

# Kennedy Space Center's Chemistry Research

*for Human Exploration of the Solar System*

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Senior Principal Investigator, Swamp Works/UB-G  
NASA Kennedy Space Center, FL

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration



Presented to the  
**University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire**  
March 5, 2021



# Career/Education Background



- ◆ Graduate from Georgia Tech
  - 1999 Bachelors – Polymer Chemistry
  - 2002 Masters – Organic Chemistry
  - 2005 PhD – Materials Chemistry
- ◆ Graduate from the International Space University
  - 2011 – Space Studies Program
- ◆ 15+ years with NASA at Kennedy Space Center in R&D
- ◆ Currently Senior Principal Investigator for Exploration Research and Technology
- ◆ Spent 3 years as a payload developer for VEGGIE, APH, and BRIC



# The Artemis Program

Artemis is the twin sister of Apollo and goddess of the Moon in Greek mythology. Now, she personifies our path to the Moon as the name of NASA's program to return astronauts to the lunar surface.

When they land, Artemis astronauts will step foot where no human has ever been before: the Moon's South Pole.

With the horizon goal of sending humans to Mars, Artemis begins the next era of exploration.

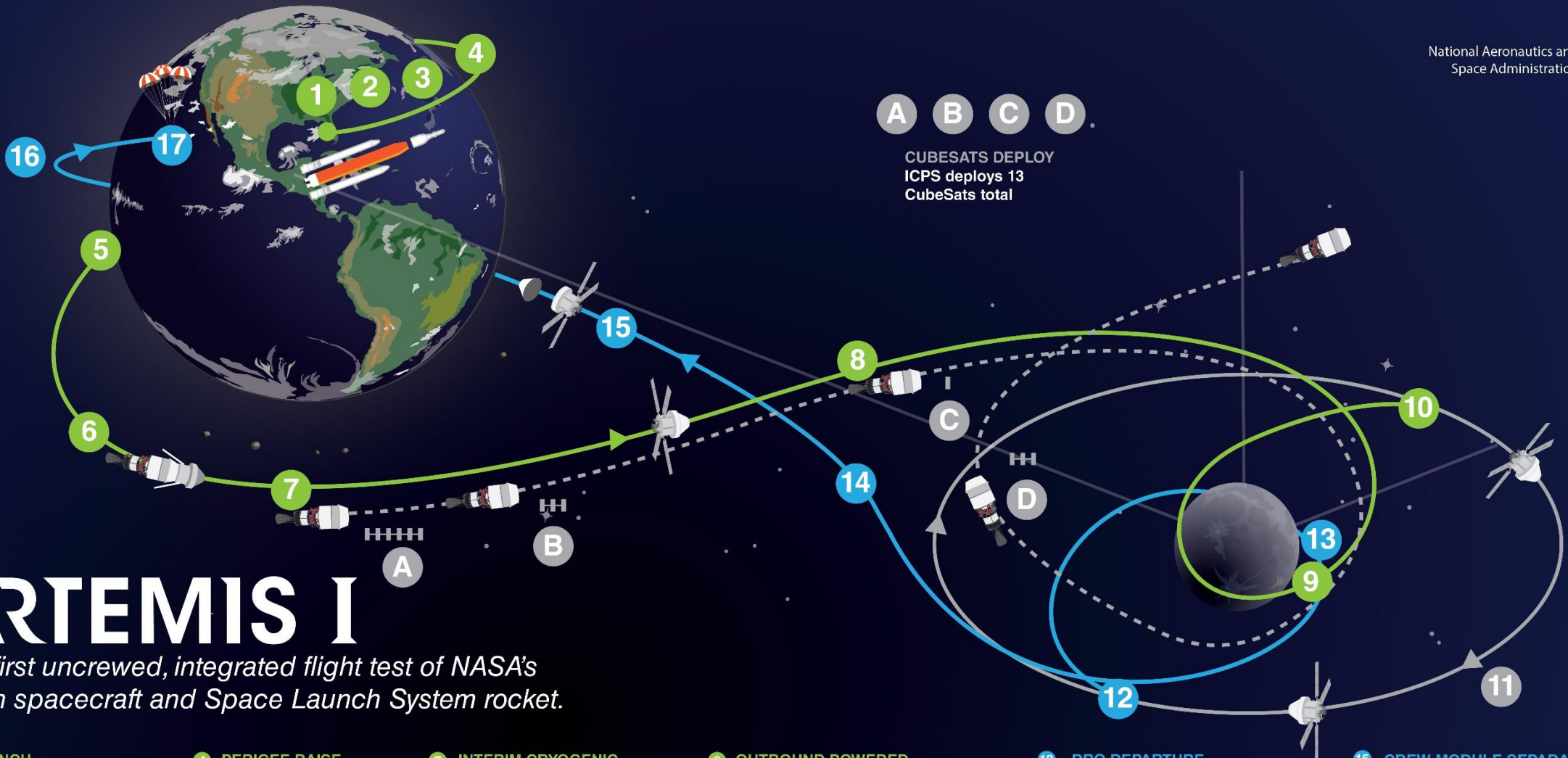






A B C D

CUBESATS DEPLOY  
ICPS deploys 13  
CubeSats total



# ARTEMIS I

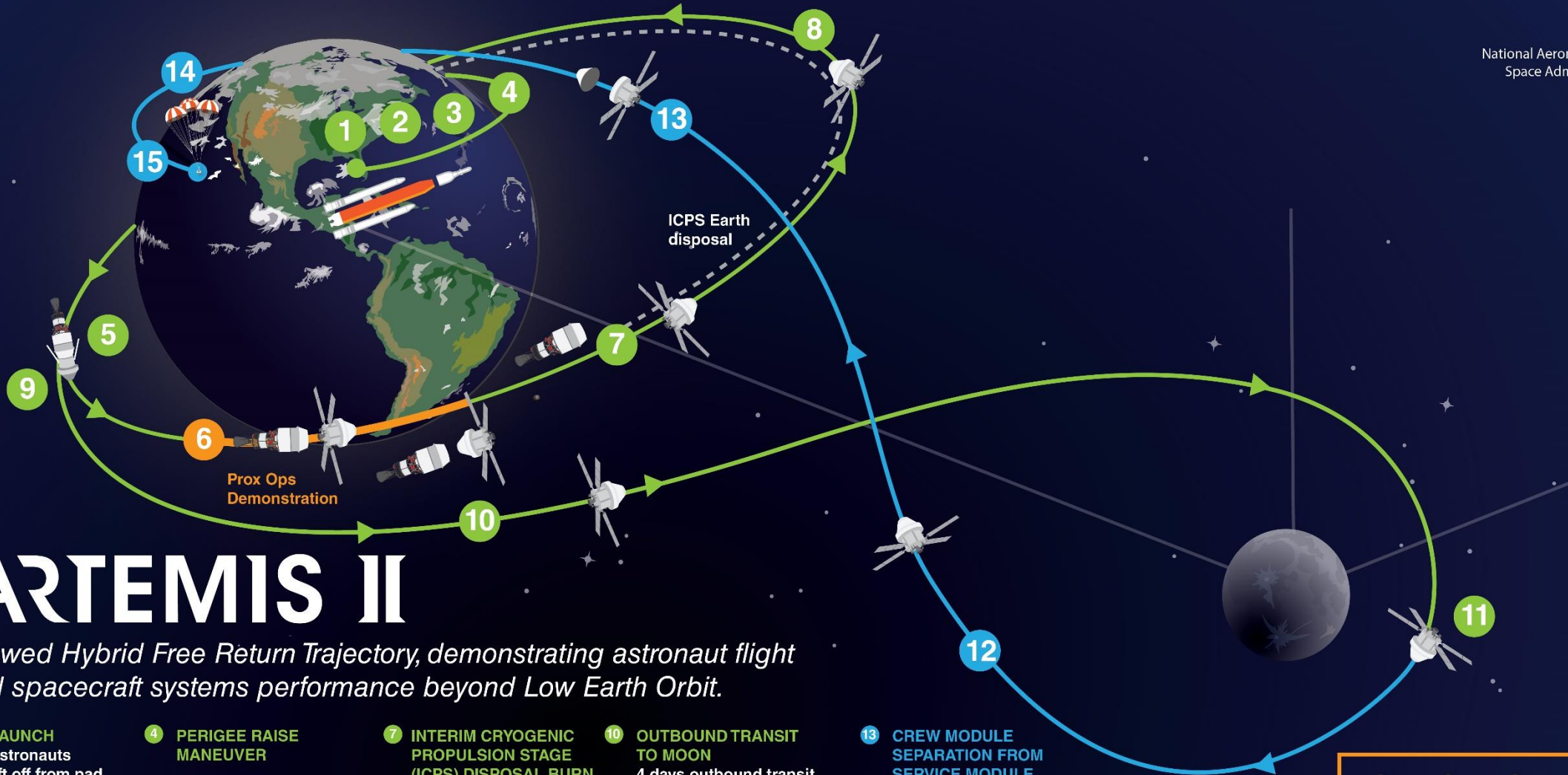
The first uncrewed, integrated flight test of NASA's Orion spacecraft and Space Launch System rocket.

- 1 LAUNCH**  
SLS and Orion lift off from pad 39B at Kennedy Space Center.
- 2 JETTISON ROCKET BOOSTERS, FAIRINGS, AND LAUNCH ABORT SYSTEM**
- 3 CORE STAGE MAIN ENGINE CUT OFF**  
With separation.
- 4 PERIGEE RAISE MANEUVER**
- 5 EARTH ORBIT**  
Systems check with solar panel adjustments.
- 6 TRANS LUNAR INJECTION (TLI) BURN**  
Maneuver lasts for approximately 20 minutes.
- 7 INTERIM CRYOGENIC PROPULSION STAGE (ICPS) SEPARATION AND DISPOSAL**  
The ICPS has committed Orion to TLI.
- 8 OUTBOUND TRAJECTORY CORRECTION (OTC) BURNS**  
As necessary adjust trajectory for lunar flyby to Distant Retrograde Orbit (DRO).
- 9 OUTBOUND POWERED FLYBY (OPF)**  
60 nmi from the Moon; targets DRO insertion.
- 10 LUNAR ORBIT INSERTION**  
Enter Distant Retrograde Orbit for next 6-23 days.
- 11 DISTANT RETROGRADE ORBIT**  
Perform half or one and a half revolutions in the 12 day orbit period 38,000 nmi from the surface of the Moon.
- 12 DRO DEPARTURE**  
Leave DRO and start return to Earth.
- 13 RETURN POWER FLY-BY (RPF)**  
RPF burn prep and return coast to Earth initiated.
- 14 RETURN TRANSIT**  
Return Trajectory Correction (RTC) burns as necessary to aim for Earth's atmosphere; travel time 5-11 days.
- 15 CREW MODULE SEPARATION FROM SERVICE MODULE**
- 16 ENTRY INTERFACE (EI)**  
Enter Earth's atmosphere.
- 17 SPLASHDOWN**  
Pacific Ocean landing within view of the U.S. Navy recovery ship. 3/1/2021

# ARTEMIS 1 (Formerly EM-1)

Artemis-1 will fly beyond the Moon and back to Earth, taking about three weeks in total.

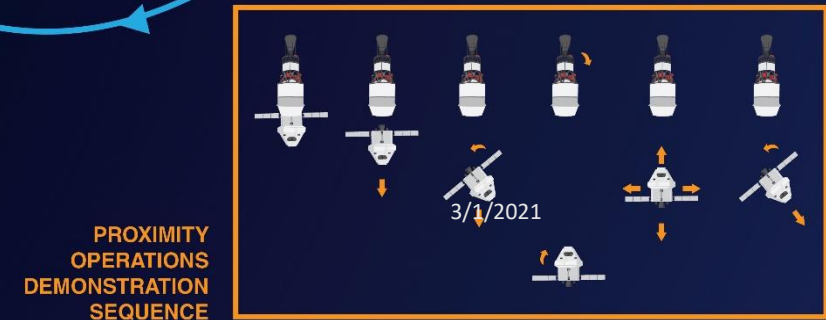




# ARTEMIS II

*Crewed Hybrid Free Return Trajectory, demonstrating astronaut flight and spacecraft systems performance beyond Low Earth Orbit.*

- 1 LAUNCH**  
Astronauts lift off from pad 39B at Kennedy Space Center.
- 2 JETTISON ROCKET BOOSTERS, FAIRINGS, AND LAUNCH ABORT SYSTEM**
- 3 CORE STAGE MAIN ENGINE CUT OFF**  
With separation.
- 4 PERIGEE RAISE MANEUVER**
- 5 APOGEE RAISE BURN TO HIGH EARTH ORBIT**  
Begin 42 hour checkout of spacecraft.
- 6 PROX OPS DEMONSTRATION**  
Orion proximity operations demonstration and manual handling qualities assessment for up to 2 hours.
- 7 INTERIM CRYOGENIC PROPULSION STAGE (ICPS) DISPOSAL BURN**
- 8 HIGH EARTH ORBIT CHECKOUT**  
Life support, exercise, and habitation equipment evaluations.
- 9 TRANS-LUNAR INJECTION (TLI) BY ORION'S MAIN ENGINE**
- 10 OUTBOUND TRANSIT TO MOON**  
4 days outbound transit along free return trajectory.
- 11 LUNAR FLYBY**  
4,000 nmi (mean) lunar farside altitude.
- 12 TRANS-EARTH RETURN**  
Return Trajectory Correction (RTC) burns as necessary to aim for Earth's atmosphere; travel time approximately 4 days.
- 13 CREW MODULE SEPARATION FROM SERVICE MODULE**
- 14 ENTRY INTERFACE (EI)**  
Enter Earth's atmosphere.
- 15 SPLASHDOWN**  
Astronaut and capsule recovery by U.S. Navy ship.





