

# Engineering Directorate Materials & Processes Laboratory Capabilities

**Partnership Forum  
Presentation  
September 2021**

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Deputy Director, Materials & Processes Laboratory

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration



**MARSHALL**  
SPACE FLIGHT CENTER

# NASA Marshall Space Flight Center

## Materials & Processes Laboratory



### Lab Lead Engineers Office

- SLS Element Design Lead Engineers
- Human Landing System Lead
- Advanced Manufacturing Lead
- In-Space Manufacturing Lead

Office Manager: Scott Tillery  
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office – 256-544-8651  
cell - 256-783-6701

### Engineering Support Office

- M&P Technical Information System (MAPTIS)
- Materials Usage Agreements (MUAs) & Materials Usage List (MIUL)
- Small projects – ISS payloads, ECLSS
- Physical Sciences Infomatics Database

Office Manager: Teresa Miller  
teresa.y.miller@nasa.gov

office – 256-544-7815

### Materials Analysis & Test Division

- Fracture Control and Damage Tolerance
- Nondestructive Evaluation
- Mechanical Testing / Hydrogen Test Facility
- Tribology / Metrology
- Chemistry & Contamination Control

Division Chief: Freida Lowery  
freida.s.lowery@nasa.gov

office – 256-544-2507  
cell - 256-684-1883

Deputy: Carole Wagner (acting)  
carole.y.wagner@nasa.gov

office – 256-544-2719

### Metallic Materials & Processes Division

- Materials Diagnostics & Failure Analysis
- Materials Science & Metallurgy
- Advanced Metals Processing & Technologies
- Welding & Manufacturing

Division Chief: Dr. Sandeep Shah  
sandeep.r.shah@nasa.gov

office – 256-544-0836  
cell - 256-698-0096

Deputy: Shane Carpenter  
shane.l.carpenter@nasa.gov

office – 256-544-4674

### Nonmetallic Materials & Advanced Manufacturing Division

- Space Environmental Effects
- Ceramics & Ablatives
- Polymeric Materials – Adhesives & Coatings
- Additive Manufacturing & Digital Solutions
- Advanced Composites Manufacturing

Division Chief: Michael Frazier  
(detailed to Chief Engineer's Office)  
michael.frazier@nasa.gov

