



National Research Council Dialogue to Assess Progress on

NASA's Human Exploration Systems and Mobility Capability Roadmap Development

General Background and Introduction

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March 29, 2005**



Why Are We Here?



- **NASA wants the National Research Council (NRC) to review Capability Roadmap products and assess progress in four areas:**
 - **Do the Capability Roadmaps provide a clear pathway to (or process for) technology and capability development?**
 - **Are technology maturity levels accurately conveyed and used? (Note: Maturity levels will be evaluated using Technology Readiness Levels [TRLs] and Capability Readiness Levels [CRLs] or other appropriate methodologies)**
 - **Are proper metric for measuring advancement of technical maturity included?**
 - **Do the Capability Roadmaps have connection points to each other when appropriate**



Agenda



- **General Background and Introduction of Capability Roadmaps**
 - **Agency Objective**
 - **Strategic Planning Transformation**
 - **Advanced Planning Organizational Roles**
 - **Public Involvement in Strategic Planning**
 - **Strategic Roadmaps and Schedule**
 - **Capability Roadmaps and Schedule**
 - **Technology and Capability Readiness Levels**
 - **Relationships Between Roadmaps**
 - **Purpose of NRC Review**
- **Capability Roadmap Development (Team Progress to Date)**



Agency Goals and Objectives



| | | |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| National Goal | Advance U.S. scientific, security and economic interests through a robust space exploration program. | |
| National Objectives | 1. Implement a sustained and affordable human and robotic program to explore the solar system and beyond. | 2. Extend human presence across the solar system, starting with a human return to the Moon by the year 2020, in preparation for human exploration of Mars and other destinations. |
| NASA Objectives | 1. Undertake robotic and human lunar exploration to further science, and to develop and test new approaches, technologies, and systems to enable and support sustained human and robotic exploration of Mars and more distant destinations. First robotic mission no later than 2008. (SRM 1) | 6. Return the Space Shuttle to flight and focus its use on completion of the ISS, complete assembly of the ISS, and retire the Space Shuttle as soon as assembly of the ISS is completed, planned for the end of this decade. Conduct ISS activities consistent with U.S. obligations to ISS partners. (SRM 6, 7) |
| | 2. Conduct robotic exploration of Mars to search for evidence of life, to understand the history of the solar system, and to prepare for future human exploration. (SRM 2) | 7. Develop a new crew exploration vehicle to provide crew transportation for missions beyond low Earth orbit. First test flight to be by the end of this decade with operational capability for human exploration NLT 2014. (SRM 5) |
| | 3. Conduct robotic exploration across the solar system for scientific purposes and to support human exploration. In particular, explore Jupiter's moons, asteroids and other bodies to search for evidence of life, to understand the history of the solar system, and to search for resources. (SRM 3) | 8. Focus research and use of the ISS on supporting space exploration goals, with emphasis on understanding how the space environment affects human health and capabilities, and developing countermeasures. (SRM 6) |
| | 4. Conduct advanced telescope searches for Earth-like planets and habitable environments around other stars. (SRM 4) | 9. Conduct the first extended human expedition to the lunar surface as early as 2015, but no later than the year 2020. (SRM 1) |
| | 5. Explore the universe to understand its origin, structure, evolution, and destiny. (SRM 8) | 10. Conduct human expeditions to Mars after acquiring adequate knowledge about the planet using robotic missions and after successfully demonstrating sustained human exploration missions to the Moon. (SRM 2) |



Agency Goals and Objectives



| | | | |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|
| National Goal | Advance U.S. scientific, security and economic interests through a robust space exploration program. | | |
| National Objectives | 3. Develop innovative technologies, knowledge, and infrastructure both to explore and to support decisions about the destinations for human exploration. | 4. Promote international and commercial participation in exploration to further U.S. scientific, security, and economic interests. | 5. Study the Earth system from space and develop new space-based and related capabilities for this purpose. |
| NASA Objectives | 11. Develop and demonstrate power generation, propulsion, life support and other key capabilities required to support more distant, more capable, and/or longer duration human and robotic exploration of Mars and other destinations. (SRM 13 and Capability Roadmaps) | 14. Advance scientific knowledge of the Earth system through space-based observation, assimilation of new observations, and development and deployment of enabling technologies, systems, and capabilities, including those with the potential to improve future operational systems. (SRM 9) | 17. Pursue commercial opportunities for providing transportation and other services supporting International Space Station and exploration missions beyond Earth orbit. Separate to the maximum extent practical crew from cargo. (SRM 5, 6, 7) |
| | 12. Provide advanced aeronautical technologies to meet the challenges of next-generation systems in aviation, for civilian and scientific purposes, in our atmosphere and in the atmospheres of other worlds. (SRM 11) | 15. Explore the Sun-Earth system to understand the Sun and its effects on Earth, the solar system, and the space environmental conditions that will be experienced by human explorers, and demonstrate technologies that can improve future operational Earth observation systems. (SRM 10) | 18. Use U.S. commercial space capabilities and services to fulfill NASA requirements to the maximum extent practical and continue to involve, or increase the involvement of, the U.S. private sector in design and development of space systems. (SRM 5,6,7) |
| | 13. Use NASA missions and other activities to inspire and motivate the nation's students and teachers, to engage and educate the public, and to advance the scientific and technological capabilities of the nation. (SRM 12) | 16. Pursue opportunities for international participation to support U.S. space exploration goals. (All SRMs) | |