# ARTEMIS II





Mode Norm

RHC Pwr: On	1	2	3
Pitch	0	0	0
Yaw	0	0	0
Roll	0	0	0

Switch 1 Auto  
Switch 2  
Switch 3  
Switch 4

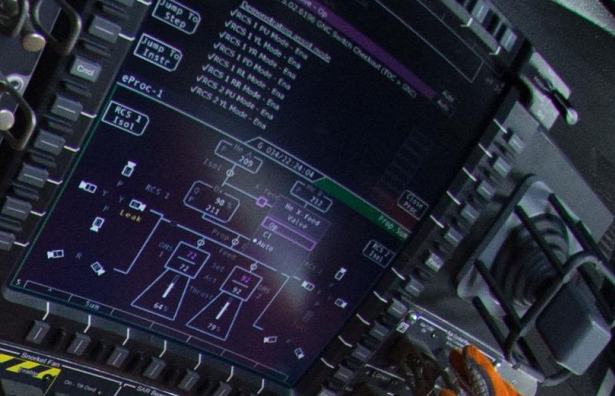
THC Pwr: On	1	2	3
X	0	0	0
Y	0	0	0
Z	0	0	0

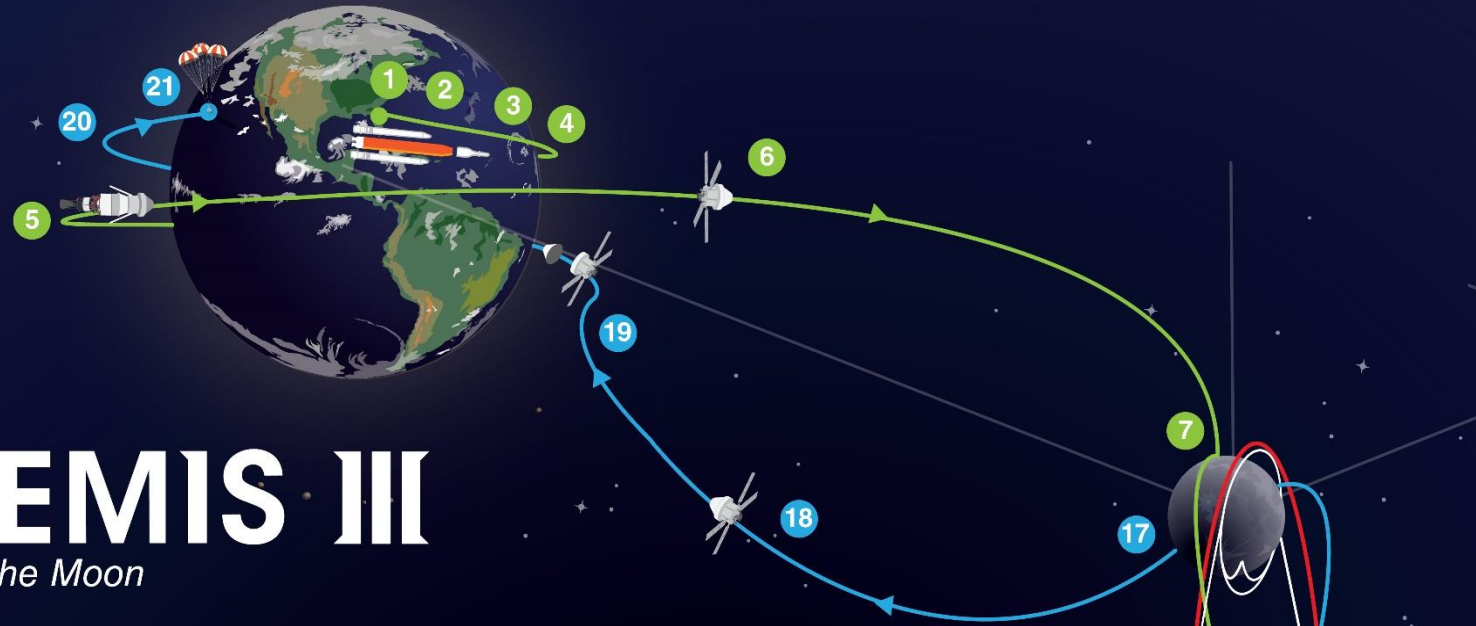
Mode Norm

RHC Pwr: On	1	2	3
Pitch	0	0	0
Yaw	0	0	0
Roll	0	0	0

Switch 1 Auto  
Switch 2  
Switch 3  
Switch 4

THC Pwr: On	1	2	3
X	0	0	0
Y	0	0	0
Z	0	0	0

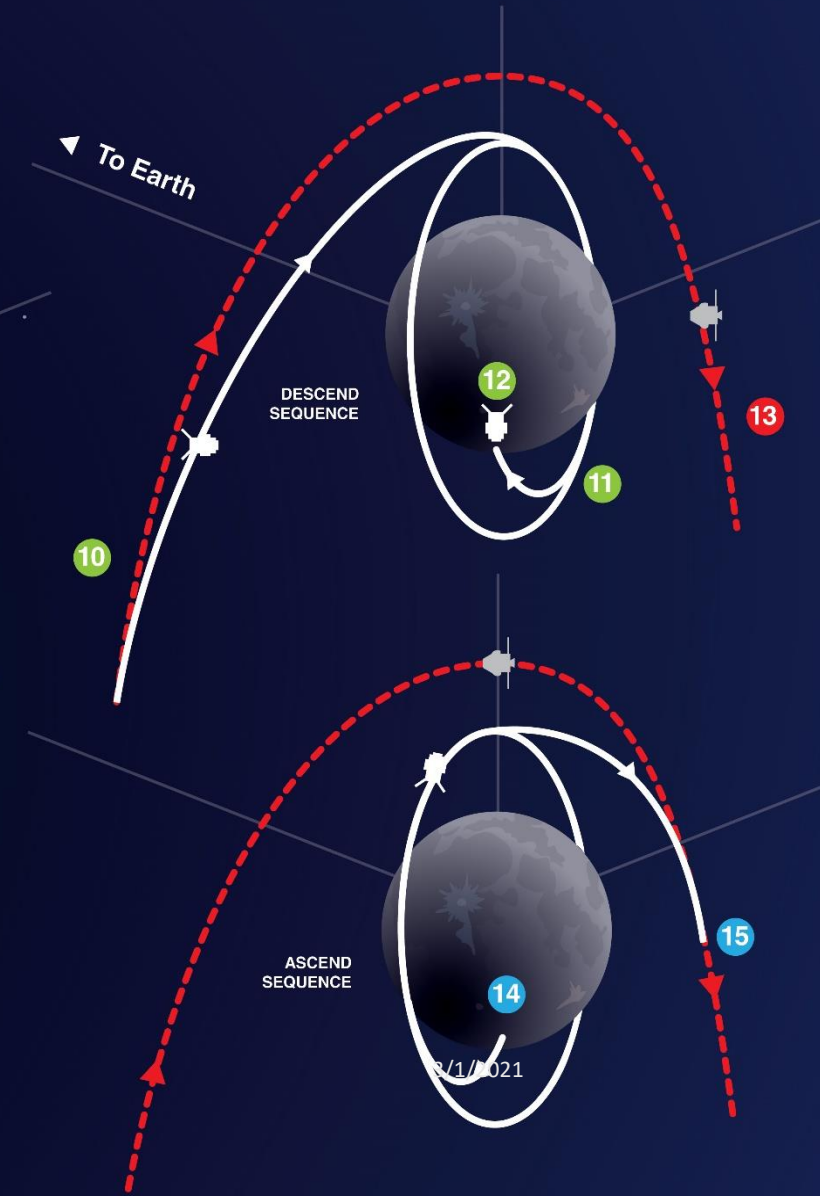




# ARTEMIS III

## Landing on the Moon

- 1 LAUNCH**  
SLS and Orion lift off from Kennedy Space Center.
- 2 JETTISON ROCKET BOOSTERS, FAIRINGS, AND LAUNCH ABORT SYSTEM**
- 3 CORE STAGE MAIN ENGINE CUT OFF**  
With separation.
- 4 ENTER EARTH ORBIT**  
Perform the perigee raise maneuver. Systems check and solar panel adjustments.
- 5 TRANS LUNAR INJECTION BURN**  
Astronauts committed to lunar trajectory, followed by ICPS separation and disposal.
- 6 ORION OUTBOUND TRANSIT TO MOON**  
Requires several outbound trajectory burns.
- 7 ORION OUTBOUND POWERED FLYBY**  
60 nmi from the Moon.
- 8 NHRO ORBIT INSERTION BURN**  
Orion performs burn to establish rendezvous point and executes rendezvous and docking.
- 9 LUNAR LANDING PREPARATION**  
Crew activates lander and prepares for departure.
- 10 LANDER UNDOCKING AND SEPARATION**
- 11 LANDER ENTERS LOW LUNAR ORBIT**  
Descends to lunar touchdown.
- 12 LUNAR SURFACE EXPLORATION**  
Astronauts conduct week long surface mission and extra-vehicular activities.
- 13 ORION REMAINS IN NHRO ORBIT**  
During lunar surface mission.
- 14 LANDER ASCENDS LOW LUNAR ORBIT**
- 15 LANDER PERFORMS RENDEZVOUS AND DOCKING**
- 16 CREW RETURNS IN ORION**  
Orion undocks, performs orbit departure burn.
- 17 ORION PERFORMS RETURN POWERED FLYBY**  
60 nmi from the Moon.
- 18 FINAL RETURN TRAJECTORY CORRECTION (RTC) BURN**  
Precision targeting for Earth entry.
- 19 CREW MODULE SEPARATION FROM SERVICE MODULE**
- 20 ENTRY INTERFACE (EI)**  
Enter Earth's atmosphere.
- 21 SPLASHDOWN**  
Astronaut and capsule recovery by U.S. Navy ship.

