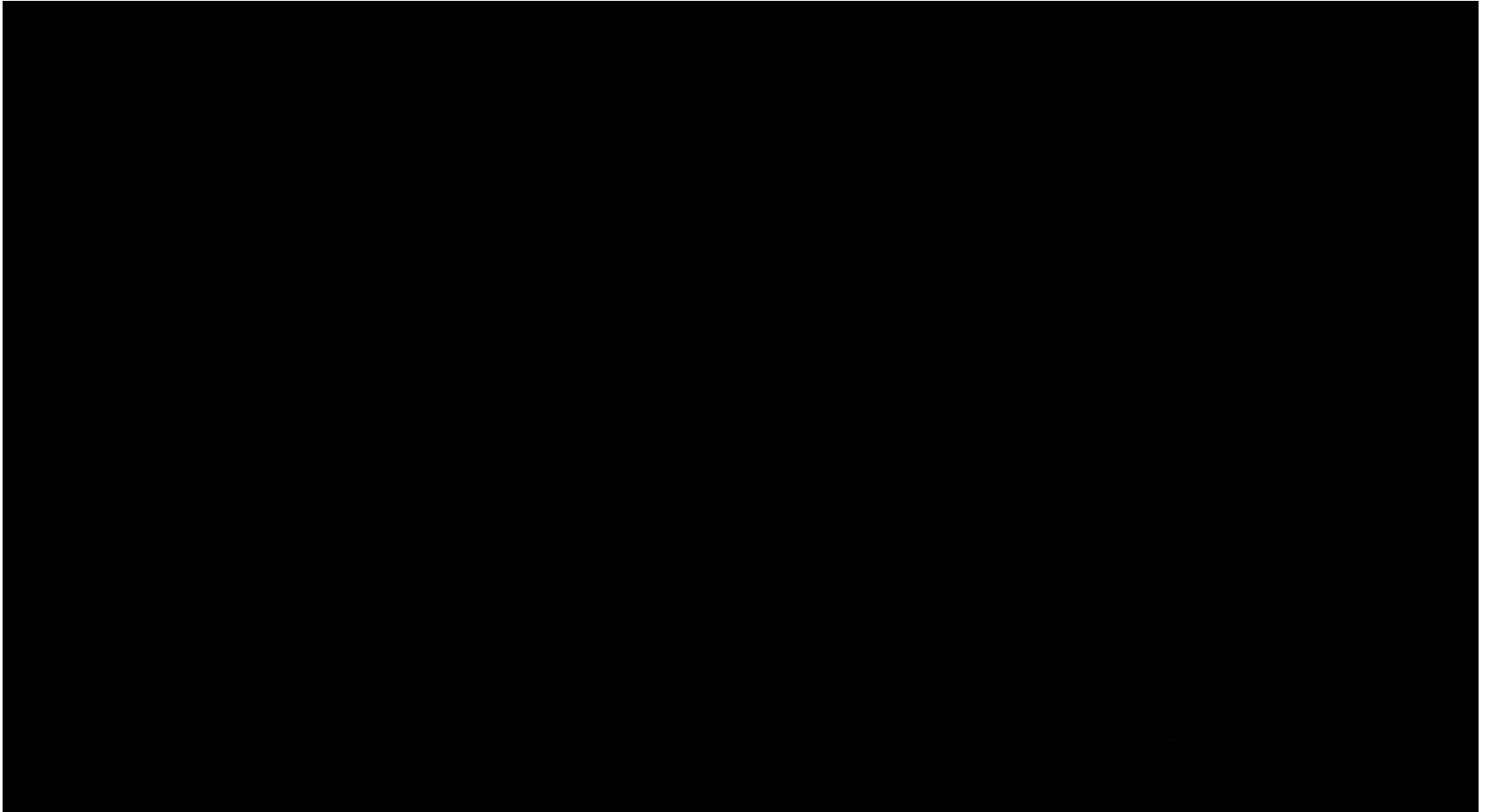
- Future missions to asteroids, Mars, or to deep space require astronauts to grow food
- Changes in gravity affect how plants grow, and could affect how many crops they can yield
- Understanding the molecular mechanisms that control plants' gravity response can help scientists develop new ways to grow plants in space
- Plant genes could be controlled to respond to increased or decreased gravity conditions, so that plants grow in a manner similar to how they would grow on Earth

