



National Aeronautics and Space Administration

# Ares I-X Overview – The First Chapter in the Next Great Adventure

*Bart Leahy  
Schafer Corporation  
Ares Projects  
Marshall Space Flight Center  
October 2008*

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



- ◆ **Ares Launch Vehicles Background**
- ◆ **Ares I-X Mission Background**
- ◆ **Flight Test Objectives**
- ◆ **Vehicle Overview**
- ◆ **Flight Test Trajectory**
- ◆ **Vehicle Elements**
  - Orion Crew Module/Launch Abort System (CM/LAS) Simulator
  - Upper Stage Simulator (USS)
  - Roll Control System (RoCS)
  - First Stage
  - Avionics
- ◆ **Vehicle Assembly Building (VAB) Operations**
- ◆ **Processing Flow**
- ◆ **Launch Operations**
- ◆ **Summary**





- ◆ **Deliver crew and cargo for missions to International Space Station (ISS) and to Moon and beyond**
- ◆ **Continuing progress toward design, component testing, and early flight testing**
- ◆ **Ares I Crew Launch Vehicle**
  - Will carry 6 crew to ISS, 4 to Moon
  - First flight test 2009
  - Initial Operating Capability 2015
- ◆ **Ares V Cargo Launch Vehicle**
  - Will launch Earth departure stage and Altair lunar lander to low Earth orbit for lunar missions
  - Largest launch vehicle ever designed
  - Will begin detailed development work in 2011

- ◆ **Ares I-X is a development test flight to provide engineering data to inform the design of the Ares I prior to CDR**

*Ares I will replace the Space Shuttle which is scheduled for 2010 retirement*

- ◆ **Ares I-X is an uncrewed, sub-orbital development flight test**
- ◆ **Ares I-X will provide opportunity to test ground facilities and operations at NASA's Kennedy Space Center**





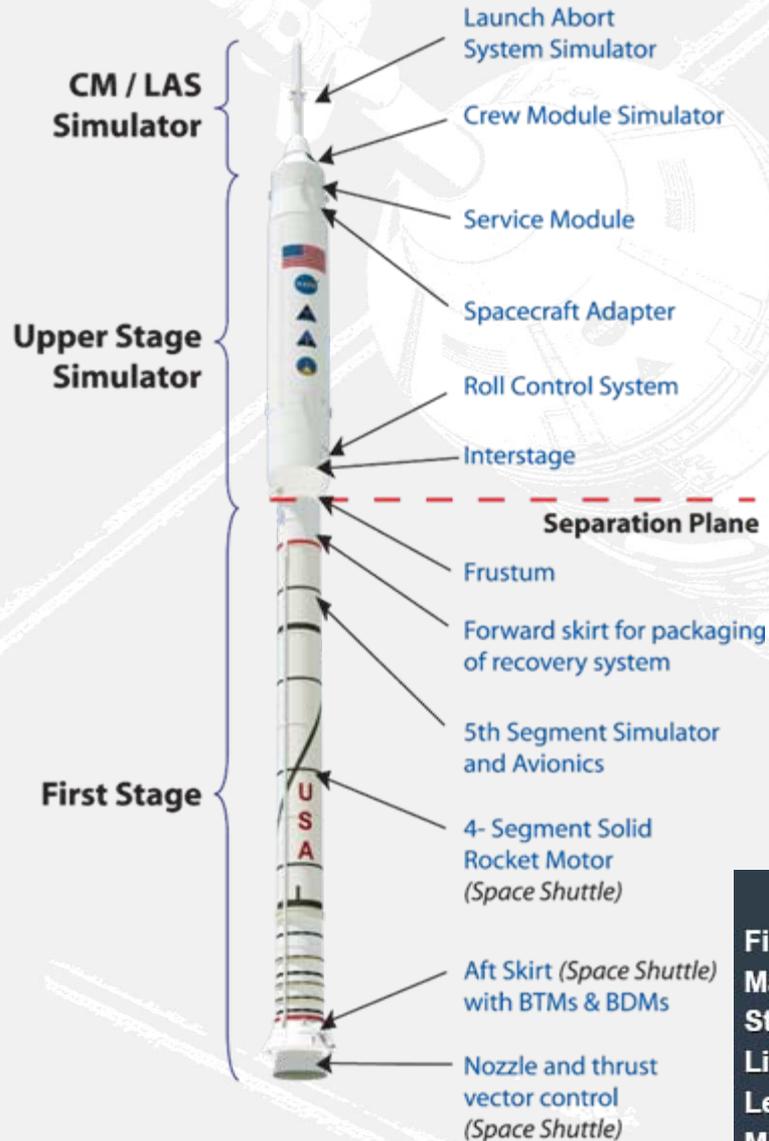
**P(1) Demonstrate control** of a dynamically similar, integrated Ares I/Orion, using Ares I relevant ascent control algorithms