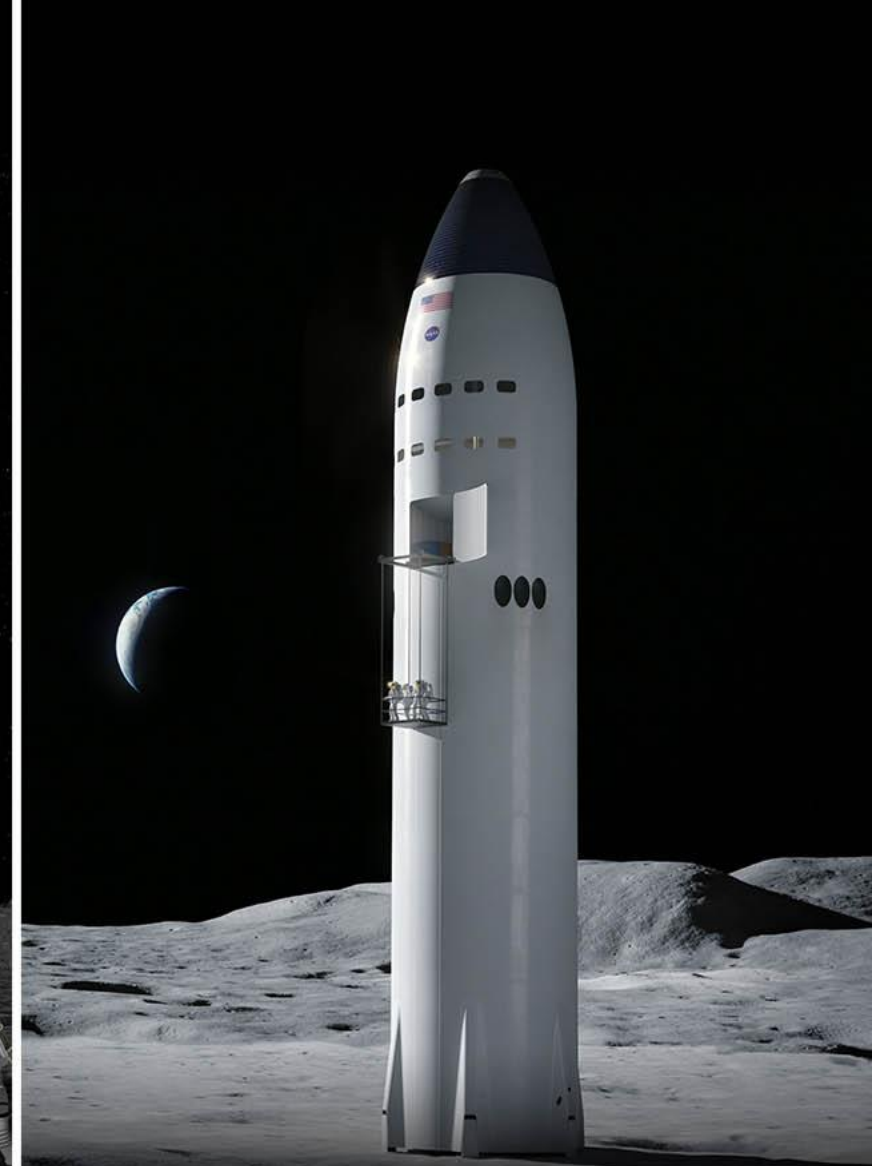
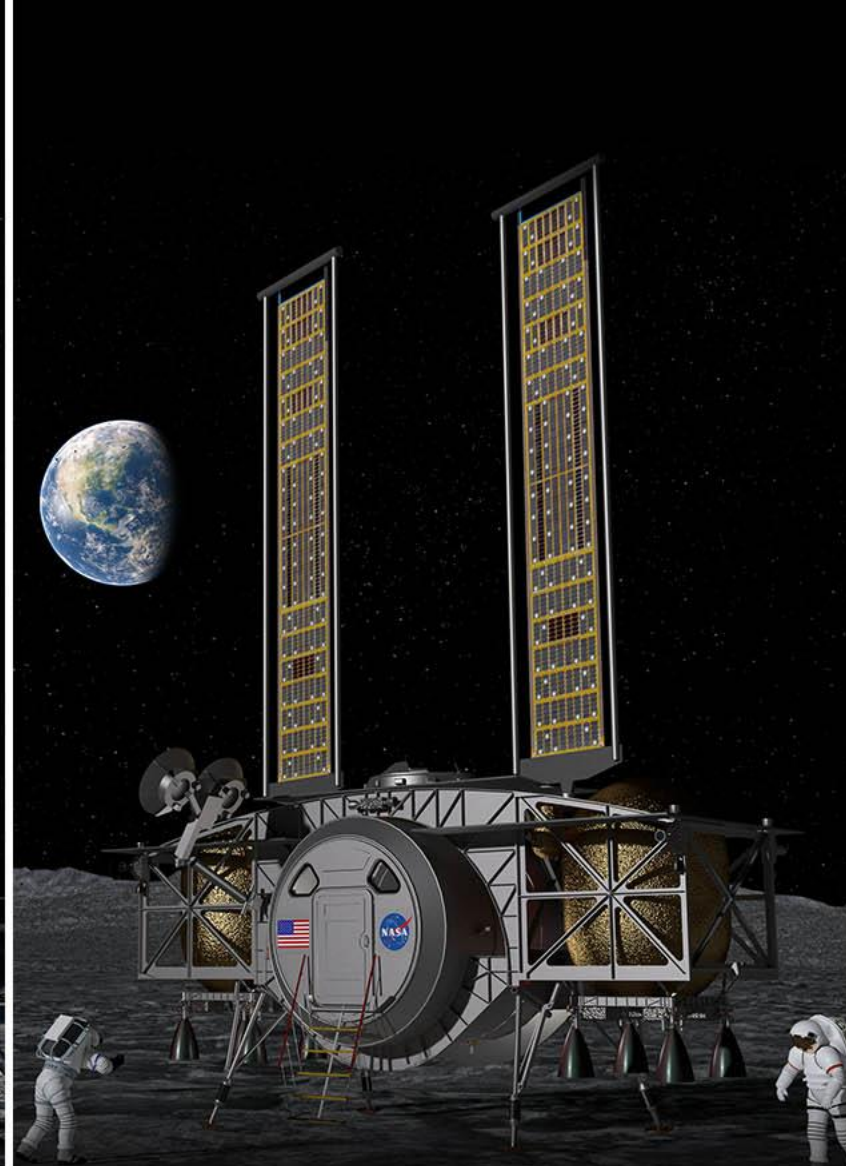


# ARTEMIS III



# THE HUMAN LANDING SYSTEM





LOCKHEED MARTIN  
BLUE ORIGIN  
NORTHROP GRUMMAN  
DRAPER

**Dynetics**  
A Leidos Company

**SPACEX**

# Gateway International Partners

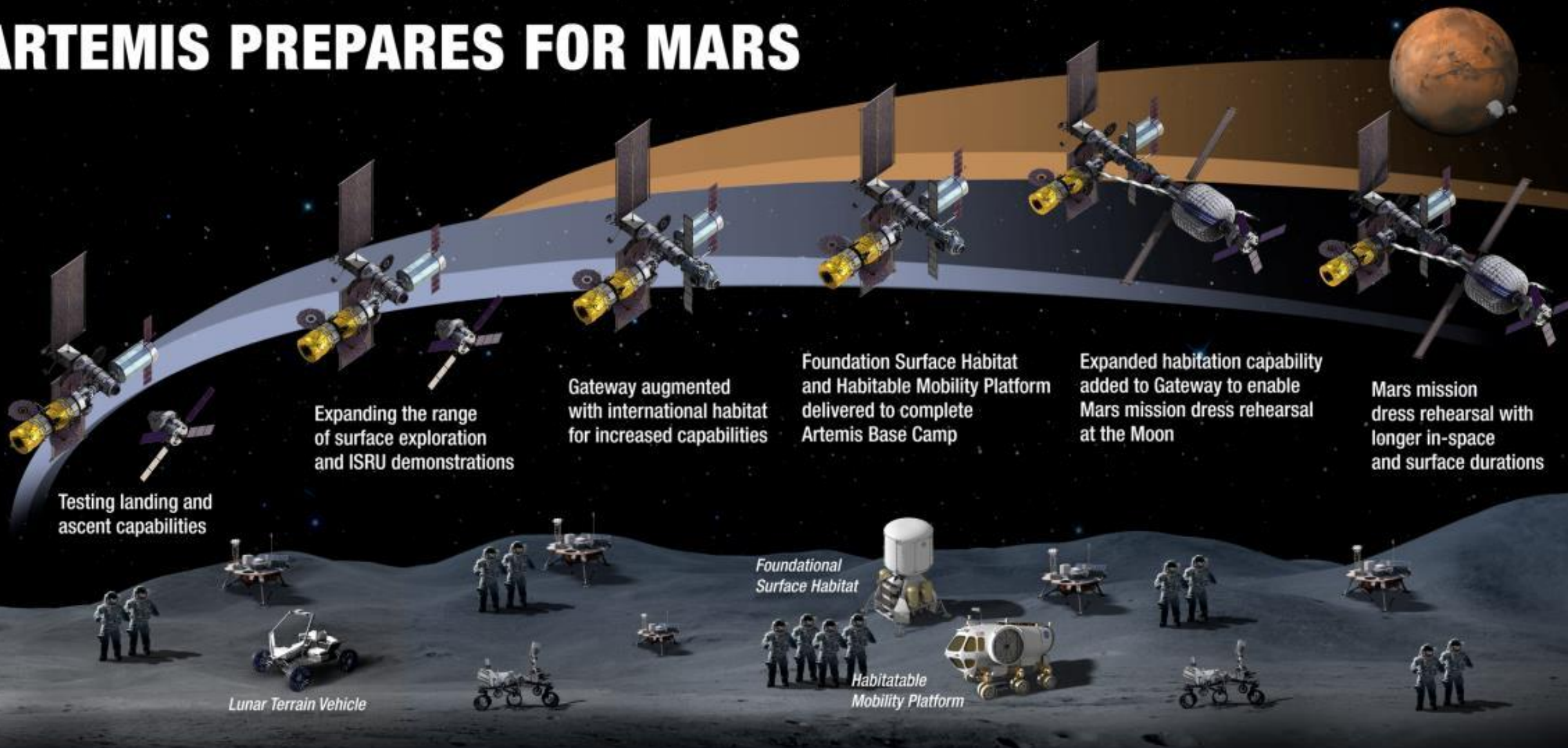
*Building on ISS partnerships to expand deep space capabilities*







# ARTEMIS PREPARES FOR MARS



## SUSTAINABLE LUNAR ORBIT STAGING CAPABILITY AND SURFACE EXPLORATION

MULTIPLE SCIENCE AND CARGO PAYLOADS | INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES | TECHNOLOGY AND OPERATIONS DEMONSTRATIONS FOR MARS

# PREPARING KSC FOR THE FUTURE



Transforming the Kennedy Space Center  
for new rockets and spacecraft.

# EGS PATH TO

# ARTEMIS I



LVSA Arrival to KSC



Boosters Arrival to KSC



ICPS Arrival to SSPF



Orion Handover



RPSF Processing



Booster Stacking on the ML



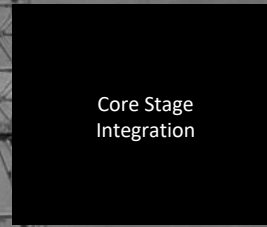
Booster Integration



Core Stage Handover



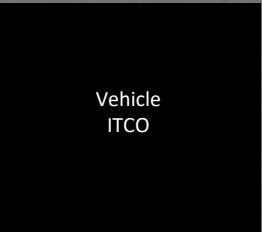
LVSA/ICPS Integration



Core Stage Integration



SLS/Orion Integration with Launch Vehicle



Vehicle ITCO



Vehicle Modal Testing



Wet Dress Rehearsal



Roll Out for Launch



# OUR HEAVY ROCKET: SLS

The Space Launch System will be the most powerful rocket ever built, designed for flights to the Moon, Mars, and beyond.