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cell - 256-603-0757

Deputy: Steven Phillips  
steven.t.phillips@nasa.gov

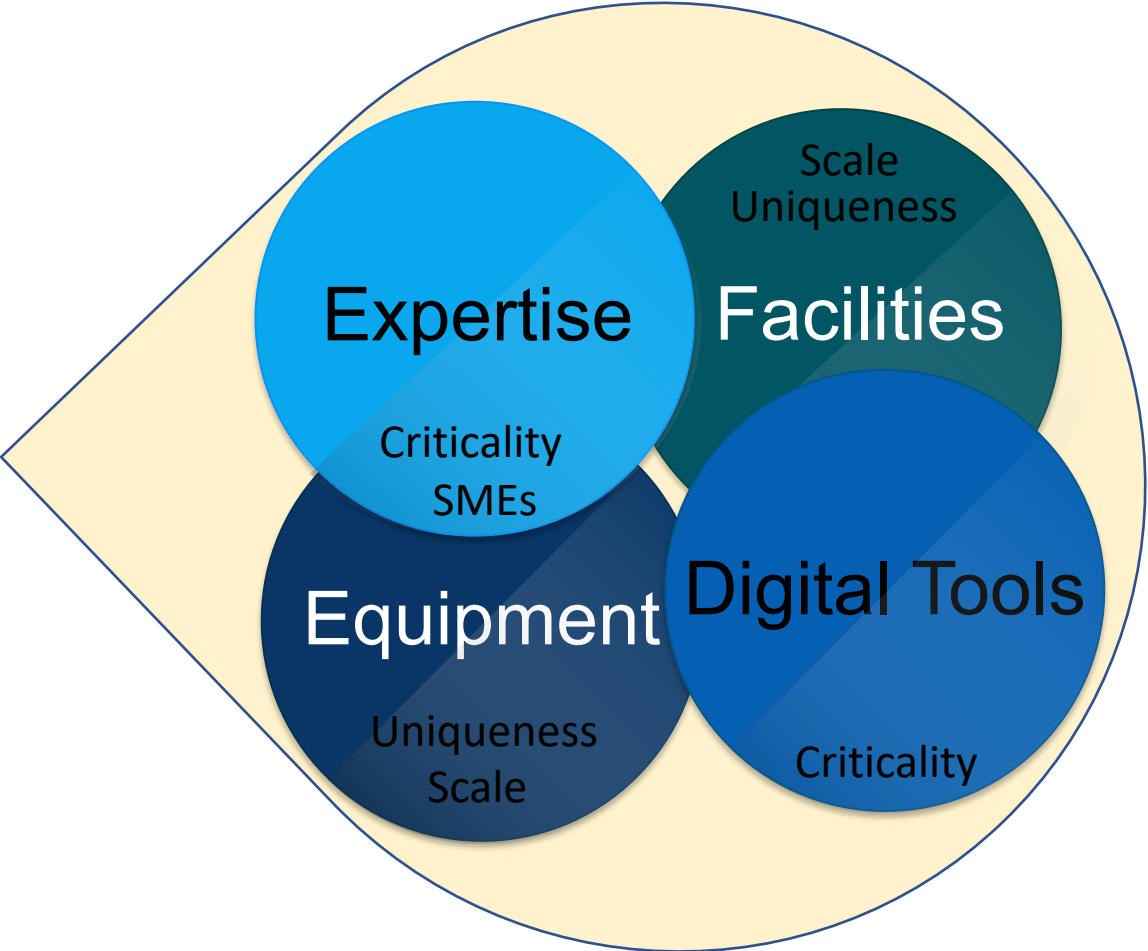
office – 256-544-0626



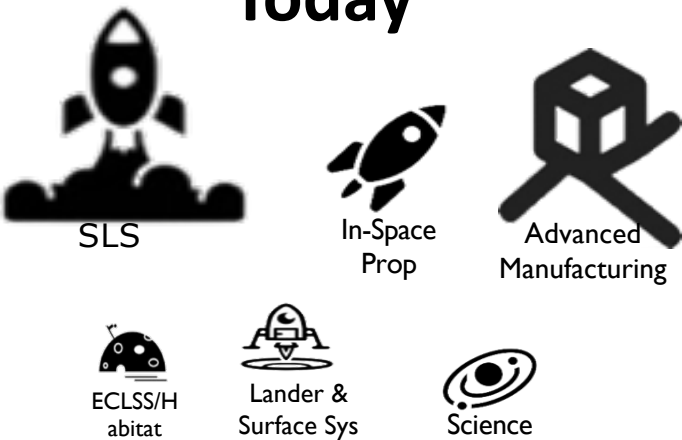
M&P Laboratory partnerships utilize general and specialized capabilities to provide partners tailored solutions to materials, processing, manufacturing, and digital system application challenges.