**P(2) Perform an in-flight separation/staging** event between a Ares I-similar First Stage and a representative Upper Stage

**P(3) Demonstrate assembly and recovery** of a new Ares I-like First Stage element at KSC

**P(4) Demonstrate First Stage separation sequencing, and quantify First Stage atmospheric entry dynamics, and parachute performance**

**P(5) Characterize magnitude of integrated vehicle roll torque** throughout First Stage flight



◆ **Combines proven space flight and simulated hardware**

• **Space flight hardware includes:**

- Four-segment solid rocket booster (Space Shuttle)
- Atlas V-based avionics
- Roll control system (Peacekeeper)
- Separation system (Space Shuttle)
- Parachutes deceleration system (Space Shuttle)
- Booster deceleration and tumble motors (Space Shuttle)
- Developmental flight instrumentation

• **Simulator hardware**

- Upper stage
- Orion crew module
- Launch abort system
- Fifth segment of booster

	<b>Ares I-X</b>	<b>Ares I</b>
<b>First Stage Max. Thrust (vacuum):</b>	14.1M N (3.13M lbf)	15.8M N (3.5M lbf)
<b>Max. Speed:</b>	Mach 4.7	Mach 5.84
<b>Staging Altitude:</b>	39,624 m (130,000 ft)	57,453 m (188,493 ft)
<b>Liftoff Weight:</b>	834k kg (1.8M lbm)	927k kg (2.0M lbm)
<b>Length:</b>	99.1 m (327 ft)	99 m (325 ft)
<b>Max. Acceleration:</b>	2.46 g	3.79 g



# Ares I-X Development Flight Test



**P2) Perform in-flight separation/staging event at 124 sec ~ 130,000 feet**

~ 150,000 feet

Vehicle Height:	327 feet
Weight at Ignition:	1.8 M-lbm
Max. Acceleration:	2.5 g's
Max. Speed:	Mach 4.7

**P4) Demonstrate FS entry dynamics and sequencing of events (parachute deployment, etc.)**

**P5) Characterize integrated vehicle roll torque**

in-flight separation plane

**P1) Demonstrate controlability**

**P3) Demonstrate assembly and recovery of an Ares I similar FS**

**USS/CM/LAS  
Uncontrolled descent and impact**

**Booster, parachutes and recovery**



# Orion Crew Module/ Launch Abort System (CM/LAS) Simulator



**LAS Party Hat Assembly**



**LAS Tube Machining**



**CM Lower Ring**



**CM Upper Ring**



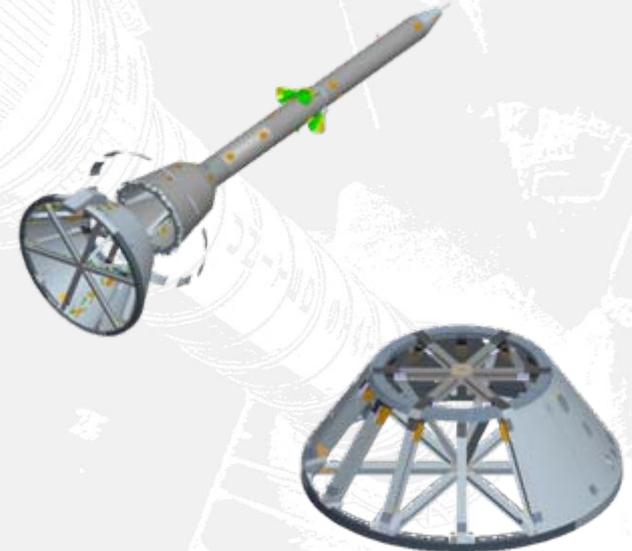
**CM/LAS Transport Vehicle**



**LAS Transition Fitting**



- ◆ Outer mold line (OML) resembles earlier Ares I design due to flight test schedule
- ◆ Developmental flight instrumentation sensors will measure aerodynamic and acoustic loads
- ◆ Developed at the NASA Langley Research Center, Hampton, VA



# Upper Stage Simulator (USS)

- ◆ **USS is a mass and Outer Mold Line (OML) simulator**
- ◆ **Hardware includes:**
  - Interstage (IS) Simulator
  - Upper Stage (US) Simulator
  - Spacecraft Adapter (SA) Simulator
  - Service Module (SM) Simulator
- ◆ **Developed at the NASA Glenn Research Center, Cleveland, OH**