# Launch Services Program - LSP



**Launch broker**

**Acquisition and  
program  
management**

**Flight design and  
trajectory**

**CubeSat Launch  
Initiative**



## Stay Connected with LSP

Visit us on the web at <http://go.nasa.gov/lspockets>

Like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/NASALSP>

Follow us on Twitter @NASA\_LSP

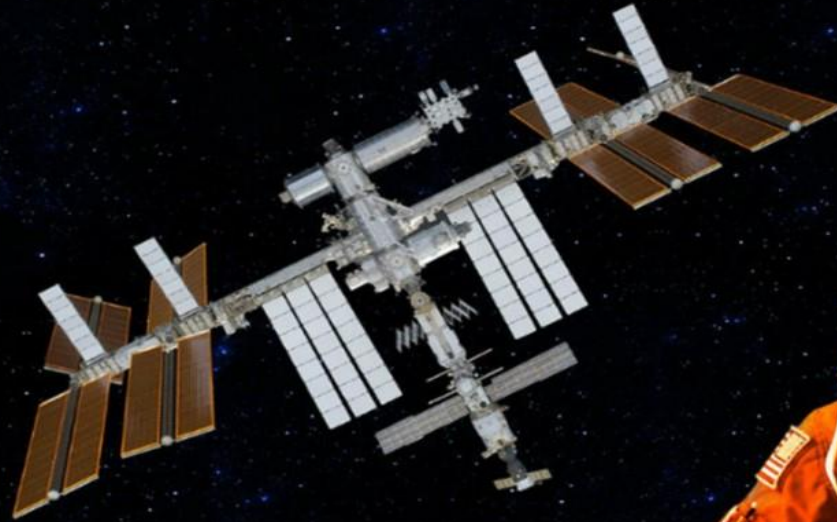
# LSP

LAUNCH  
SERVICES  
PROGRAM



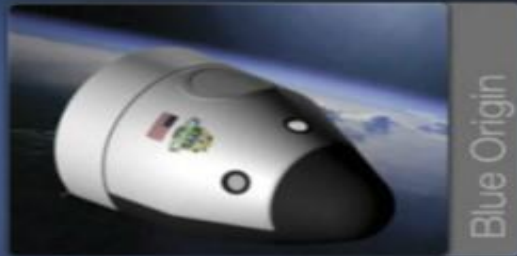
**NASA**

**COMMERCIAL CREW PROGRAM**

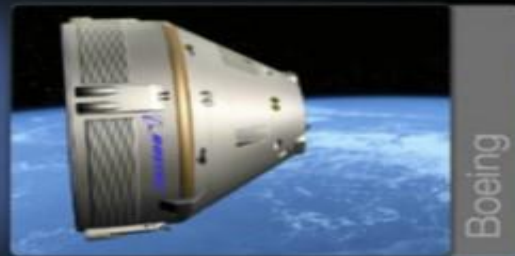




# Commercial Crew Program



Blue Origin



Boeing



Sierra Nevada



Space X



ATK



Excaltbur



ULA







**Collaborations & Partnerships  
help us explore**

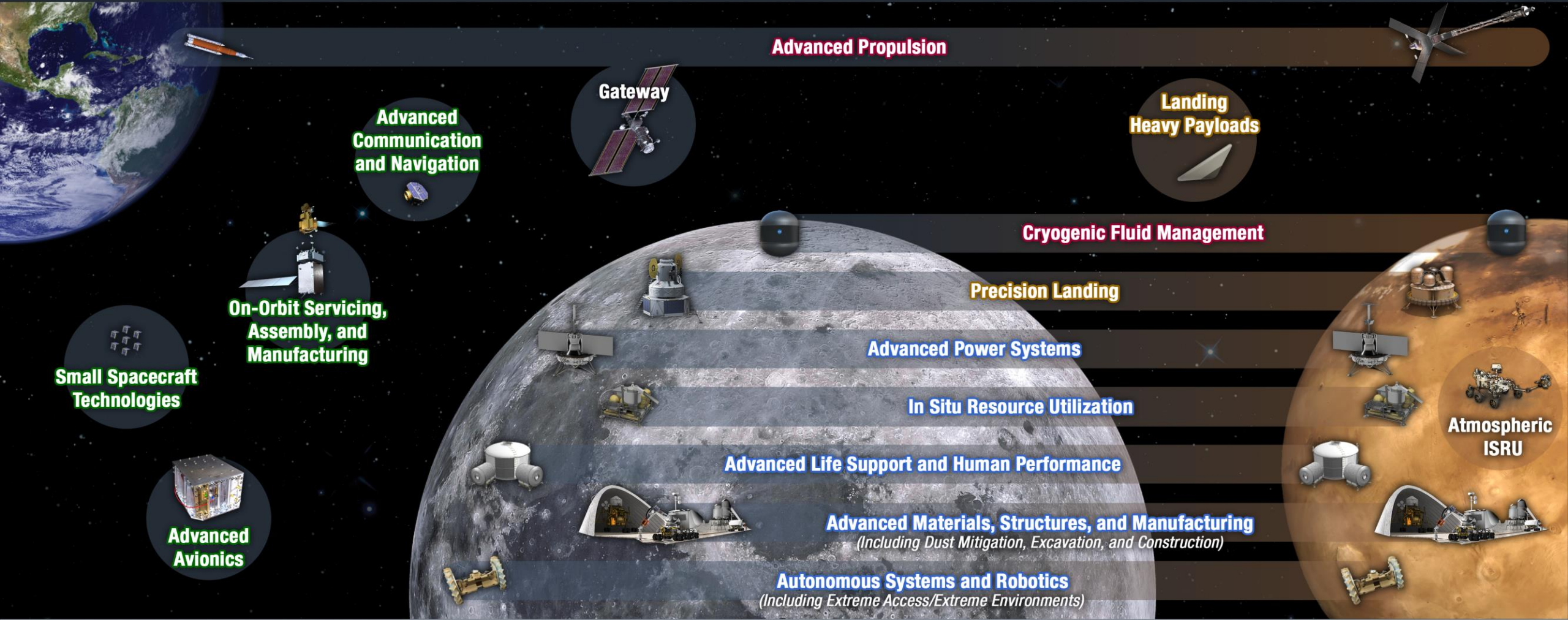
# TECHNOLOGY DRIVES EXPLORATION

**Rapid, Safe, and Efficient  
Space Transportation**

**Expanded Access to Diverse  
Surface Destinations**

**Sustainable Living and Working  
Farther from Earth**

**Transformative Missions  
and Discoveries**



**Advanced Propulsion**

**Gateway**

**Advanced  
Communication  
and Navigation**

**Landing  
Heavy Payloads**

**On-Orbit Servicing,  
Assembly, and  
Manufacturing**

**Small Spacecraft  
Technologies**

**Advanced  
Avionics**

**Cryogenic Fluid Management**

**Precision Landing**

**Advanced Power Systems**

**In Situ Resource Utilization**

**Atmospheric  
ISRU**

**Advanced Life Support and Human Performance**

**Advanced Materials, Structures, and Manufacturing**  
*(Including Dust Mitigation, Excavation, and Construction)*

**Autonomous Systems and Robotics**  
*(Including Extreme Access/Extreme Environments)*

2020

**GO | LAND | LIVE | EXPLORE**

203X

# VALUABLE LUNAR SCIENCE



Study of Planetary Processes



Understanding Volatile Cycles



Impact History of Earth-Moon System



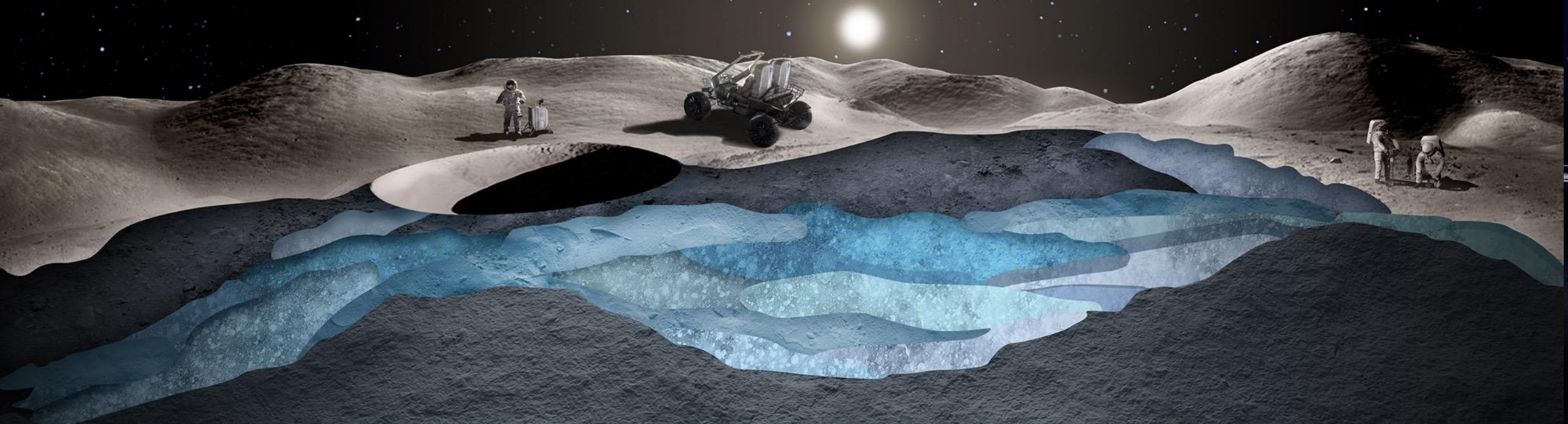
Record of the Ancient Sun



Fundamental Lunar Science



Platform to Study the Universe



## LUNAR SURFACE SCIENCE OBJECTIVES

### Mars Ascent Vehicle

A landing pad made out of 3-D printed regolith will keep the MAV from blasting a big hole with its rockets. The MAV will not have ascent fuel onboard when it arrives. By reacting carbon dioxide and hydrogen, methane can be made to fuel the MAV back off the Martian surface.



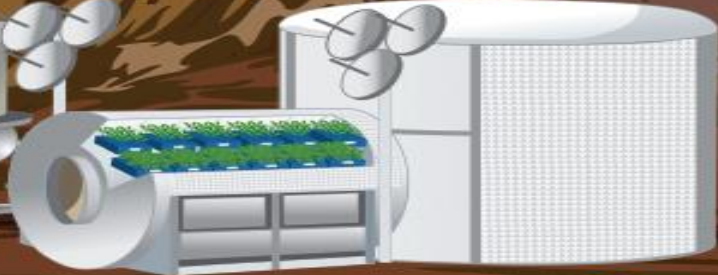
### Processor

In a reactor, water will be extracted from regolith and combined with carbon dioxide to make drinking water, breathing air, and propellants like oxygen and methane.



### Plant Habitat

Water that has been processed from the Martian surface, along with the proper nutrient blend, can be used for growing plants for astronauts to eat. Plants also purify water and produce oxygen from respired carbon dioxide.



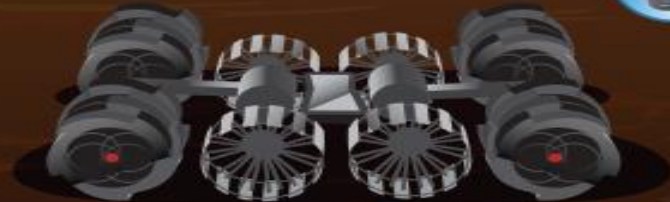
### Cryogenic Storage

Once the propellants have been extracted from the resources they must be safely stored as high-density cryogenic liquids for future use.



### Human Habitat

Oxygen extracted from the soil and atmosphere can be used for breathable air and shields made from regolith or water may be used to help protect against radiation.



### Miner

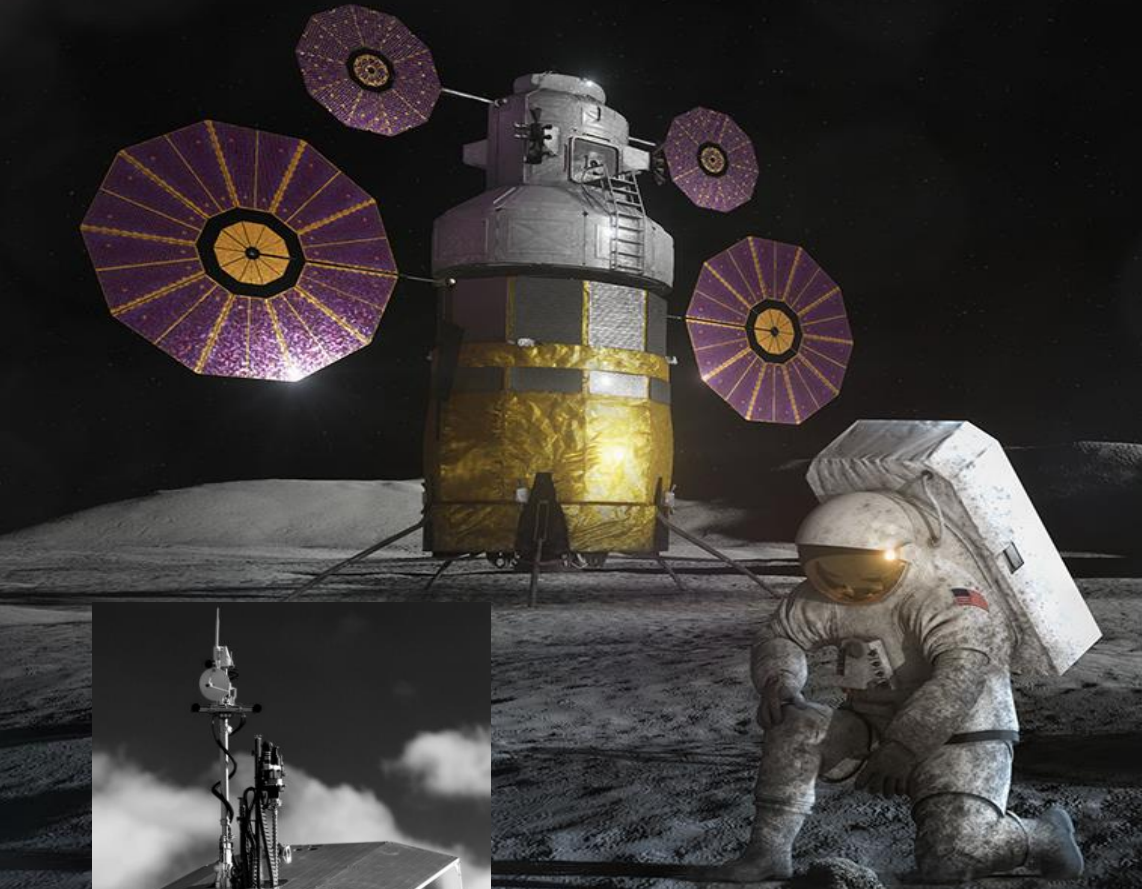
A robot will mine the regolith to obtain the resources locked inside.