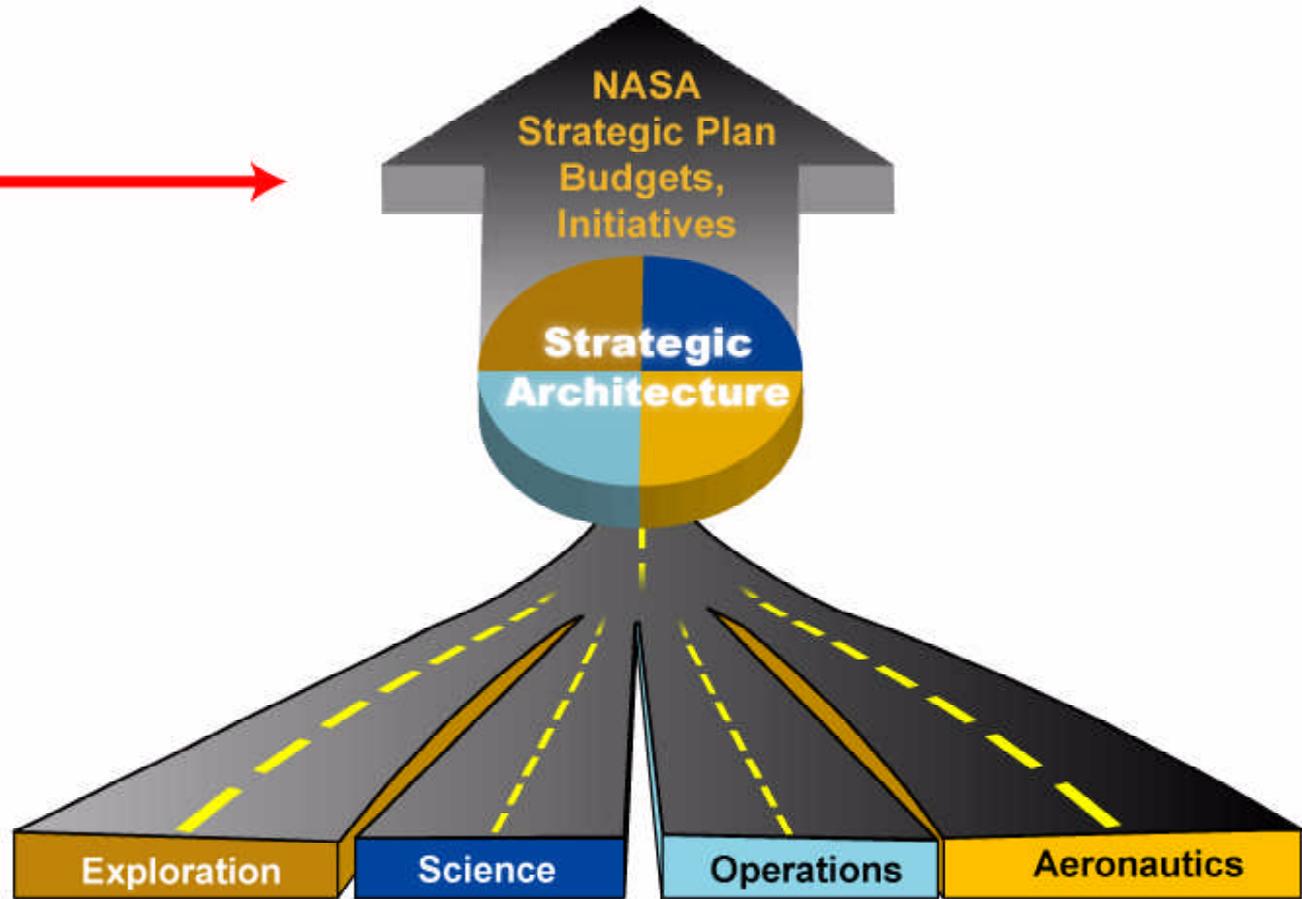
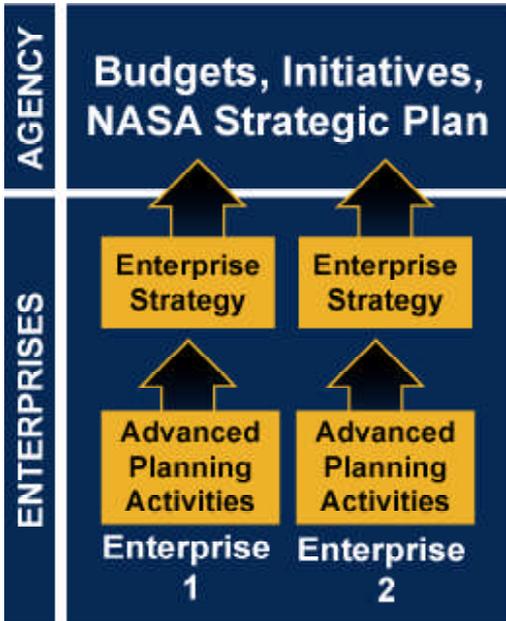