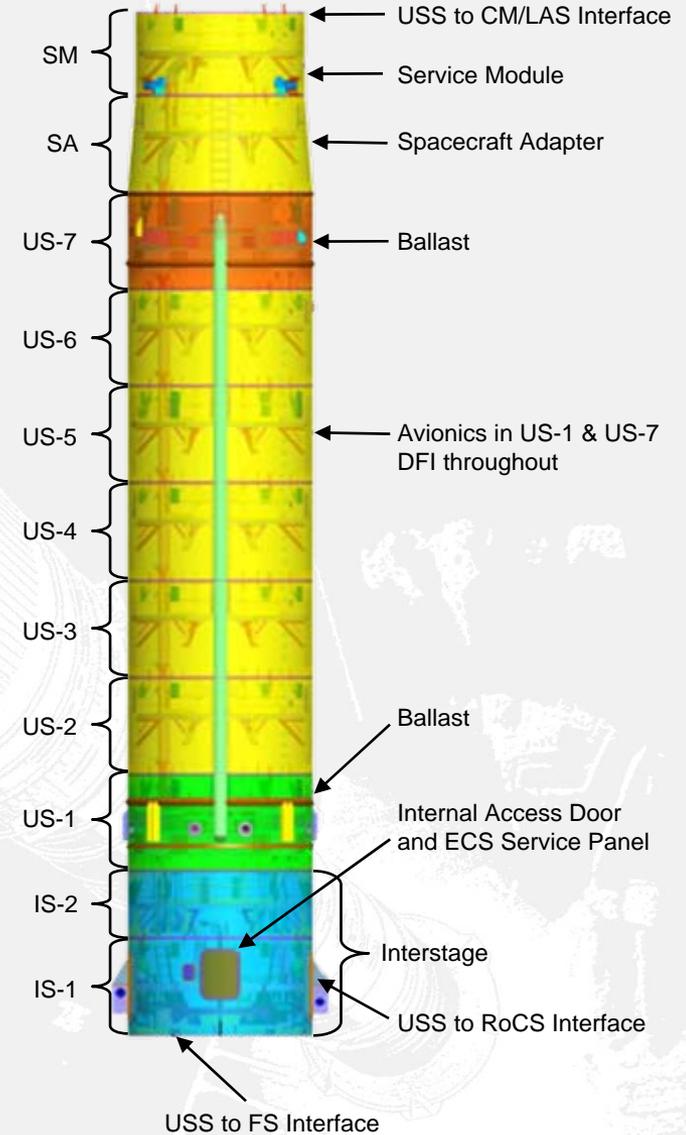
**Flange Machining**



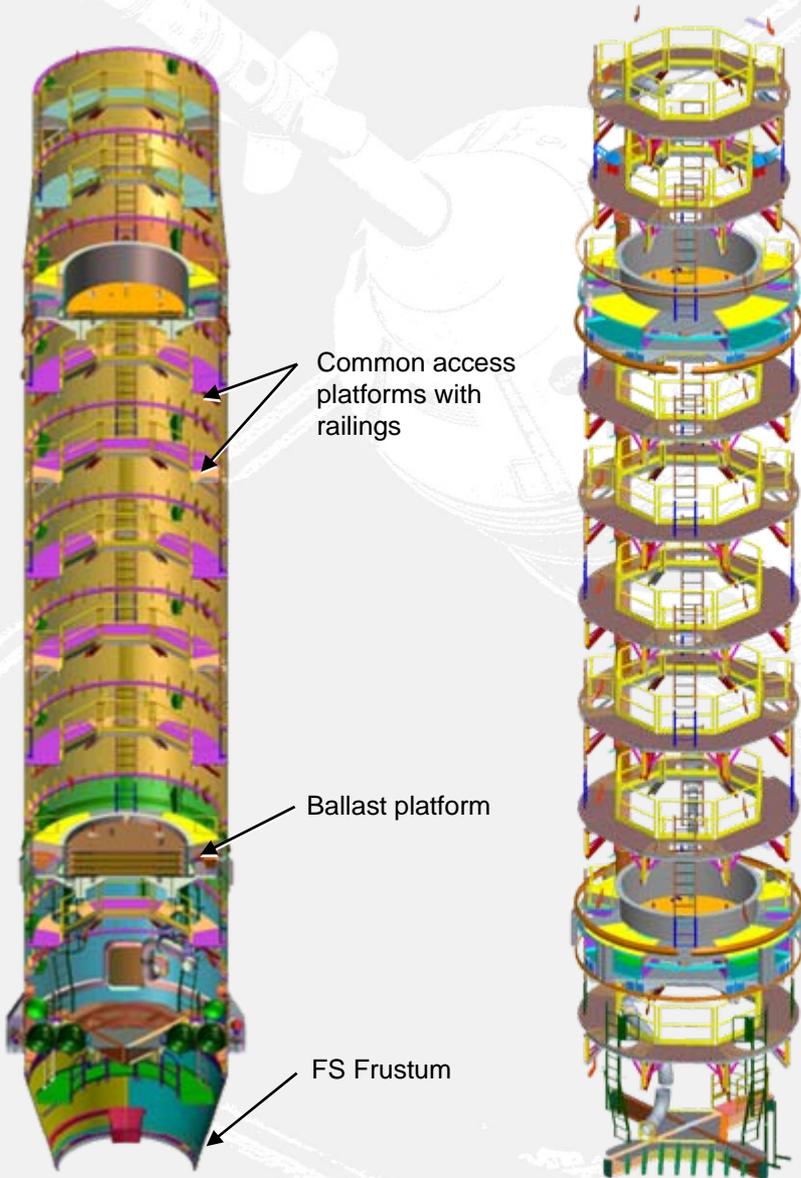
**Support Welding**



**Super Stack**

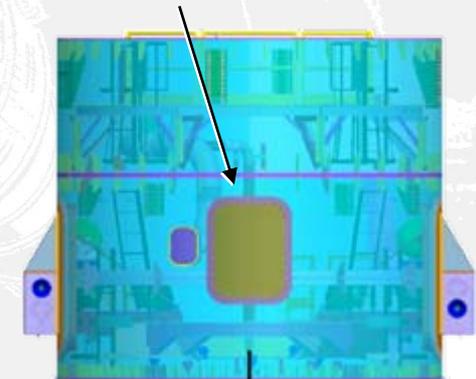


# USS Internal Access Concept



- ◆ Provides access from the Frustum to the CM/LAS
- ◆ Door in the IS-1 segment
  - Internal access platforms and ladders
  - Provides Environmental Control System (ECS) ductwork to maintain a safe work temp, air flow and controlled humidity

Internal access door



IS-1 Segment

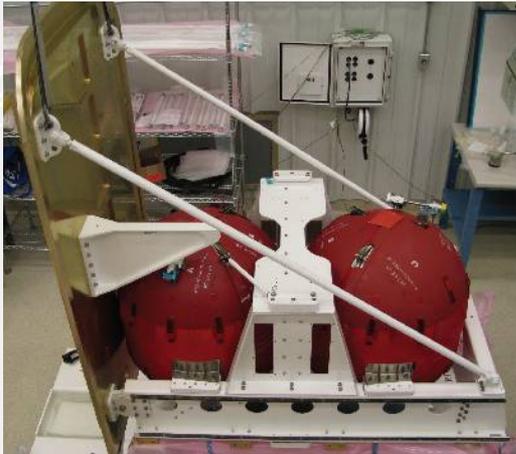