### Prospector

The prospector will drill to find resources buried in the Martian soil, or regolith.

# Robotic Mining of Moon's Surface Chemistry: *Resource Prospector Mission*



# Regolith Operations



Regolith Advanced Surface Systems Operations Robot (RASSOR)



# Printing Martian Habitats



# Moon and Mars Simulations: MDRS and Hi-SEAS





# International Space Station - ISS



**Ground  
Processing  
support**

**Research  
Project Office**

**Payload  
Development  
and  
Processing**

# ISS Enables Long Duration Exploration for Mars

Health and Human Performance  
Crew Habitability and Logistics

## System and Technology Testbed

- Docking System
- High Reliability Closed Loop Life Support
- Long Term System Performance
- Extravehicular Activity



# ISS Activities



# Lack of Gravity Has a Huge Impact

# Plant Growth Chambers Aboard ISS



VEGGIE (April 2014)

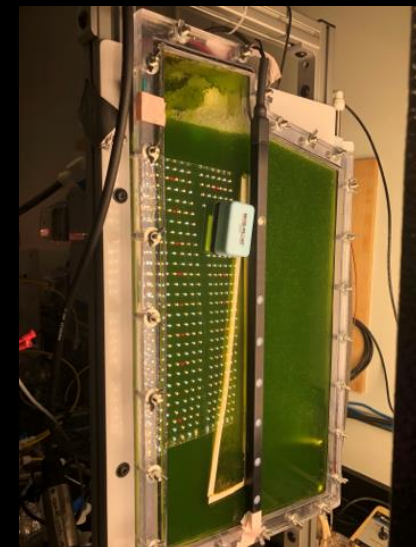
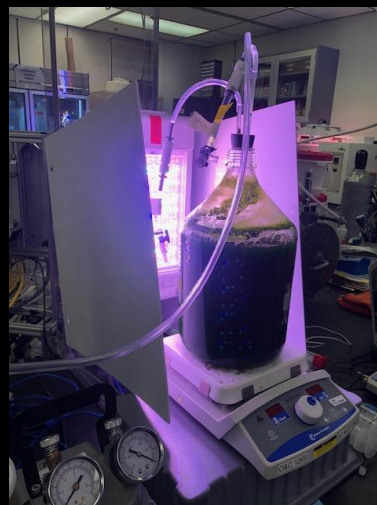
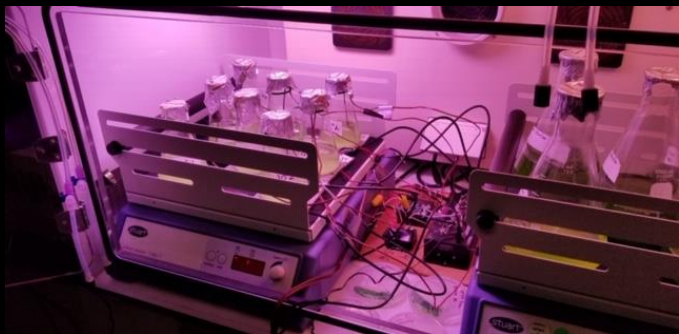


Advanced Plant Habitat (2017)

# AES ECLSS: Wastewater Processing & Water Management Bioregen Water Systems



[https://images.nasa.gov/details-KSC-20200819-PH-CSH01\\_00136](https://images.nasa.gov/details-KSC-20200819-PH-CSH01_00136)



# Sustainability on ISS

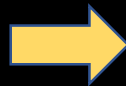
For a crew of 4 over one year, the waste can be used to:

Produce up 1500 kg of methane

Produce up 300 kg of water



Oxygen  
Water  
Methane





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

[www.intern.nasa.gov](http://www.intern.nasa.gov)

[www.nspires.nasa.gov](http://www.nspires.nasa.gov)

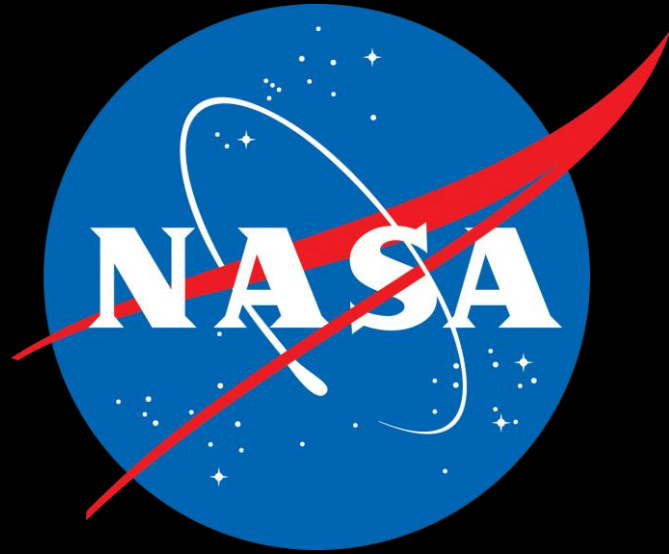
[www.KSCpartnerships.ksc.nasa.gov](http://www.KSCpartnerships.ksc.nasa.gov)

**Let's go. *The time is now.***





**QUESTIONS?**



**Back Up Slides**

# Mission Needs Drive Design

## LOW EARTH RETURN

**3 HOURS**

**3,000°F**

**17,500 MPH**

**250 MILES**



## LUNAR RETURN

**3 DAYS**

**5,200°F**

**24,700 MPH**

**240,000 MILES**



## MARS RETURN

**9 MONTHS**

**6,200°F**

**26,800 MPH**

**39,000,000 MILES**

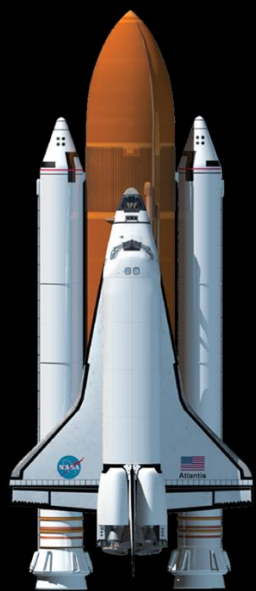




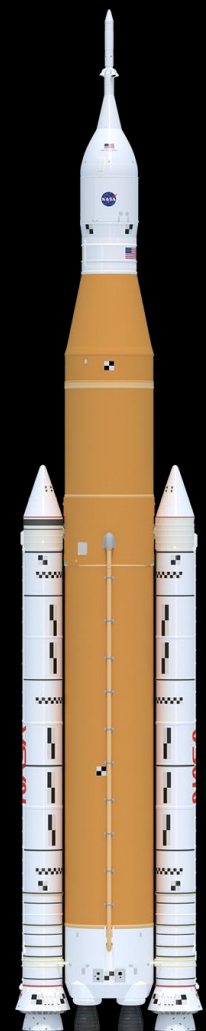




STATUE OF LIBERTY  
305 ft.



SPACE SHUTTLE  
184 ft.



SLS / ORION Block I  
322 ft.

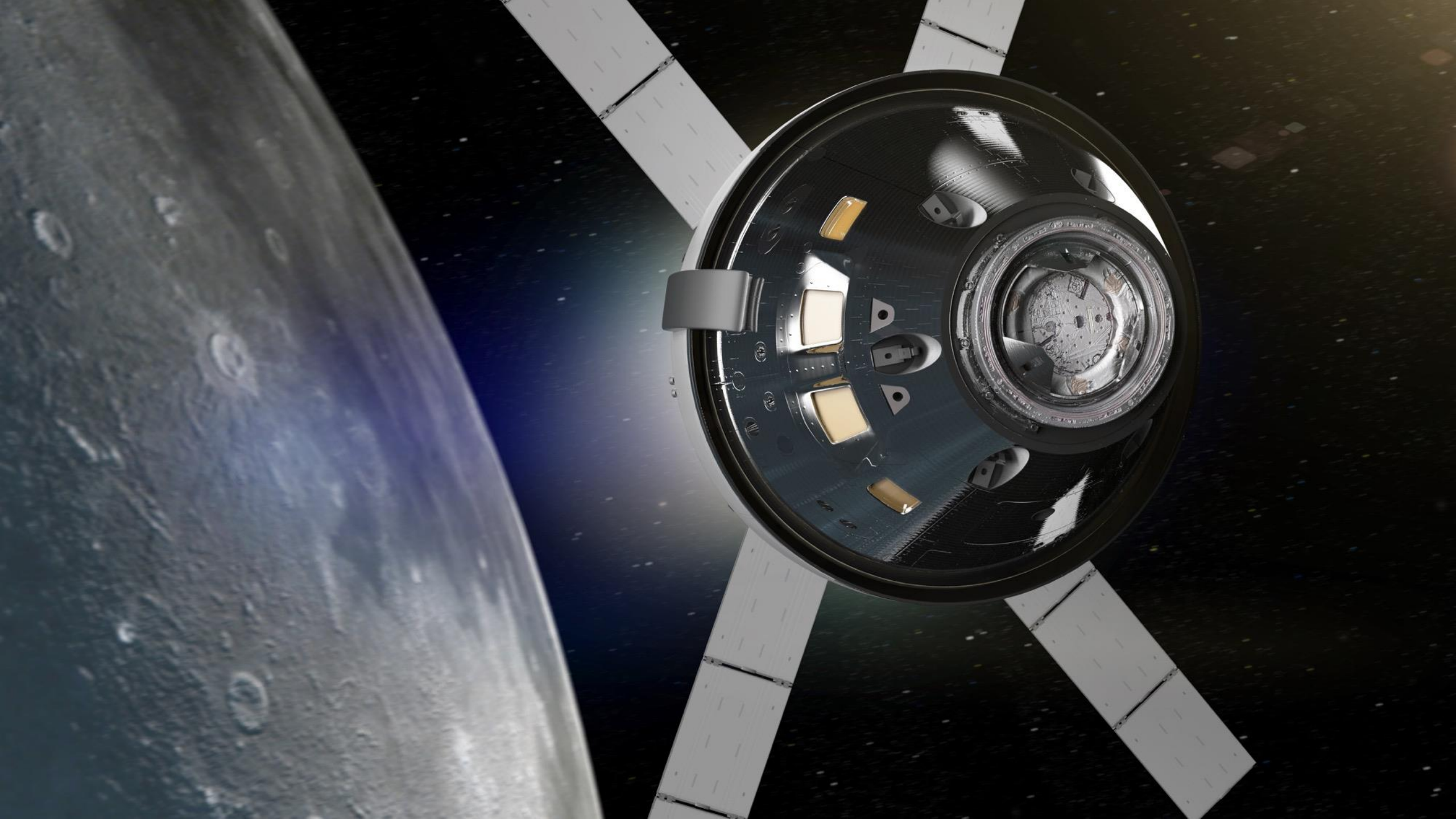


SLS / ORION Block II  
364 ft.