Strategic Planning Transformation



ACHIEVING THE VISION

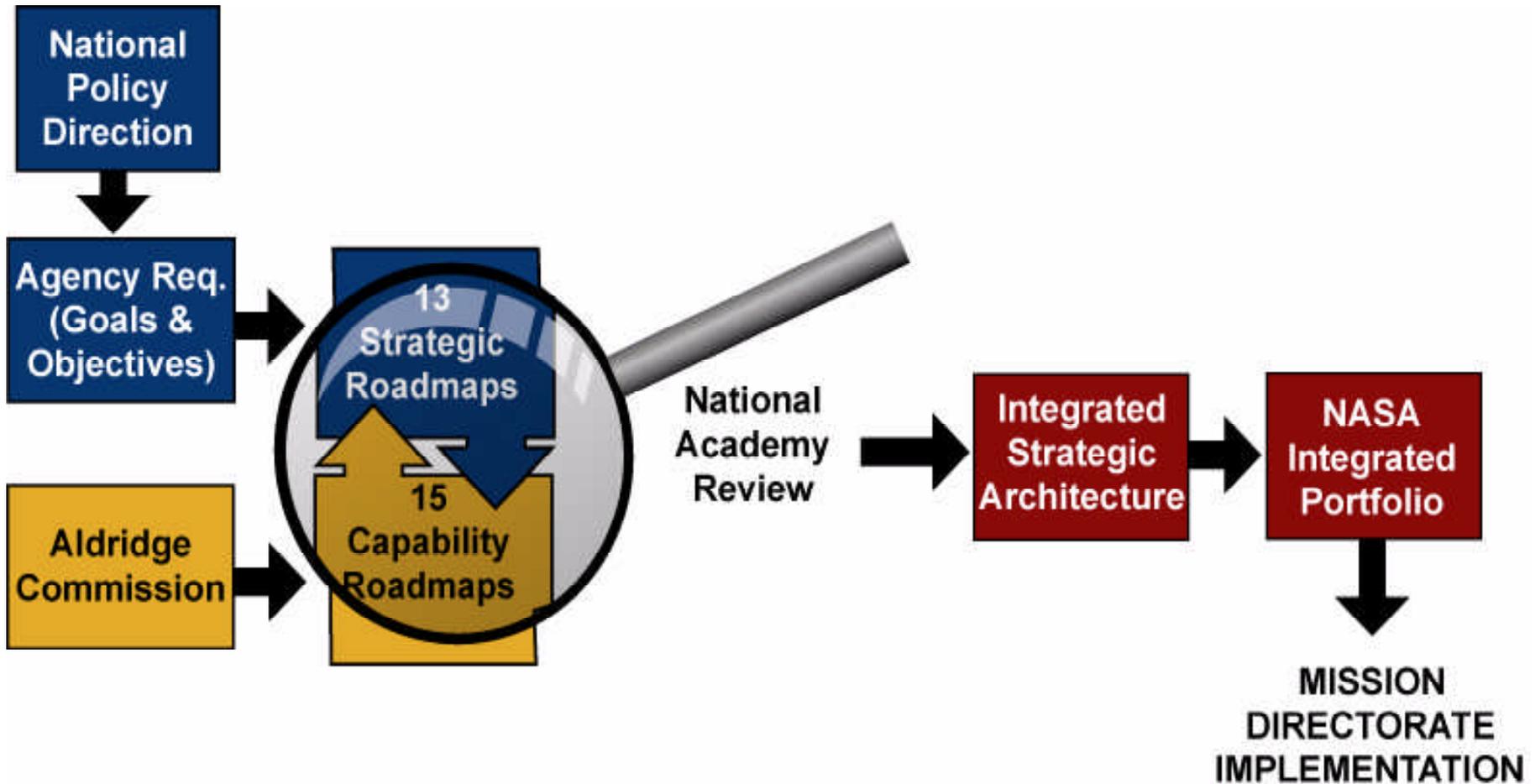
OLD vs. NEW



Capability & Strategic Roadmaps



Strategic Planning Transformation - continued





Advanced Planning Organizational Roles



- **NASA Strategic Planning Council (Chair, NASA Administrator)**
 - Agency-level strategic decisions & NASA Strategic Plan
- **NASA Operations Council (Chair, NASA Deputy Administrator)**
 - Implementation of strategies through integrated Agency tactical & operational activities
- **Director for Advanced Planning (Charles Elachi)**
 - Develops input, options, & assessments for Strategic Planning Council
- **Associate Deputy Administrator for Systems Integration (Mary Kicza)**
 - Tracks & assesses integrated schedules, progress towards goals, Agency needs, strategic investments
- **Advanced Planning & Integration Office (Dir. APIO, Bernie Seery)**
 - Provides staff to the Director for Advanced Planning and the Associate Deputy Administrator for Systems Integration
- **Mission Directorates (Craig Steidle, Al Diaz, Victor Lebacqz, William Raddy)**
 - Technical knowledge & expertise to implement overall Agency architecture(s)



Public Involvement in Strategic Planning



- **NASA wants:**
 - **A broad community perspective when doing its strategic planning**
 - **Best strategies and most creative and innovative ideas from across the nation to implement the Vision**
 - **To provide opportunities for community input**
 - **RFI for Capability and Strategic Roadmap Input**
 - **Public workshop held in Washington DC on November 30th for Capability Roadmaps (509 people attended, 514 papers submitted)**
 - **White Papers submitted for Strategic Roadmaps**
 - **Roadmap team members drawn from NASA, other Government Agencies, Academia, and Industry**
 - **Review by the National Research Council (NRC)**
 - **Presentations to professional societies, workshops, and conferences**



Strategic Roadmaps



- **Strategic Roadmap**
 - One of thirteen elements of the NASA Strategy that will explore options and establish pathways for implementing the Vision for Exploration