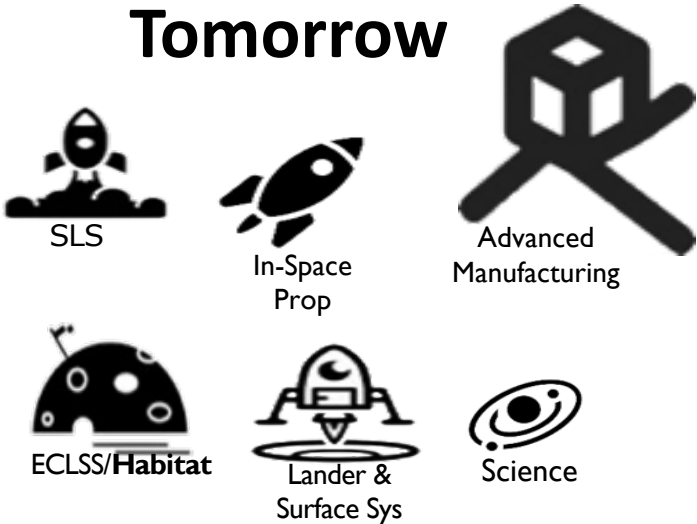
**CAPABILITIES**



**Today**

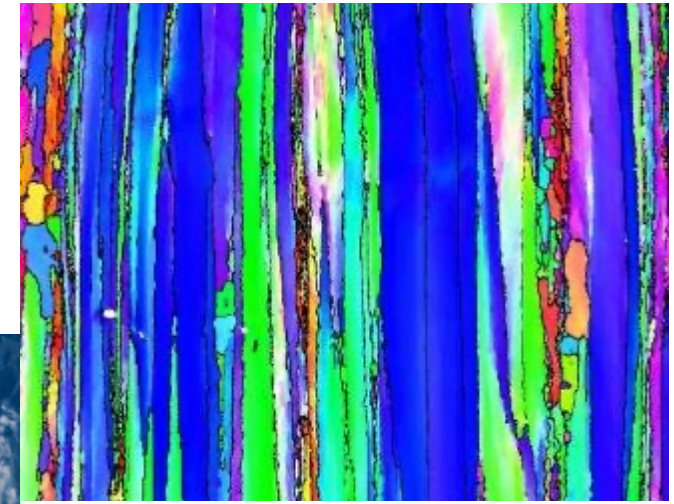
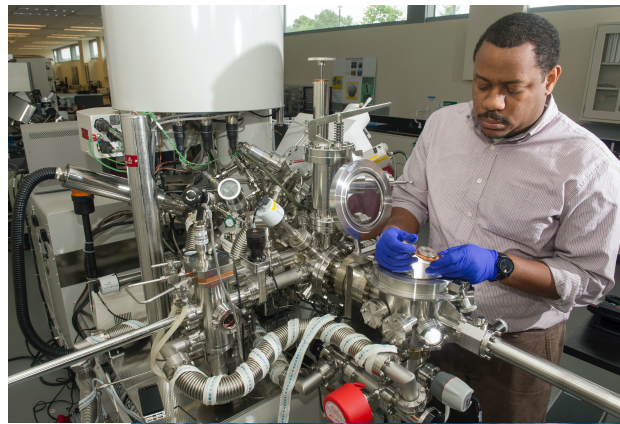


**Tomorrow**

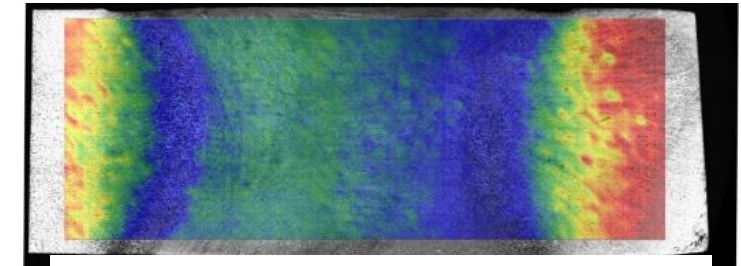
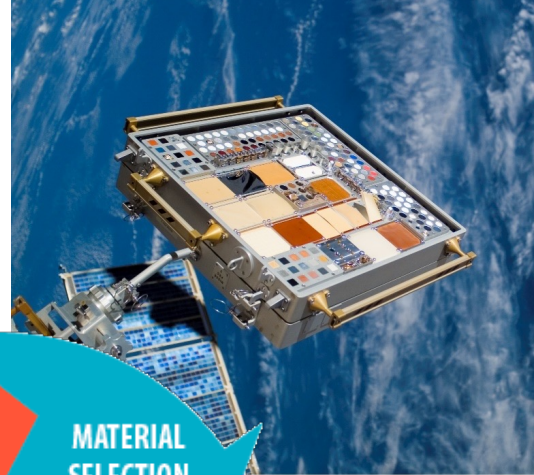