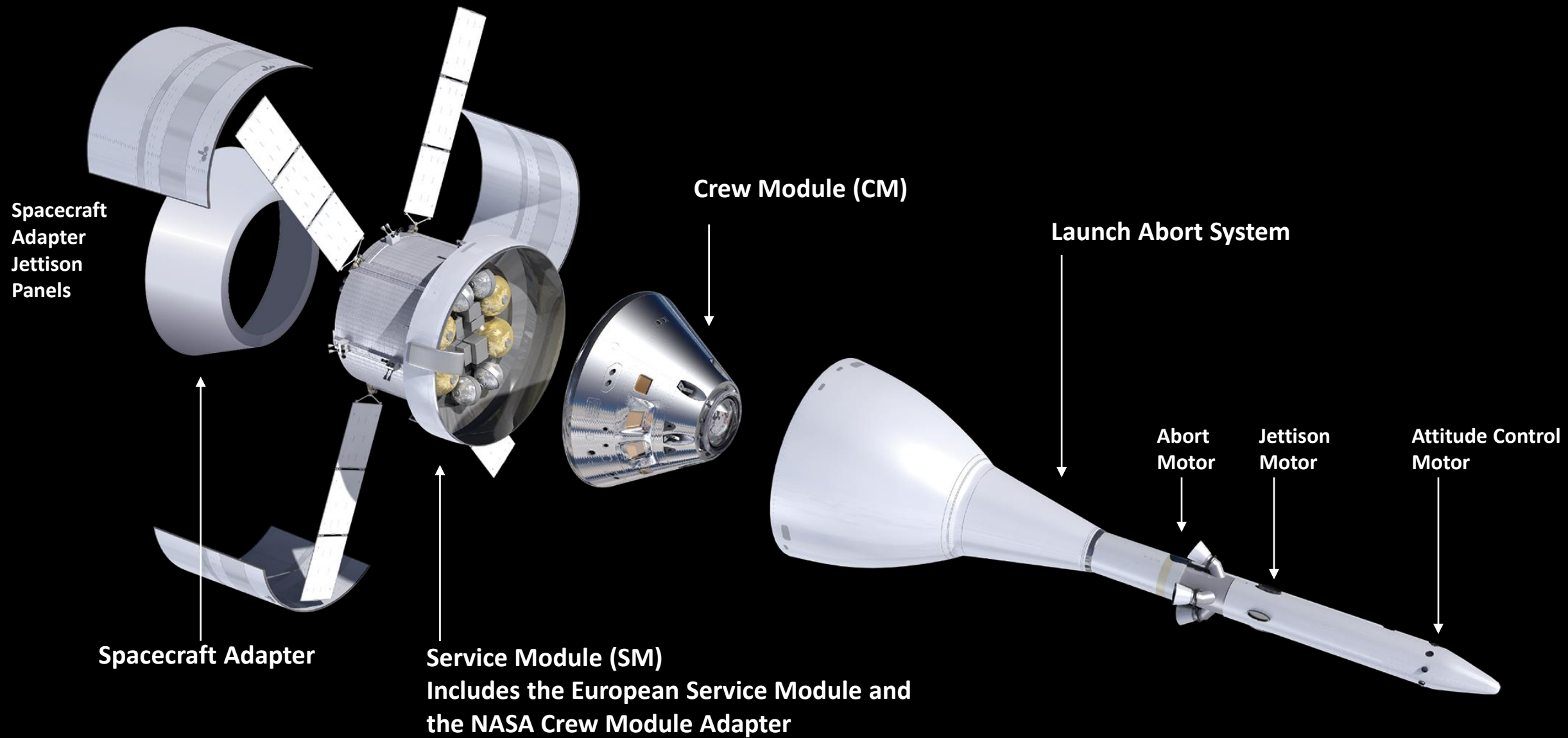


SATURN 5  
363 ft.











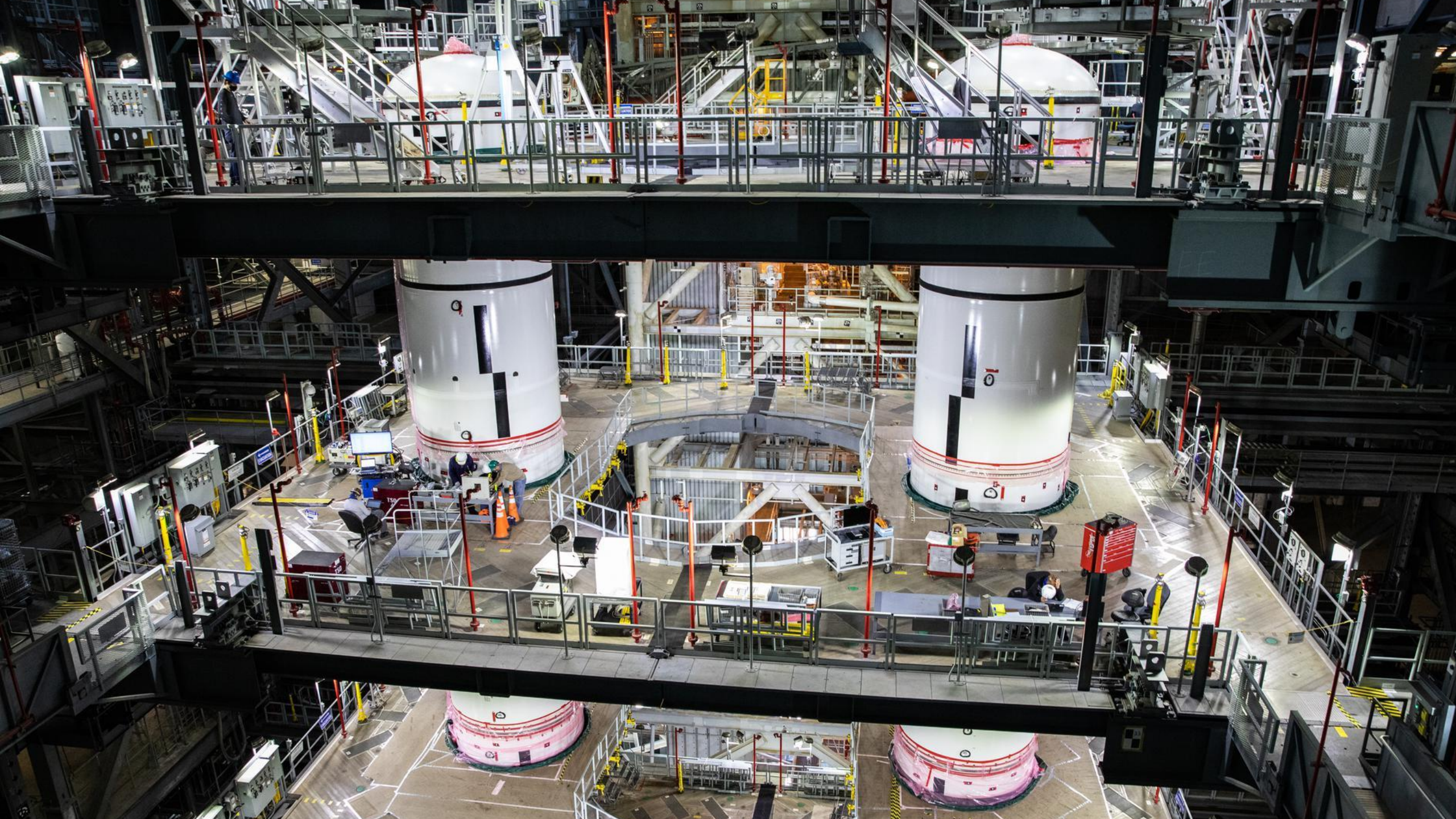
NAVY

DON'T WORK HERE

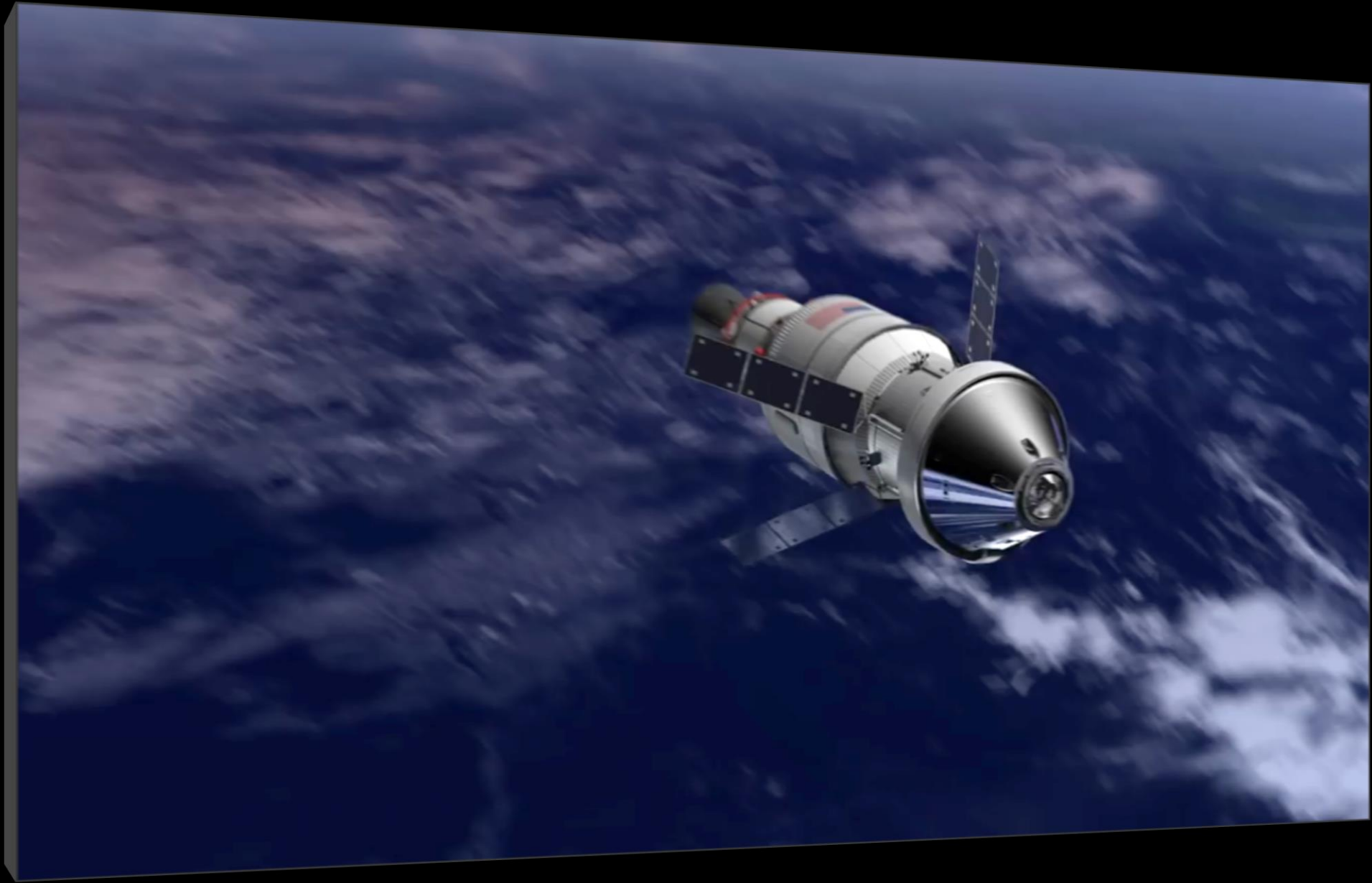
FORKLEIFER  
15000 LB WHEEL LOAD 1250 950 800 700 600 500 400 300 200 100