- **Roadmaps will include:**
 - Broad human and robotic science and exploration goals, priorities, anticipated discoveries
 - High-level milestones, options, and decision points
 - Implementation approaches, suggested missions



Strategic Roadmaps - continued



| Roadmap | Chairs (HQ Directorate, Center) | External chair |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| Robotic and Human Lunar Exploration | Adm. (Ret.) Craig Steidle (HQ/ESMD) and William Readdy (HQ/SOMD) Gen. (Ret.) Jefferson Howell (JSC) | Gen. (Ret.) Tom Stafford |
| Robotic and Human Exploration of Mars | Al Diaz (HQ/SMD) Dr. Charles Elachi (JPL) | Tom Young (Lockheed Martin, Ret.) |
| Solar System Exploration | Orlando Figueroa (HQ/SMD) Scott Hubbard (ARC) | Dr. Jonathan Lunine (Uni. of Arizona) |
| Search for Earth-Like Planets | Dr. Ghassem Asrar (HQ/SMD) Dr. Charles Beichman (JPL) | Dr. Adam Burrows (Uni. of Arizona) |
| Exploration Transportation System | Adm. (Ret.) Craig Steidle (HQ/ESMD) Jim Kennedy (KSC) | Gen. (Ret.) Charles Bolden |
| International Space Station | Mark Uhran (HQ/SOMD) Bob Cabana (JSC) | Adm. (Ret.) Tom Betterton |
| Space Shuttle | <i>Deferred</i> | <i>Deferred</i> |

Directorate and APIO Coordinators also with each team

▼ = DoD Participation



Strategic Roadmaps - continued



| Roadmap | Chairs (HQ Directorate, Center) | External Chair |
|---|---|--|
| Universe Exploration | Dr. Anne Kinney (HQ/SMD) Dr. Nick White (GSFC) | Dr. Kathy Flanagan (MIT) |
| Earth Science and Applications from Space | Orlando Figueroa (HQ/SMD) Dr. Diane Evans (JPL) | Dr. Charles Kennel (UCSD/Scripps) |
| Sun-Solar System Connection | Al Diaz (HQ/SMD) Dr. Franco Einaudi (GSFC) | Dr. Timothy Killeen (NCAR) |
| Aeronautical Technologies | Terry Hertz (HQ/ARMD) None (Center) | James Jamieson (Boeing) |
| Education | Dr. Adena Loston (HQ/Office of Education) Dr. Julian Earls (GRC) | Dr. France Cordova (Uni. of Cal., Riverside) |
| Nuclear Systems | Adm. (Ret.) Craig Steidle (HQ/ESMD) Chris Scolese (GSFC) | Dr. John Ahearne (Duke Uni.) |