# Roll Control System (RoCS)



Propellant Tank



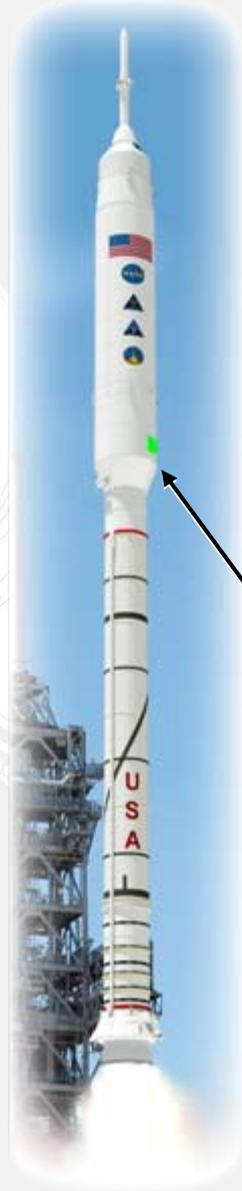
Pressurization System



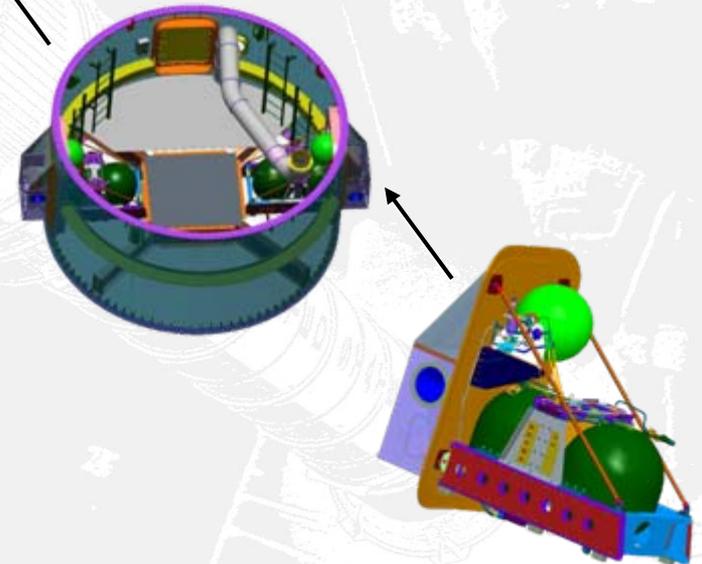
Cold Flow Assembly



Thruster



- ◆ Provides post-launch 90-degree roll and mitigation against adverse roll torques
- ◆ Modular propulsion system housed in the Ares I-X USS Interstage
- ◆ Proven space hardware harvested from Peacekeeper 4th Stage
- ◆ Managed at the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center, Huntsville, AL