HE 001-083







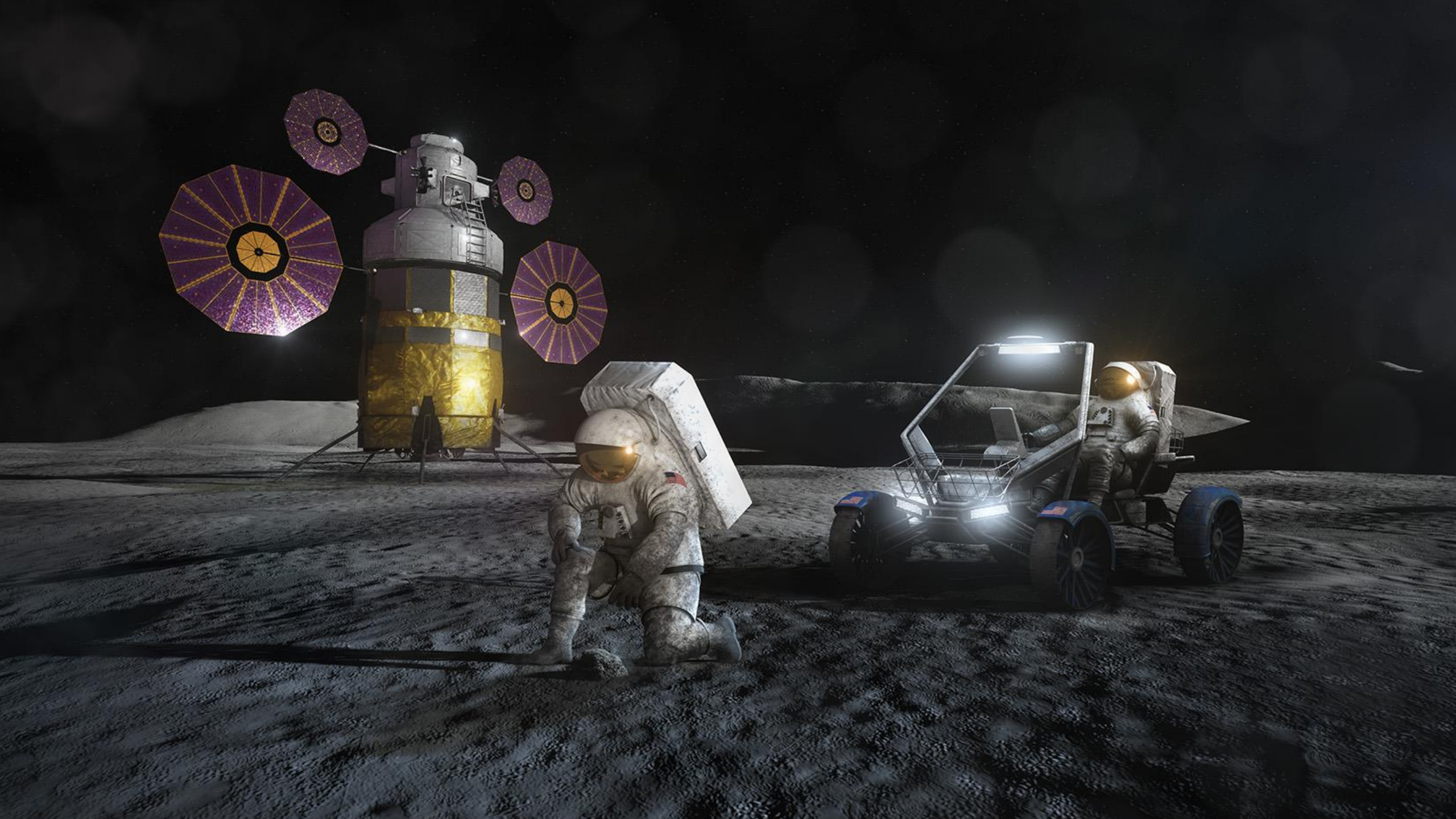


# ARTEMIS

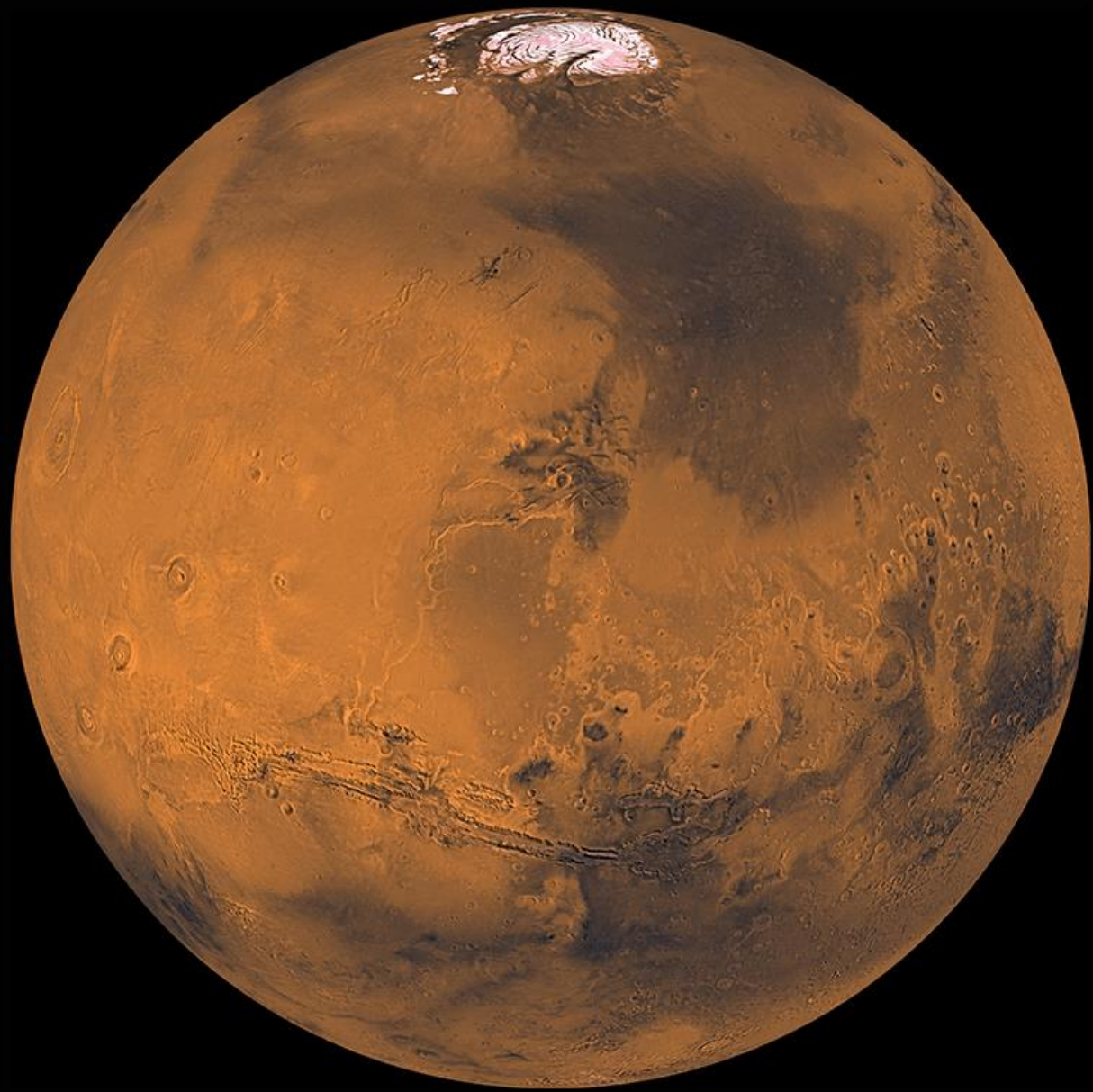
Expanding Partnerships  
to the Moon

The recently released Artemis Accords demonstrate the commitment of both NASA and international partners to peaceful exploration, transparency, interoperability, and the sharing of scientific data as we move to a new frontier – sustainable deep space exploration.