## Selected Materials Capabilities

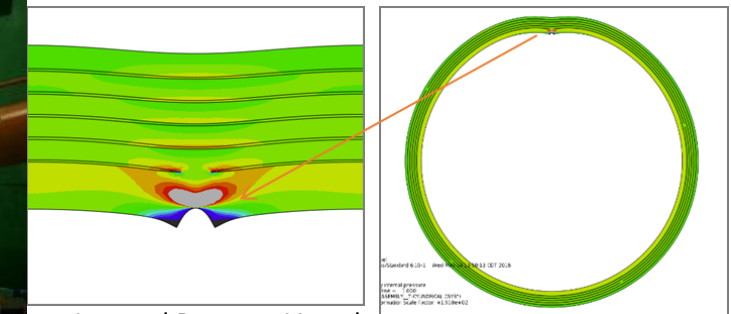
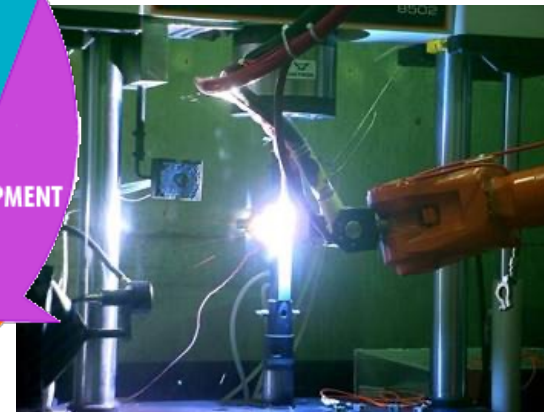
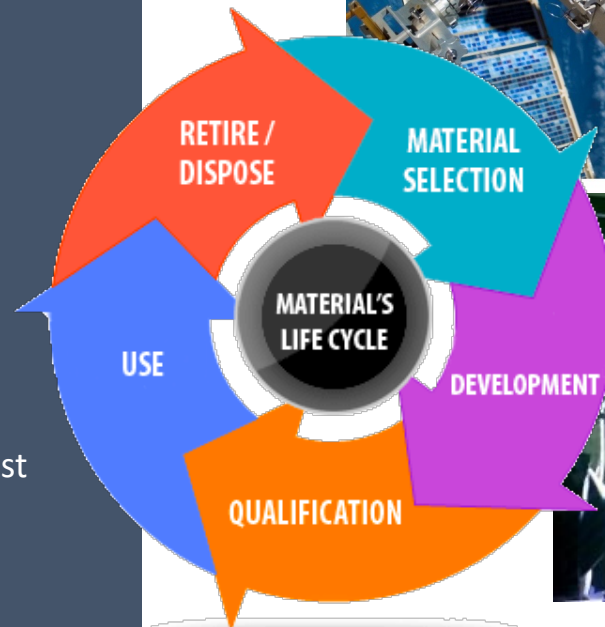
- Materials Diagnostics and Failure Analysis
- Sophisticated Metallurgical Analyses / Characterization
- Fracture Control and Damage Tolerance – customized testing supporting analyses
- High Temperature Materials
- Ionic Liquids Research
- Materials Flight Experiments
- Materials and Processes Technical Information System (MAPTIS)
- Mitigation for Materials Obsolescence
- Development of Material Usage Agreements (MUAs), Material Usage List (MIUL)



Grain Size Analysis in a Rolled Aluminum Plate  
(SEM/EBSD)



Microhardness Mapping of a Friction Stir Weld  
(Blue = Low Hardness, Red = High Hardness)