Directorate and APIO Coordinators also with each team

▼ = DoD Participation



Strategic Roadmaps Schedule



| Milestone | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Plan Approved and Co-chairs Signed Up | →▲ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Complete Team Formation, Begin Work | →▲ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Interim Roadmap Products | ▲→ | | ▲ | | | | | | | | | |
| Teams Mid-term Status Review | | | | | ▲ | | | | | | | |
| Interim Roadmap Deliverable | | | | | | ▲ | | | | | | |
| First Synthesis Workshop | | | | | | | ▲ | | | | | |
| Roadmaps Submitted for NRC Review | | | | | | | | ▲ | | | | |
| NRC Reviews Complete | | | | | | | | ▲ | | | | |
| Second Synthesis Workshop | | | | | | | | | ▲ | | | |
| NAC Workshop | | | | | | | | | | ▲ | | |
| Integrated Strategic Architecture | | | | | | | | | | | | ▲ |



Capability Roadmaps



- Capability is defined as a set of systems (or system of systems) with associated technologies & knowledge that enable NASA to perform a function (e.g. scientific measurements) required to accomplish the NASA mission.
- Capability Roadmap is a description of the developments (including alternate paths and options) required to achieve the capability.



Capability Charter



- **NASA, in response to the Presidential Commission recommendations, will prepare roadmaps and related implementation plans that define national capabilities needed to meet the Agency's strategic roadmaps. The roadmaps are based on the Presidential Commission's recommendation of technologies, updated by the NASA Strategic Council.**
- **The capability roadmap development process will be accomplished in two phases.**
 - **Phase 1 will be the development of capability roadmaps and associated technical products.**
 - **During this phase, technical experts both internal and external to NASA will provide the technical knowledge and expertise in the development of roadmaps which identify the capabilities that are needed to meet the missions of the Agency. The capability roadmap team will identify and analyze each of the associated technologies and assess the capability performance afforded by the current state of the art, the performance level needed by the strategic mission and trace the development required.**
 - **Phase 2 will be the development of Investment Plans.**
 - **During this phase, a NASA team will develop investment plans for the capability roadmaps. This team will be working to determine the critical capabilities that are identified on the roadmaps and to develop an investment plan for each individual roadmap area to include schedules and yearly budgets. The activity of the Investment Plan Teams consists of using the perspectives and values described by the Capability Roadmaps and selecting and then formulating an optimized development plan suitable for consideration by the Agency in its budget submissions.**



Method and Timing of Integrating Capability Roadmaps with Strategic Roadmaps



- **Strategic roadmaps are being developed in parallel with the Capability roadmaps**
 - Assumptions were made to begin the Capability roadmap development.
 - Created a missions assumptions framework
 - Provided a set of design reference missions
- **The Capability roadmaps being presented today are based on mission assumptions which will be updated by the agency strategic roadmap effort**
- **This dialogue review is, therefore, a work in progress**
- **Another NRC review in the June timeframe will include the integrated strategic and capability roadmap product**



Process for Team Selection



- **Guidelines for Team Member Selection**
 - Small teams of 12 -15 members with participation from:
 - 1/3 Industry
 - 1/3 NASA & other Government Agencies
 - 1/3 Academia
- **Strategic Planning Council assigned roadmaps to Mission Directorate**
- **Mission Directorates assigned a NASA Chair with roadmap expertise**
- **NASA Chairs chose team members from industry, academia, other Government & within NASA who are recognized experts**



Capability Roadmaps - continued



| Capability | NASA chair | External chair |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| High-Energy Power and Propulsion | Joe Nainiger (GRC) | Dr. Tom Hughes (Penn State Uni.) |
| In-Space Transportation | Paul McConnaughey (MSFC) | Col. Joe Boyles (US Air Force SMC) |
| Advanced Telescopes and Observatories | Lee Feinberg (GSFC) | Dr. Howard MacEwen (SRS Technologies) |
| Communication and Navigation | Bob Spearing (HQ/SOMD) | Michael Regan (DoD) |
| Robotic Access to Planetary Surfaces | Mark Adler (JPL) | Dr. Robert Braun (Georgia Tech) |
| Human Planetary Landing Systems | Robert Manning (JPL) | Dr. Harrison Schmitt |
| Human Health and Support Systems | Dennis Grounds (JSC) | Al Boehm (Ret, Hamilton-Sundstrand) |
| Human Exploration Systems and Mobility | Chris Culbert (JSC) | Dr. Jeff Taylor (Uni. of Hawaii) |