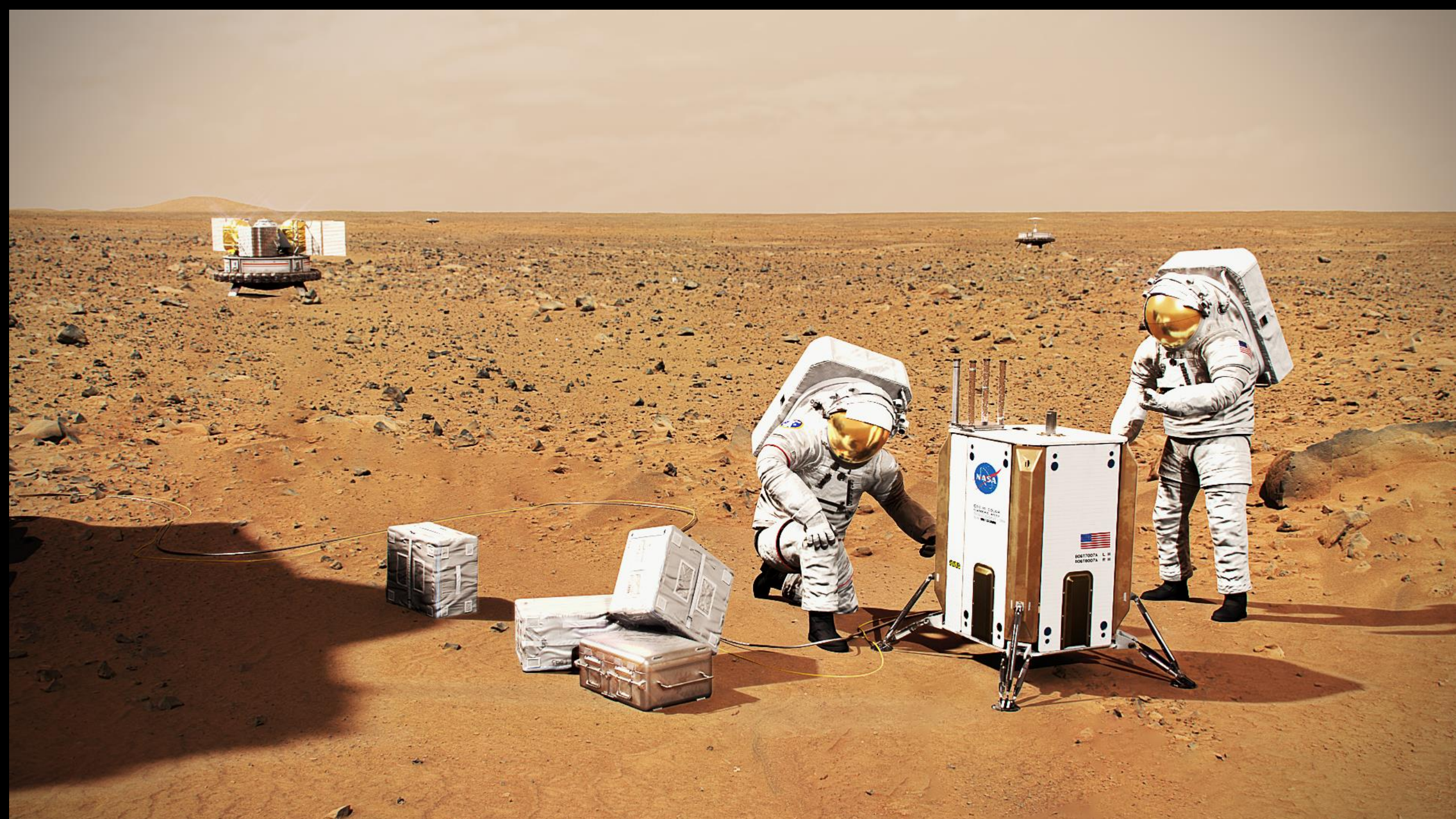








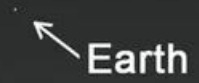
# THE EVOLUTION OF A MARTIAN

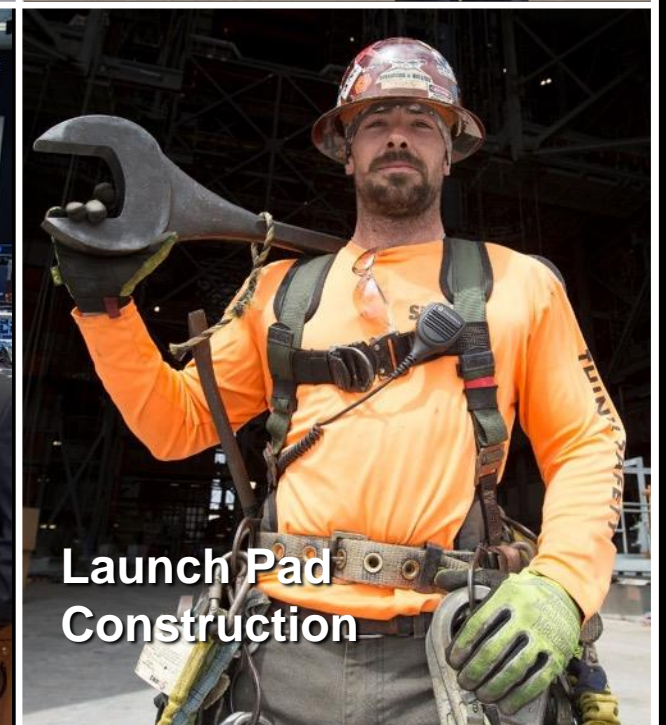


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80618007A P H

# Taking the Next Giant Leap

*Humans on Mars*





#NASAINTERNS

Welding  
Technician

Avionics  
Technician

Food  
Scientist

Flight Controller

Launch Pad  
Construction



**Social Media**



**Robotics Designer**



**Graphic Designer**



**Spacesuit Designer**



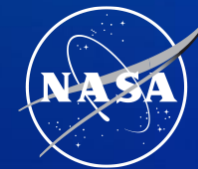
**Geologist**



**Astronaut Trainer**



# The ARTEMIS Team



Joseph  
**ACABA**

Kayla  
**BARRON**

Raja  
**CHARI**

Matthew  
**DOMINICK**

Victor  
**GLOVER**

Warren  
**HOBURG**

Jonny  
**KIM**

Christina H.  
**KOCH**

Kjell  
**LINDGREN**



Nicole A.  
**MANN**

Anne  
**MCCLAIN**

Jessica  
**MEIR**

Jasmin  
**MOGHBELI**

Kate  
**RUBINS**

Frank  
**RUBIO**

Scott  
**TINGLE**

Jessica  
**WATKINS**

Stephanie D.  
**WILSON**

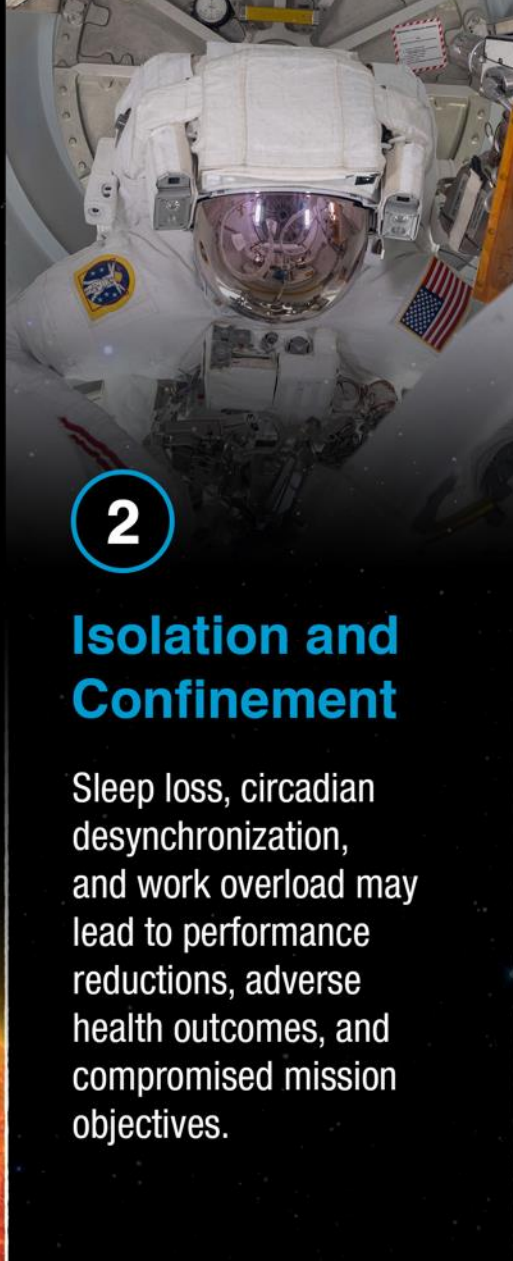


# Hazards of Human Spaceflight

1

## Space Radiation

Invisible to the human eye, radiation increases cancer risk, damages the central nervous system, and can alter cognitive function, reduce motor function and prompt behavioral changes.



2

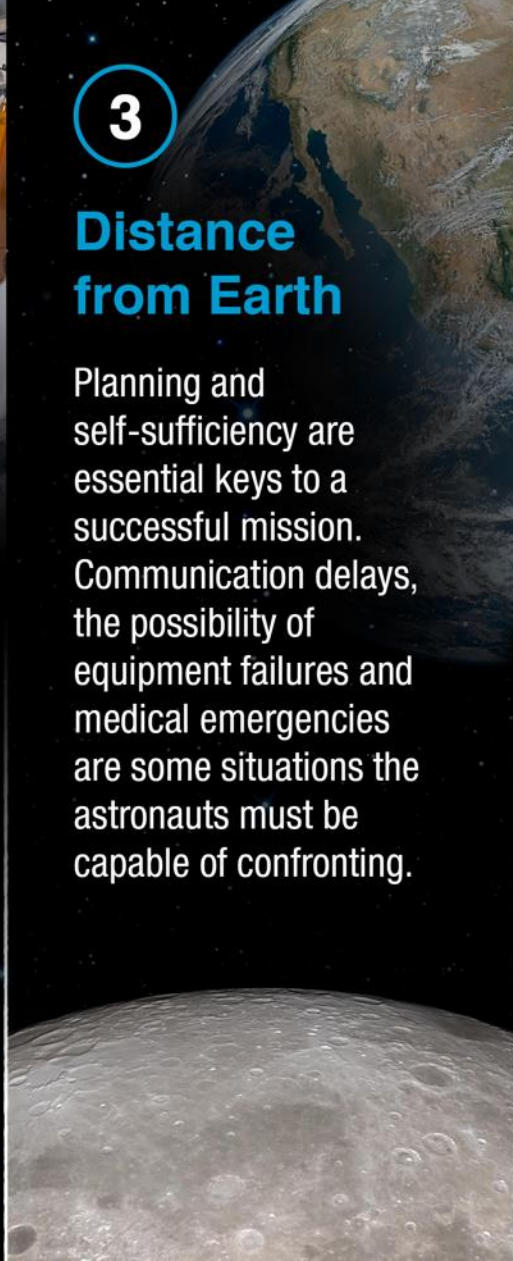
## Isolation and Confinement

Sleep loss, circadian desynchronization, and work overload may lead to performance reductions, adverse health outcomes, and compromised mission objectives.

3

## Distance from Earth

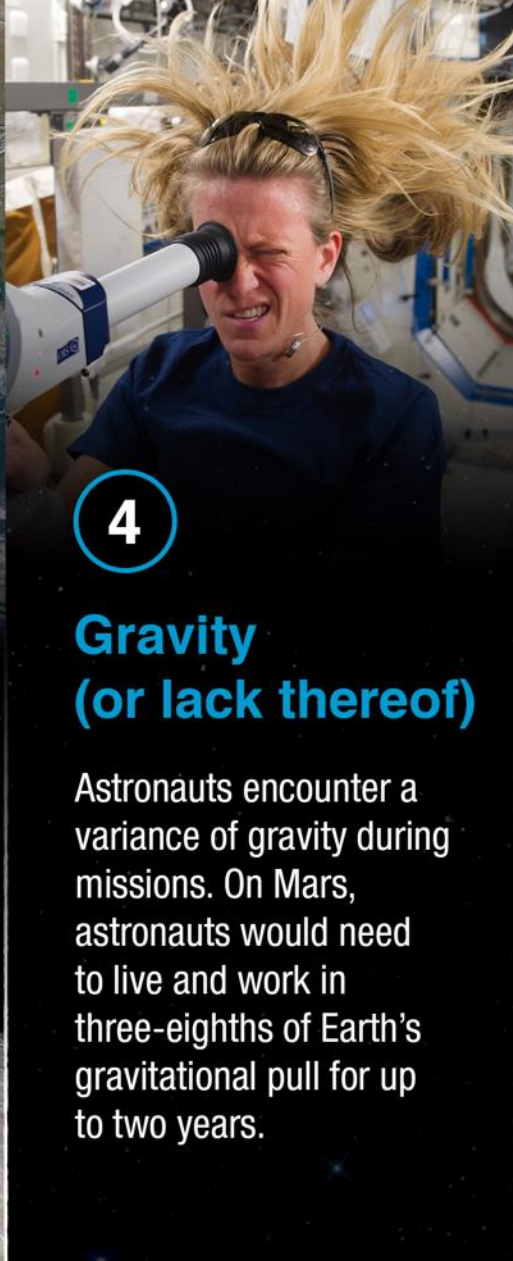
Planning and self-sufficiency are essential keys to a successful mission. Communication delays, the possibility of equipment failures and medical emergencies are some situations the astronauts must be capable of confronting.



4

## Gravity (or lack thereof)

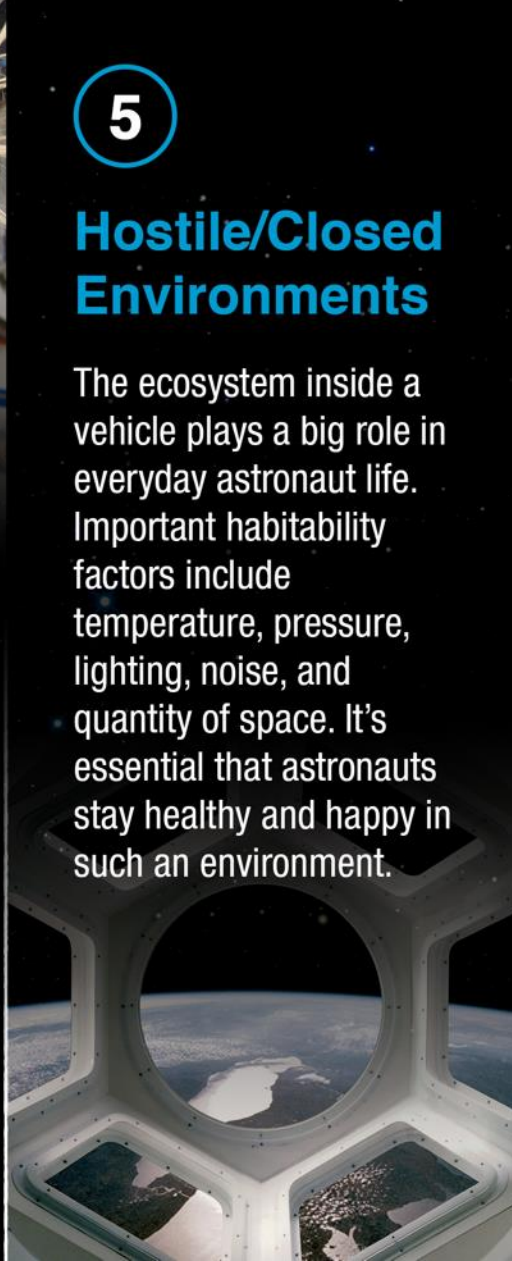
Astronauts encounter a variance of gravity during missions. On Mars, astronauts would need to live and work in three-eighths of Earth's gravitational pull for up to two years.



5

## Hostile/Closed Environments

The ecosystem inside a vehicle plays a big role in everyday astronaut life. Important habitability factors include temperature, pressure, lighting, noise, and quantity of space. It's essential that astronauts stay healthy and happy in such an environment.



# Unpressurized Rover

*Lunar Terrain Vehicle*



# Pressurized Rover



# NASA has featured 2,000+ spinoff technologies improving life on Earth

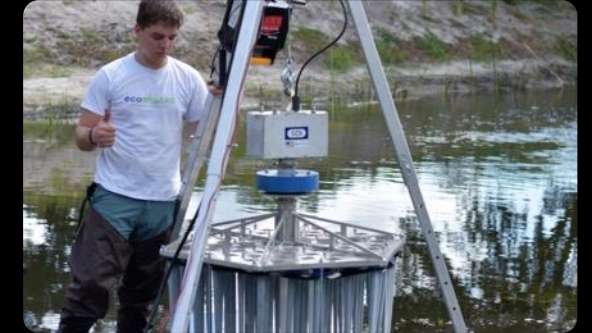
Everyone benefits:



Students



Construction Workers



Conservationists



Farmers



Doctors and Patients



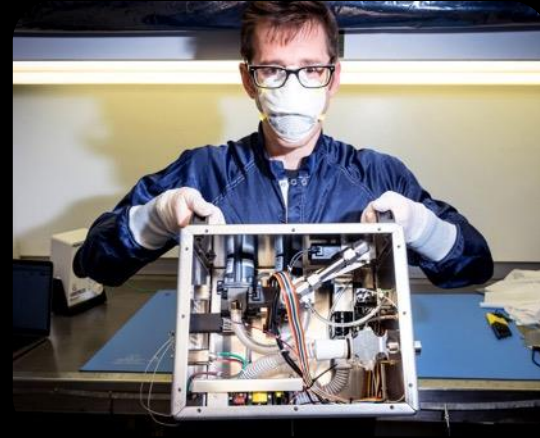
Airplane Passengers



First Responders

# NASA spinoff technologies:

- Save lives
- Make the planet cleaner
- Create jobs
- Educate and entertain
- Help small businesses
- And more



# Commercial Lunar Payload Services

*14 CLPS providers are currently on contract and eligible to bid on payload deliveries to the Moon*



# ORION CREW SURVIVAL SYSTEM

A man in a dark suit and tie is speaking into a microphone on the left. To his right, an astronaut in a bright orange flight suit is holding a white helmet. The background is a large American flag with stars and stripes.

Protects astronauts during launch, reentry and emergency situations during Artemis missions • Custom-fit for each crew member • Lighter, more comfortable helmet with noise reduction and easier connection to the communications system



# MOONWALKING IN THE MODERNIZED SPACE SUITS

NASA is preparing to build the modernized spacesuits for 2024, called *Exploration Extravehicular Mobility Unit*, or xEMU

Spacesuit improvements include advanced safety additions, more flexibility, better communications, and custom fitting.





# Humans on Mars

*Pushing the Boundaries  
of Current Possibilities*



## Go

*Rapid, safe, & efficient  
space transportation*

## Land

*Expanded access to  
diverse surface  
destinations*

## Live

*Sustainable living  
and working farther  
from Earth*

## Explore

*Transformative missions  
and discoveries*