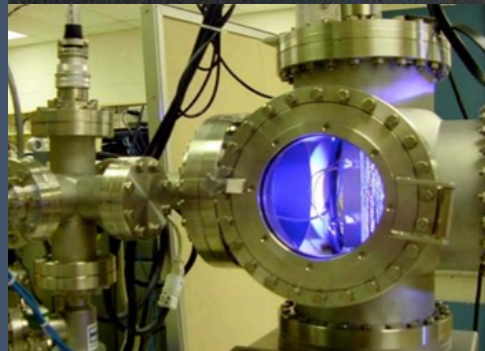
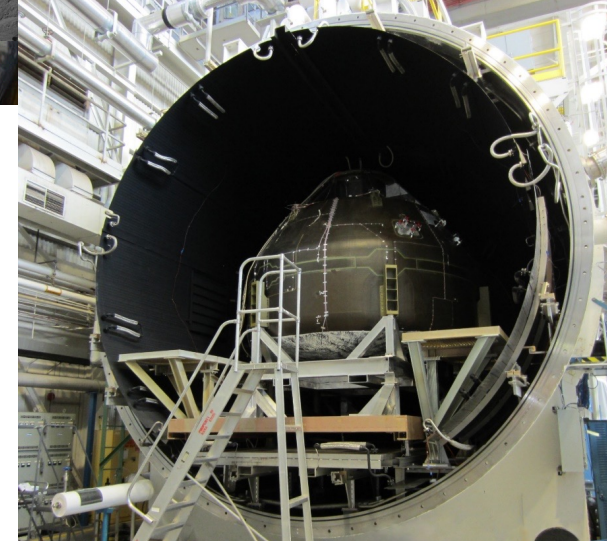
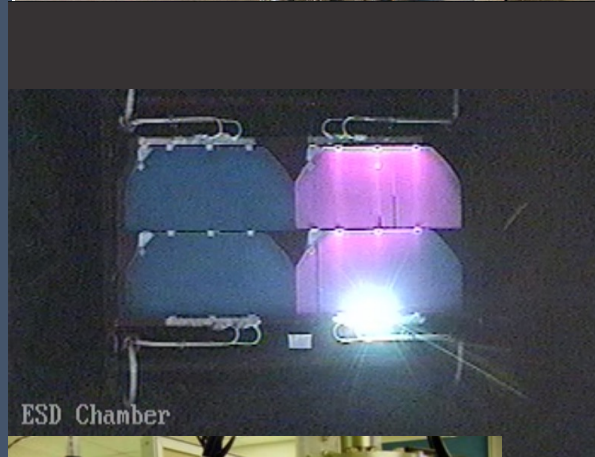
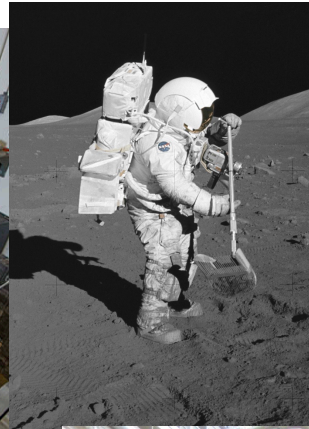
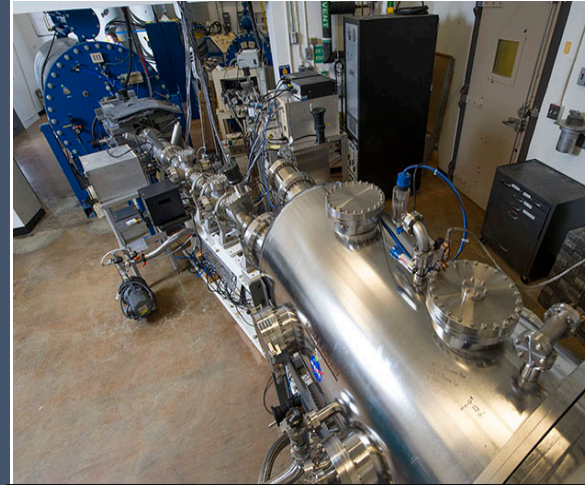
Layered Pressure Vessel  
2D Fracture Modeling