# First Stage



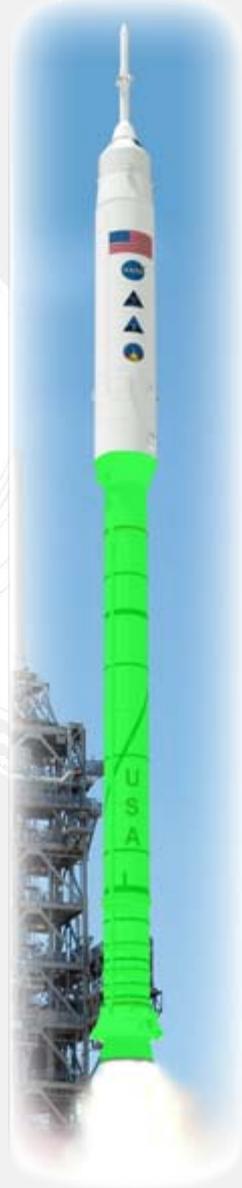
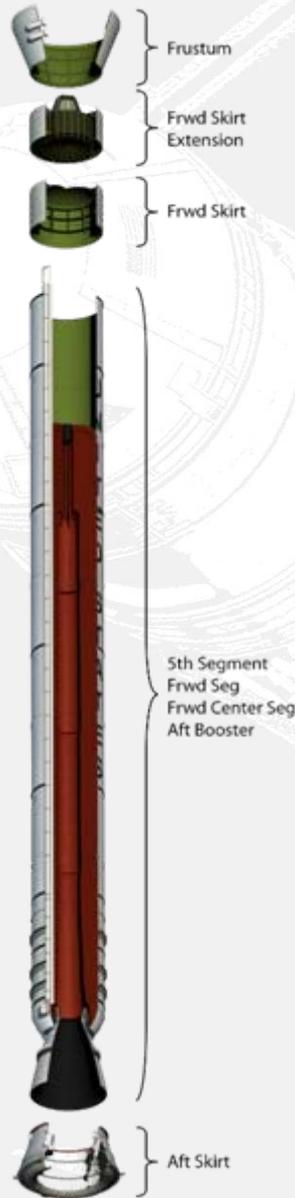
Main Parachute



Frustum Forward Ring



Aft Skirt at ARF



## ◆ Heritage Hardware

- 4 Segment Reusable Solid Rocket Motor (RSRM) w/Nozzle
- Thrust Vector Control (TVC)
- Flight Termination System (FTS)
- Nose Cap w/Thrusters
- Booster Separation Motors (BSMs)

## ◆ Modified Heritage Hardware

- Shuttle Derived Avionics
- Aft Skirt

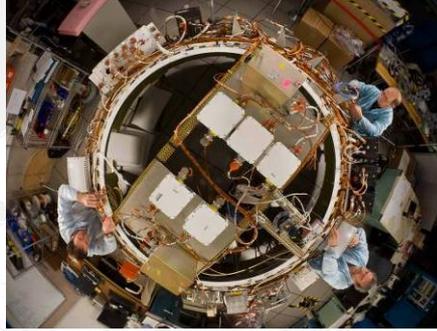
## ◆ New Developments for Ares I-X

- Fifth Segment Simulator (5SS)
- Forward Skirt (FS)
- Forward Skirt Extension (FSE)
- Main Parachute Support Structure (MPSS)
- Frustum

## ◆ Ares I Designs

- Parachutes
- FTS Extension to Aft Segment

## ◆ Managed at the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center, Huntsville, AL

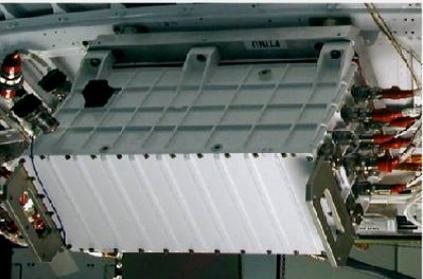


Avionics SIL



FSAM Assembly

ATVC Testing



FTINU (Flight Computer)