#### **Earth Applications**

- Plant Gravity Sensing studies the genetic expression and other molecular changes involved in how plants respond to gravity
- Understanding the genetic expression process and other molecular changes could lead to new plant varieties that grow in different ways
- For instance, plants that respond quickly to gravitational sensing could recover more quickly after collapsing in floods or high winds
- In a broader sense, understanding the mechanisms of gravity sensing could lead to new research pathways or treatments for muscle atrophy, bone density loss and other gravity-dependent disorders



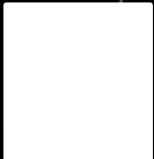
# Preparing for Exploration





# *Commercial Crew Program 2016 Updates*

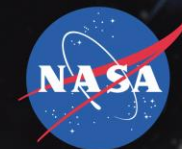
The Next Steps in U.S. Space Transportation



# HUMAN EXPLORATION

*NASA's Path to Mars*

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration



## EARTH RELIANT

MISSION: 6 TO 12 MONTHS  
RETURN TO EARTH: HOURS

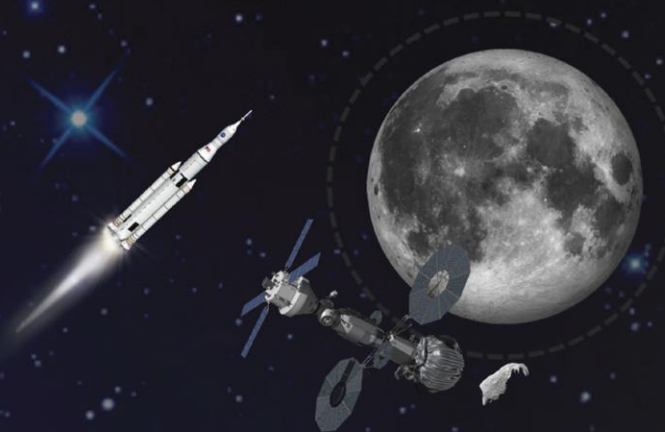


Mastering fundamentals  
aboard the International  
Space Station

U.S. companies  
provide access to  
low-Earth orbit

## PROVING GROUND

MISSION: 1 TO 12 MONTHS  
RETURN TO EARTH: DAYS



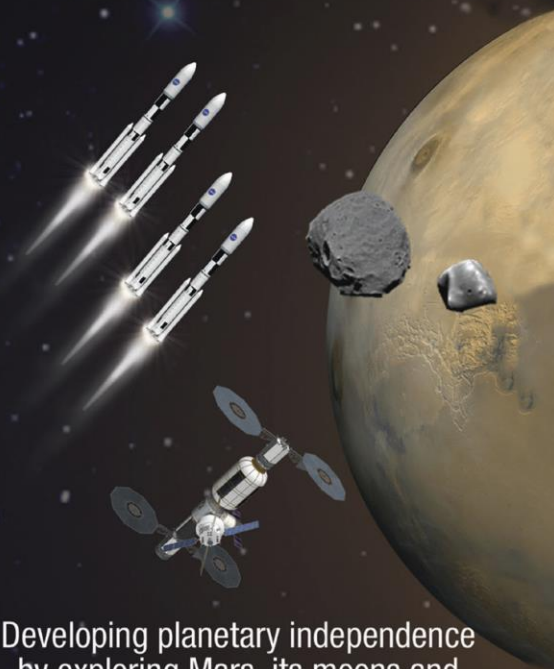
Expanding capabilities by  
visiting an asteroid redirected  
to a lunar distant retrograde orbit

The next step: traveling beyond low-Earth  
orbit with the Space Launch System  
rocket and Orion spacecraft



## MARS READY

MISSION: 2 TO 3 YEARS  
RETURN TO EARTH: MONTHS



Developing planetary independence  
by exploring Mars, its moons and  
other deep space destinations