<https://maptis.nasa.gov>



## Selected Test Capabilities

- Space Environmental Effects (SEE) –
  - high vacuum with thermal extremes,
  - ionizing and non-ionizing radiation,
  - plasma
  - atomic oxygen
- Lunar Surface Simulation -
  - SEE coupled with regolith bed (~2 ft dia x 4 ft chamber)
  - New full scale system level capability (20 ft dia x 28 ft chamber)
- Hydrogen Test Facility (nationally unique)
- Mechanical Testing
- Impact Testing –
  - launch and ascent debris
  - weather encounter
  - micrometeoroid and orbital debris
- Tribology / Metrology
- Investigative Chemistry & Planetary Protection



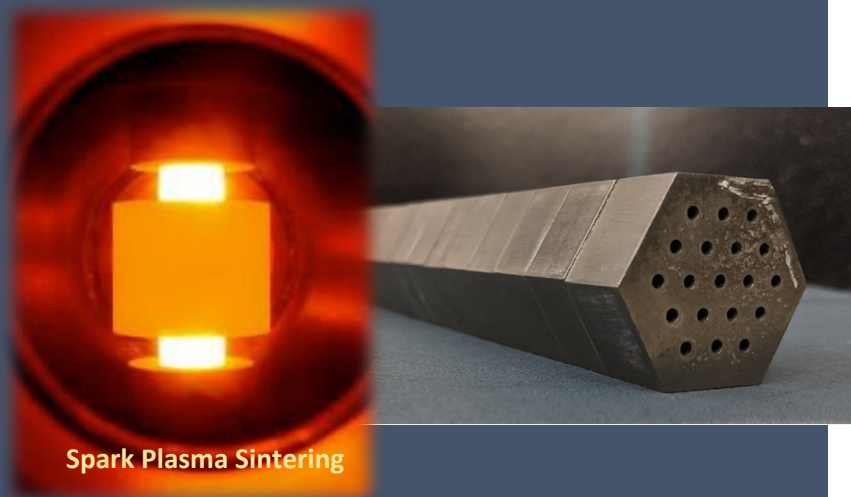


# Selected "For Space" Advanced Manufacturing Capabilities

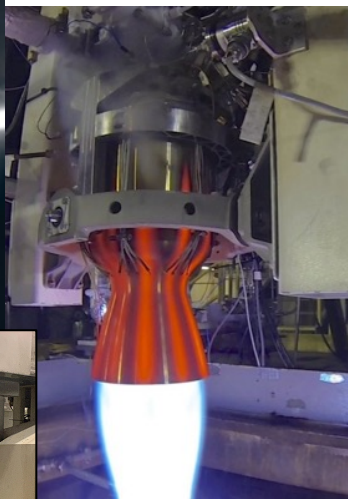
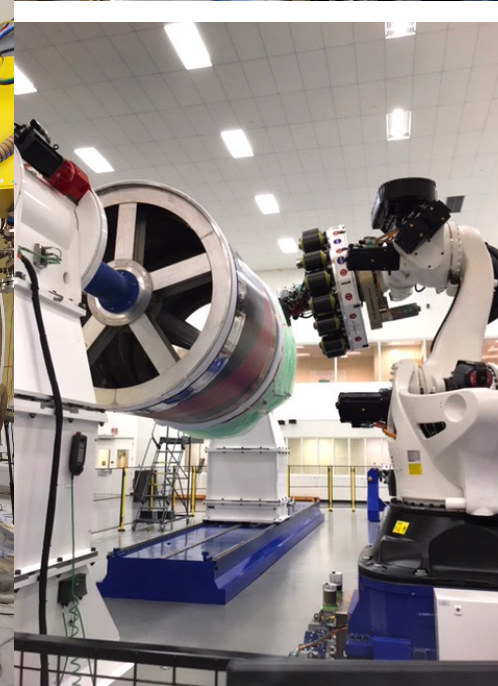
- Welding
  - Large scale FSW production
  - Modular / Flexible Tooling
- Additive Manufacturing
  - Powder Bed Fusion
  - Large scale DED
  - Standards and certification
- Composites Manufacturing
- Thermal Protection System Applications
- Space Nuclear Propulsion Fuel Elements
- Manufacturing Support – e.g. Non-Destructive Eval