Directorate and APIO Coordinators also with each team

▼ = DoD Participation



Capability Roadmaps - continued



| Capability | NASA chair | External chair |
|---|---|---|
| Autonomous Systems and Robotics | Dr. Steve Zornetzer (ARC) | Doug Gage (Ret. DARPA) |
| Transformational Spaceport/Range | Karen Poniatowski (HQ/SOMD) | Gen. (Ret.) Jimmy Morrell Col. Dennis Hilley (OSD) |
| Scientific Instruments/Sensors | Rich Barney (GSFC) | Dr. Maria Zuber (MIT) |
| In Situ Resource Utilization | Jerry Sanders (JSC) | Dr. Mike Duke (Colorado School of Mines) |
| Advanced Modeling, Simulation, Analysis | Dr. Erik Antonsson (JPL) | Dr. Tamas Gombosi (Uni. Of Michigan) |
| Systems Engineering Cost/Risk Analysis | Steve Cavanaugh (LaRC) | Dr. Alan Wilhite (Georgia Institute of Technology) |
| Nanotechnology | Dr. Murray Hirschbein (HQ/ARMD) and Dr. Minoos Dastoor (HQ/ESMD) | Dr. Dimitris Lagoudas (Texas A&M) |

Directorate and APIO Coordinators also with each team

▼ = DoD Participation



Capability Roadmap Schedule



| MILESTONE | Nov | De | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | |
|--|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|-------|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|---|
| Begin Roadmap Teams Formation | ▲ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Public Workshop in Washington | | ▲ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Working First Drafts of Roadmaps | ▲ | ————— | | | | ▲ | | | | | | |
| Strategic Planning Council Preview | | | | ▲ | | | | | | | | |
| Engineering Academy (NRC) Dialogues | | | | | ▲ | ————— | ▲ | | | | | |
| Identify Potential Gaps for POP Input | | | | | | ▲ | ————— | ▲ | | | | |
| Strategic Roadmap Drafts Complete | | | | | | ▲ | | | | | | |
| Align with Strategic Roadmaps | | | | | | ▲ | ————— | ▲ | | | | |
| Phase 2 - Engineering Academy (NRC) Summary Review | | | | | | | | ▲ | ————— | ▲ | | |
| Brief Strategic Planning Council | | | | | | | | | ▲ | | | |
| Finalize Roadmaps | | | | | | | | | | ▲ | ————— | ▲ |