# Current and Future Human Spaceflight



2016: (present day)

International Space Station (6 crew)

Soyuz 4 launches/year

ISS Resupply with International Partners (Progress, HTV)

ISS Resupply with Commercial Resupply Contract (Space-X and Orbital Sciences)

~2017 -2018

International Space Station (6+ Crew)

Soyuz 2 launches /year

Commercial Crew ~2 launches/year

ISS Resupply with International Partners (Progress, HTV )

ISS Resupply with Commercial Resupply Contract (new contract including SpaceX, Sierra Nevada and ATK/Orbital)

Orion Exploration Mission-1 (uncrewed, Circumlunar)

~2021

International Space Station (6+ Crew)

Soyuz 2 launches /year

Commercial Crew ~2 launches/year

ISS Resupply with International Partners (Progress, HTV)

ISS Resupply with Commercial Resupply Contract (new contract including SpaceX, Sierra Nevada and ATK/Orbital)

Orion Exploration Mission-2 (crewed, Lunar orbit)



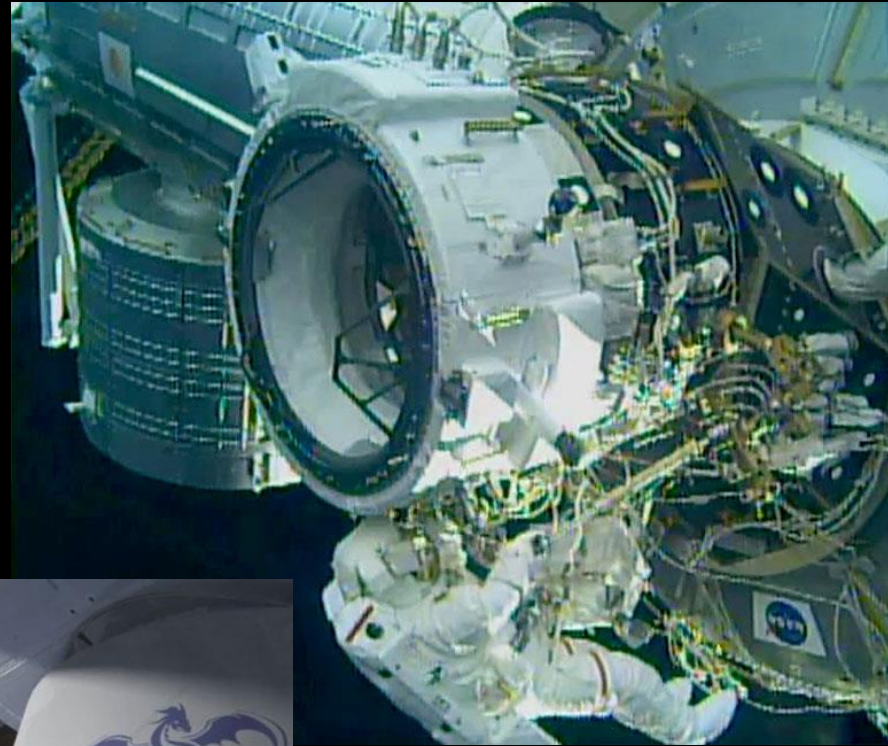
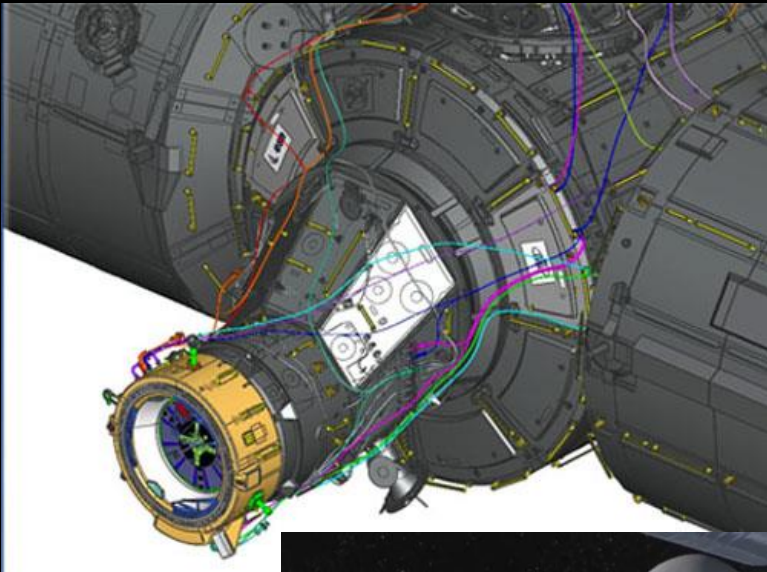
# NASA