FSAM Harness Template



◆ **Primary avionics subsystems:**

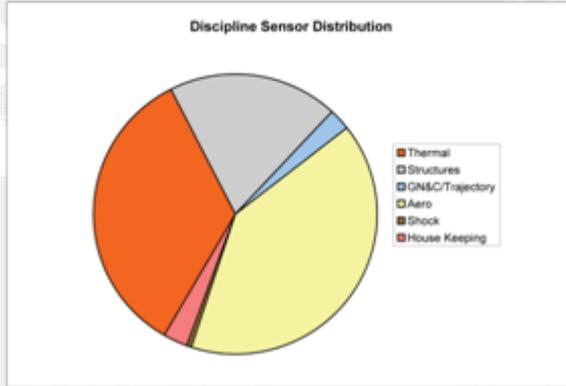
- FSAM (located in First Stage fifth segment)
- Guidance & Control System
- Ground Command, Control, and Communication (GC3)

◆ **Managed at the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center, Huntsville, AL**

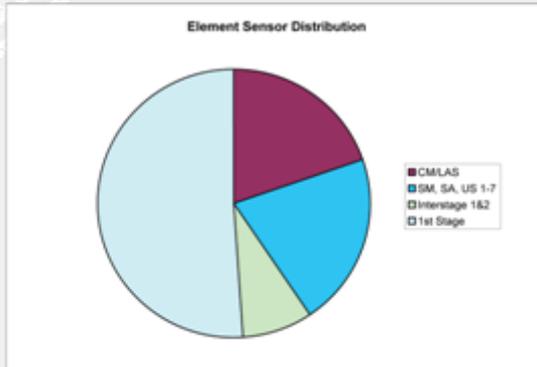


FSAM

## Sensor Summary Appendix

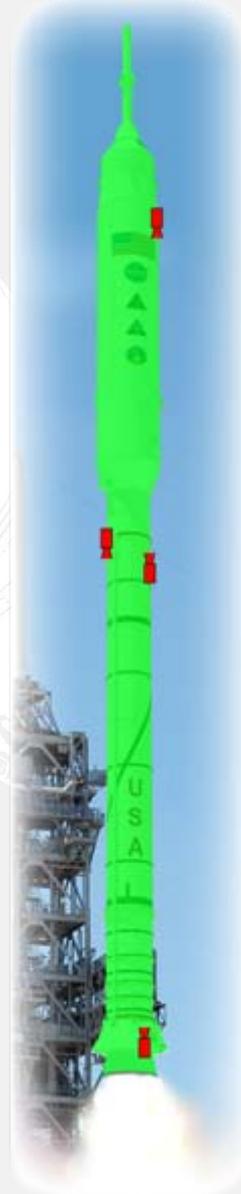


Discipline	Number of Sensors	% of Total
Thermal	256	34%
Structures	147	20%
GN&C/Trajectory	18	2%
Aero	305	41%
Shock	4	1%
House Keeping	21	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>751</b>	<b>100%</b>



Element	Number of Sensors	% of Total
CMLAS	149	20%
SM, SA, US 1-7	156	21%
Interstage 1&2	62	8%
1st Stage	384	51%
<b>Total</b>	<b>751</b>	<b>100%</b>

Note: Totals include Pyro Sensor Counts



### Instrumented for 924 measurements

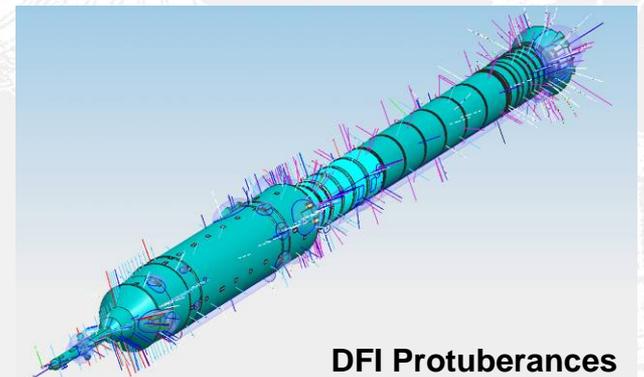
- Thermal
- Structures
- GNC/Trajectory
- Aero
- Shock