## Combustion Chambers



Spark Plasma Sintering

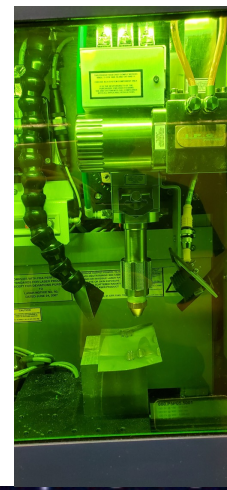




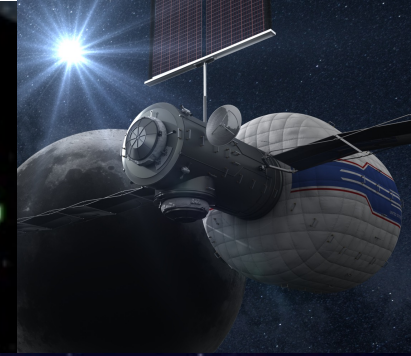
## Selected "In Space" Advanced Manufacturing Capabilities

- In-Space Manufacturing
  - On-orbit Servicing And Manufacturing (OSAM)
  - Lunar surface excavation/construction
  - In-Situ Resource Utilization (ISRU)
- Joining / Welding
  - Laser and e-beam welding – manufacturing and repair
- Additive Manufacturing
  - AM with In-Situ Resources
  - 3D printed printable inks for electronics & sensors
- Digital Transformation
  - Interest in AI / ML for remote operations
- Manufacturing Support
  - Non-Destructive Evaluation

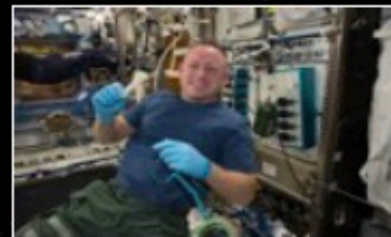
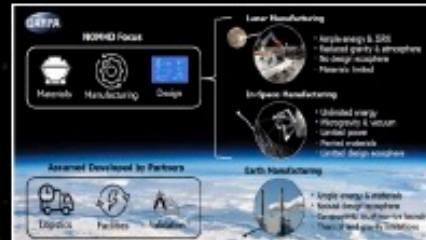
M&P capabilities will play a major role in maximizing component re-use, recycling and in-situ resource utilization.