## COMMERCIAL CREW

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

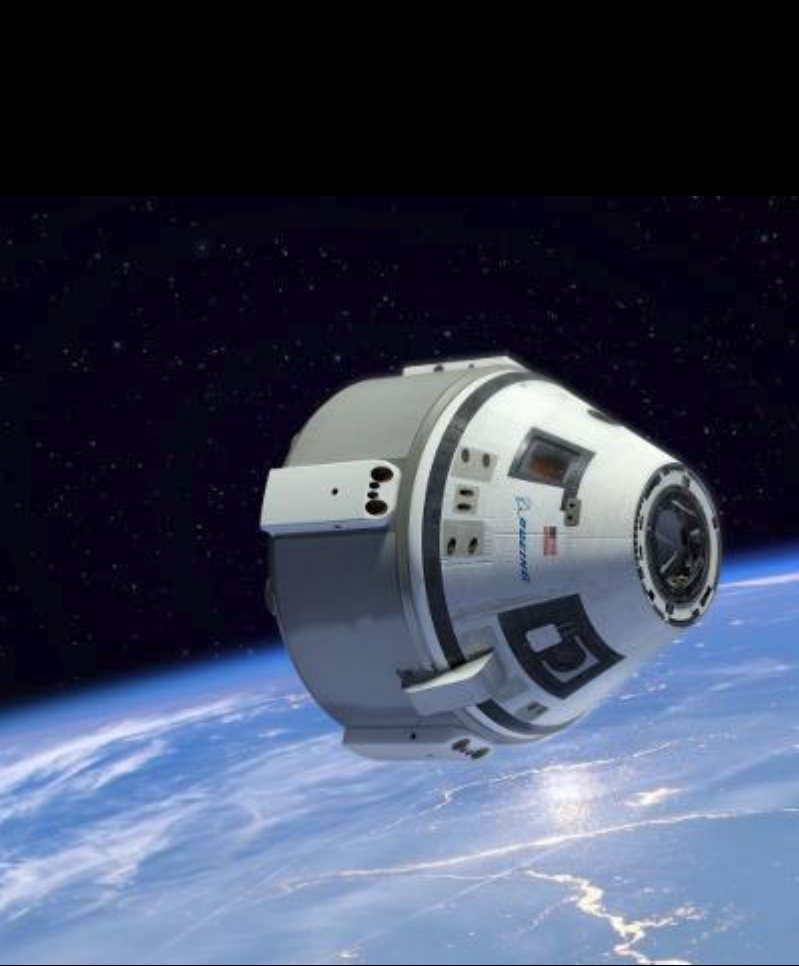


# Getting the International Space Station Ready





# Boeing: CST-100 "Starliner"/ Atlas V



# 2016- Starliner Update (since last ASE Congress)



## Testing and Construction in Progress

### Including...

- 1) Crew Access Arm Added to Atlas Launch Pad
- 2) Starliner Tested for Ground-Landing Conditions



# Space X: Dragon / Falcon 9



## 2016- A year of plusses and minuses

- 1) SpaceX Conducts Successful Crew Dragon Parachute System Test
- 2) SpaceX Rocket and Satellite Destroyed in Launch Pad Explosion



*"These distinguished, veteran astronauts are blazing a new trail, a trail that will one day land them in the history books and Americans on the surface of Mars."*

*– Charles Bolden, NASA Administrator*



# LAUNCH AMERICA

COMMERCIAL CREW TRANSPORTATION



Questions?