### Cameras strategically located



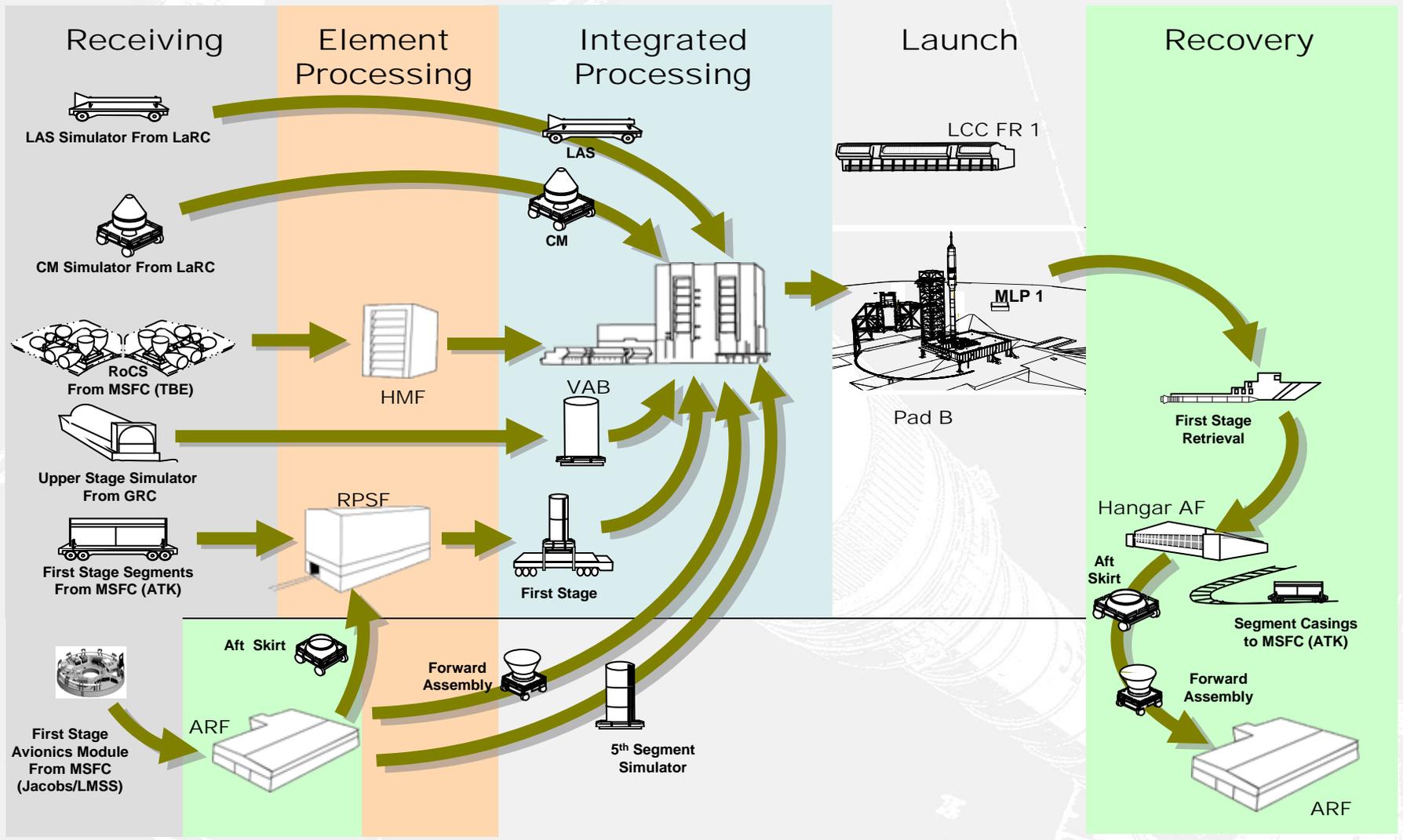
### Data to be retrieved via telemetry and a data recorder box that is recovered from the First Stage after flight

### Managed at the NASA Langley Research Center, Hampton, VA

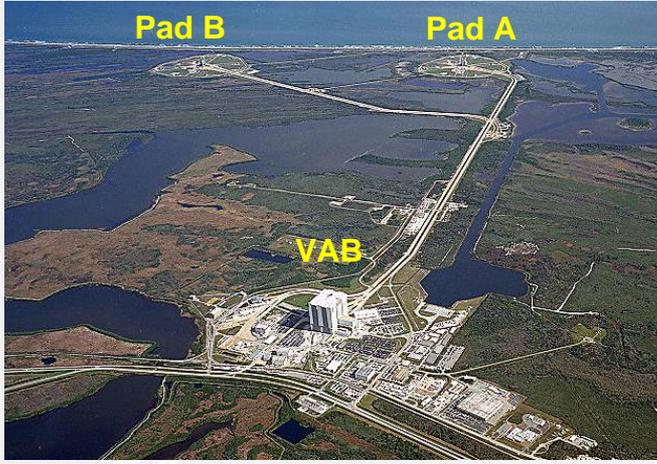


DFI Protuberances

# Ares I-X Processing Flow



# Vehicle Assembly Building (VAB) Operations



Arial of the VAB, Pad B, and Pad A

- ◆ The Upper Stage Simulator (USS) segments and Orion Crew Module/Launch Abort System (CM/LAS) will be assembled into stacks and Development Flight Instrumentation (DFI) tested in VAB Hi-Bay 4.
- ◆ The First Stage segments and stacks will be integrated in Hi-Bay 3.