On-Orbit Servicing,  
Assembly, and  
Manufacturing

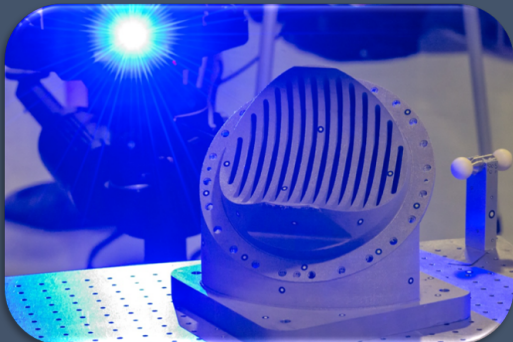


**In-space manufacturing technologies are evolving rapidly and bit by bit pioneering a sustainable path to Mars**

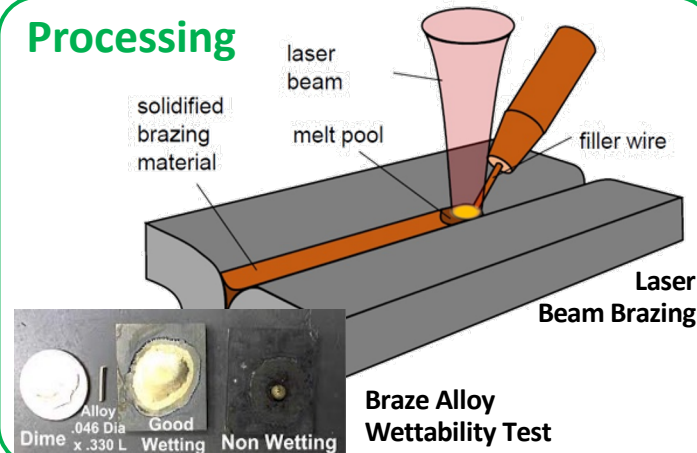


## Selected Digital Transformation Capabilities

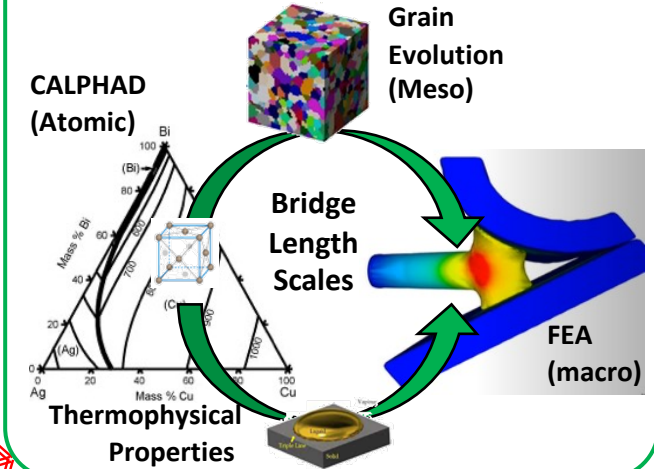
- Digital Transformation - Interest in applications of
  - Artificial Intelligence
  - Machine Learning
  - Model Based Engineering
  - Autonomy & Remote Operations
  - Digital Twin
- Manufacturing Support
  - Structured lights scanning
  - Simulations for optimizing production flow and human factors
  - Paperless production systems
- Additive Manufacturing – In process monitoring and feedback



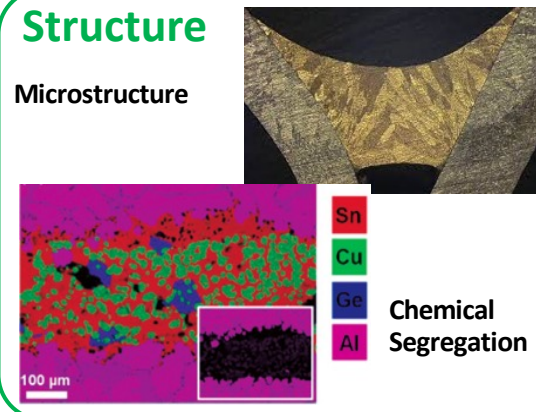
### Processing



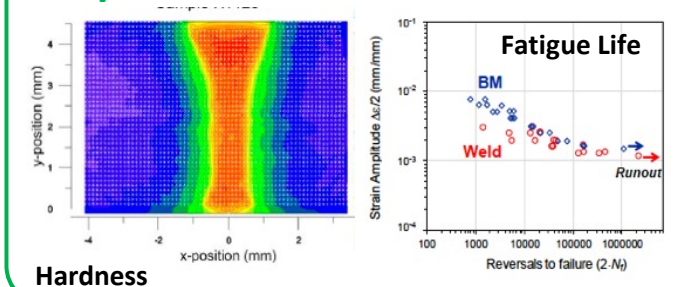
### Computational Modeling



### Structure



### Properties & Performance





# Conclusion



- MSFC Engineering has excellent, deep, and many unique technical capabilities.
- We want to partner with you on implementing new and emerging technologies to accelerate space system development and application.
- We stand ready to assist academic institutions, other government agencies, and the commercial aerospace community in our region and around the country to deliver space fairing systems.

"If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself." --Henry Ford.

"When you need to innovate, you need collaboration." – Marris Mayer

[Please don't hesitate to contact us as needed - mark.a.cooper@nasa.gov or dewitt.burns@nasa.gov](mailto:mark.a.cooper@nasa.gov)