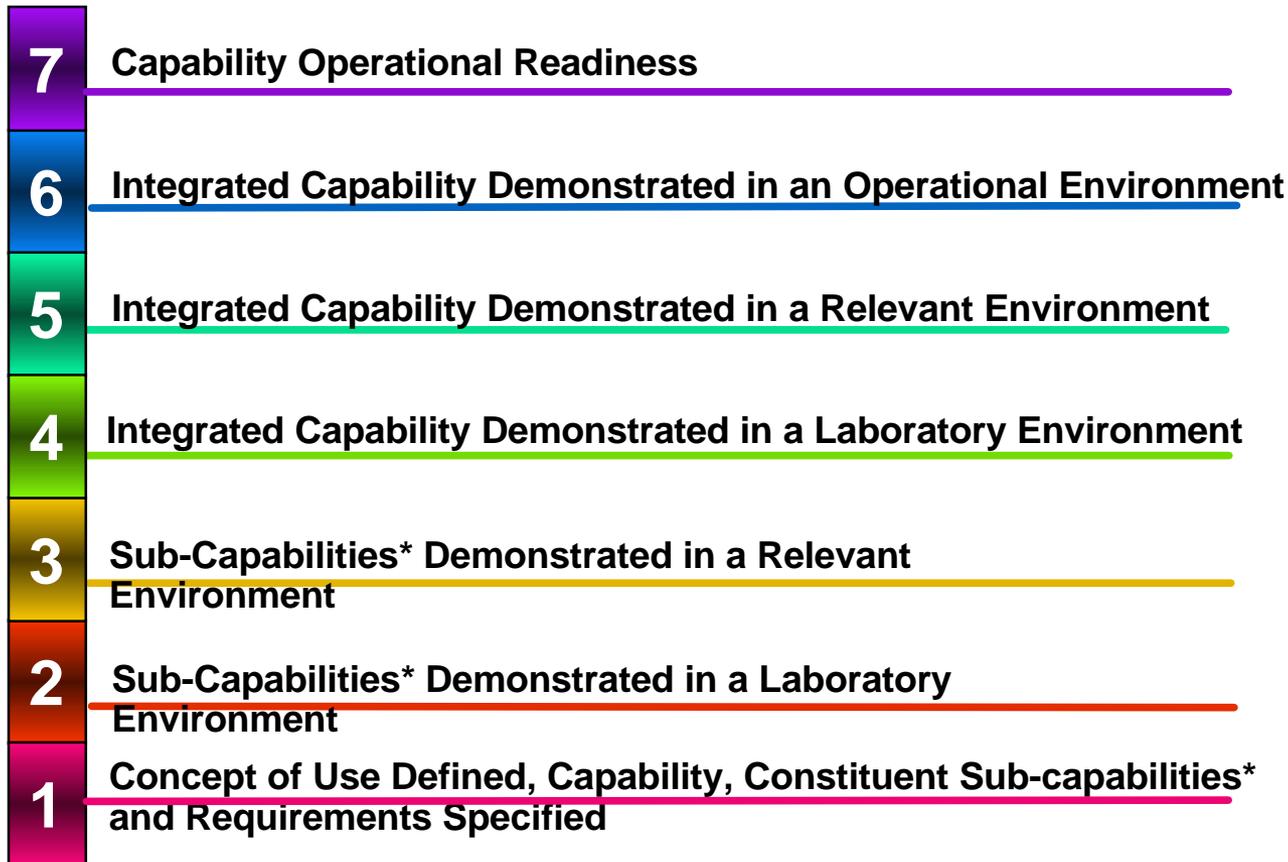
Technology Readiness Levels



- 9** Actual System Proven in Operation
- 8** Actual System Qualified by Demonstration
- 7** System Prototype Demonstration in an Operational Environment
- 6** System/Subsystem Model or Prototype Demonstration in a Relevant Environment
- 5** Component and/or Breadboard Validation in a Relevant Environment
- 4** Component and/or Breadboard Validation in a Laboratory Environment
- 3** Analytical and Experimental Critical Functions Characteristic Proof-of-Concept
- 2** Technology Concept and/or Application Formulated
- 1** Basic Principles Observed and Reported



Capability Readiness Levels



❖ A Capability is defined as a set of systems (or system of systems) with associated technologies & knowledge that enable NASA to perform a function (e.g. scientific measurements) required to accomplish the NASA mission.

❖ Sub-capabilities include Technologies, Infrastructure, and Knowledge (process, procedures, training, facilities).



Relationships between Roadmaps



Human Exploration Systems and Mobility

| | 2. High-energy power and propulsion | 3. In-space transportation | 4. Advanced telescopes and observatories | 5. Communication & Navigation | 6. Robotic access to planetary surfaces | 7. Human planetary landing systems | 8. Human health and support systems | 9. Human exploration systems and mobility | 10. Autonomous systems and robotics | 11. Transformational spaceport/range technologies | 12. Scientific instruments and sensors | 13. <i>In situ</i> resource utilization | 14. Advanced modeling, simulation, analysis | 15. Systems engineering cost/risk analysis | 16. Nanotechnology |
|---|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|-------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|--|---|---|--|--------------------|
| 2. High-energy power and propulsion | Same element | | | | | | | Critical Relationship | | | | | | | |
| 3. In-space transportation | | Same element | | | | | | Critical Relationship | | | | | | | |
| 4. Advanced telescopes and observatories | | | Same element | | | | | Critical Relationship | | | | | | | |
| 5. Communication & Navigation | | | | Same element | | | | Critical Relationship | | | | | | | |
| 6. Robotic access to planetary surfaces | | | | | Same element | | | Critical Relationship | | | | | | | |
| 7. Human planetary landing systems | | | | | | Same element | | Moderate Relationship | | | | | | | |
| 8. Human health and support systems | | | | | | | Same element | Critical Relationship | | | | | | | |
| 9. Human exploration systems and mobility | | | | | | | | Same element | Critical Relationship | No Relationship | Moderate Relationship | Critical Relationship | Critical Relationship | Moderate Relationship | |
| 10. Autonomous systems and robotics | | | | | | | | | Same element | | | | | | |
| 11. Transformational spaceport/range technologies | | | | | | | | | | Same element | | | | | |
| 12. Scientific instruments and sensors | | | | | | | | | | | Same element | | | | |
| 13. <i>In situ</i> resource utilization | | | | | | | | | | | | Same element | | | |
| 14. Advanced modeling, simulation, analysis | | | | | | | | | | | | | Same element | | |
| 15. Systems engineering cost/risk analysis | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Same element | |
| 16. Nanotechnology | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Same element |

| | |
|---|--------|
| Same element | Yellow |
| Critical Relationship (dependent, synergistic, or enabling) | Red |
| Moderate Relationship (enhancing, limited impact, or limited synergy) | Blue |
| No Relationship | Grey |
| No CBS Available | White |



Relationships between Roadmaps, cont'd



| <u>[9] Human Exploration Systems and Mobility</u> | <u>Capability Flow and Criticality</u> | <u>[10] Autonomous Systems and Robotics</u> | <u>Nature of Relationship</u> |
|---|--|---|---|
| Sub-Topic or Subsidiary Capability | | Sub-Topic or Subsidiary Capability | |
| 9.1 Exploration Activities; Operations | | 10.1 Crew -Centered Operations; Logistics, Support Tools, EVA Support | EVA/IVA performance and support, Analysis and operations tools |
| 9.1 Exploration Activities; Command and Control | | 10.5 Robotics for Solar System Exploration | Telerobotic and crew -assist operations |
| 9.1 Exploration Activities; Observation | | 10.7 Robotics for In-Space Operations | Telerobotic and crew -assist remote sensing Crew transportation (rovers, tethers, jet packs, etc.), Robot and equipment transportation (hoppers, crawlers, rail carts, wagons, etc.) |
| 9.2 Mobility; Surface Transportation of Crew /Robots | | 10.6 Robotics for Lunar and Planetary Habitation | Crew transportation (tethers, jet packs, etc.), Robot and equipment transportation (manipulation arms, cranes, rail carts, etc.) |
| 9.2 Mobility; In-Space Transportation of Crew /Robots | | 10.7 Robotics for In-Space Operations | AR&D, Capture and berthing systems |
| 9.3 Assembly and Deployment; Staging and Construction | | 10.3 Autonomous Vehicle Control | Positioning, joining and assembly of systems |
| 9.3 Assembly and Deployment; Staging and Construction | | 10.7 Robotics for In-Space Operations | Monitoring, inspection and repair of vehicle systems |
| 9.4 Servicing; Inspection, Maintenance and Repair | | 10.2 Integrated Systems Health Management | "Smart" systems and crew -assisted operations |
| 9.4 Servicing; Inspection, Maintenance and Repair | | 10.4 Autonomous Process Control and Embedded Autonomy | Robotic or crew -assisted assembly and verification (manipulation arms, tools, instruments, etc.) |
| 9.5 Construction; Habitat Outfitting | | 10.6 Robotics for Lunar and Planetary Habitation | |



Purpose of NRC Review



- **NASA wants the National Research Council (NRC) to review Capability Roadmap products and assess progress in four areas:**
 - **Do the Capability Roadmaps provide a clear pathway to (or process for) technology and capability development?**
 - **Are technology maturity levels accurately conveyed and used? (Note: Maturity levels will be evaluated using Technology Readiness Levels [TRLs] and Capability Readiness Levels [CRLs] or other appropriate methodologies)**
 - **Are proper metric for measuring advancement of technical maturity included?**
 - **Do the Capability Roadmaps have connection points to each other when appropriate**



Back-up charts



Back-up charts



Capability Readiness Levels Defined



- **CRL 1: Concept of Use Defined, Capability, Constituent Sub-capabilities* and Requirements Specified**
 - The Capability is defined in written form. The use/application of the Capability is described in a concept paper. The uses are speculative, and no proof or detailed analysis exists to support the concept. The constituent Sub-capabilities and requirements of the Capability are specified.
- **CRL 2: Sub-Capabilities* Demonstrated in a Laboratory Environment:**
 - A Proof-of-Concept analysis of the Capability is performed. Analytical and laboratory studies of the Sub-capabilities are performed to physically validate separate elements of the Capability. Analytical studies are performed to determine how constituent Sub-capabilities will work together.
- **CRL 3: Sub-Capabilities* demonstrated in a Relevant Environment:**
 - Sub-capabilities are demonstrated with realistic supporting elements to simulate an operationally relevant environment (e.g. to the Capability).
 - of appropriate scale
 - functionally equivalent flight articles
 - major system interactions identified
 - Limited analytical modeling of the integrated Capability can be performed.
- **CRL 4: Integrated Capability Demonstration in a Laboratory Environment**
 - A representative model or prototype of the integrated Capability is tested in a laboratory environment. Performance of the constituent Sub-capabilities are observed in addition to the Capability as an integrated system. are specified.
- **CRL 5: Integrated Capability Demonstration in a Relevant Environment**
 - An integrated prototype of the Capability is demonstrated with realistic supporting elements to simulate an operationally relevant environment (e.g. to the Capability).
 - of appropriate scale
 - actual flight articles
 - all system interactions identified
- **CRL 6: Integrated Capability Demonstration in an Operational Environment**
 - The Capability is near or at the completed system stage. This level represents the demonstration of an integrated Capability in an operational environment with representatives of the intended user organization(s).
 - -full scale flight articles
 - -demonstration in appropriate operational 'envelope'
- **CRL 7: Capability Operational Readiness**
 - The Capability has been proven to work in its final form and under expected operational conditions. This level represents the application of the Capability in its operational configuration and under "mission" conditions.