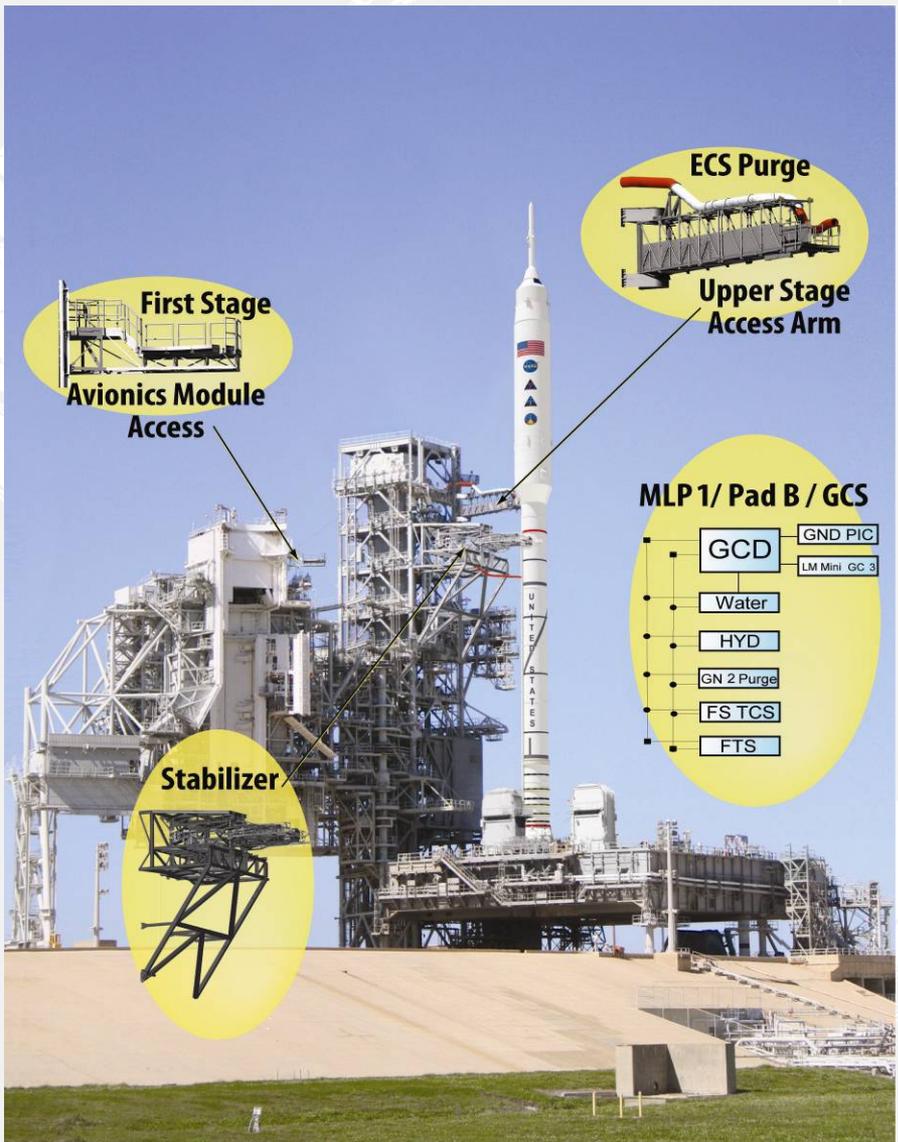
FTV in VAB



USS Segments and CM/LAS in Hi-Bay 4



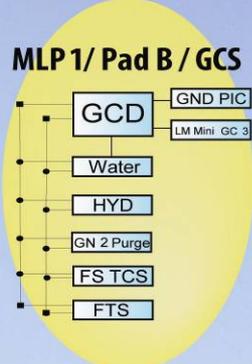
Ares I-X on Mobile Launch Platform



**First Stage Avionics Module Access**

**ECS Purge Upper Stage Access Arm**

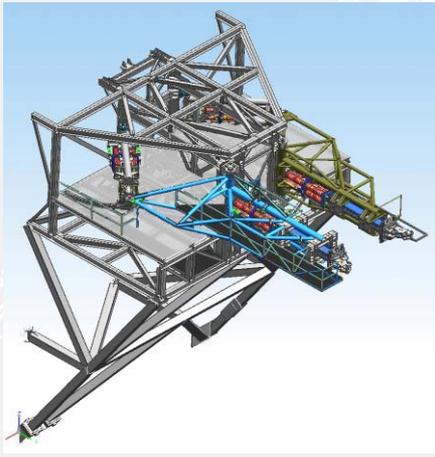
**Stabilizer**



**Upper Stage Access Arm**



**1<sup>st</sup> Stage Avionics Module Access**

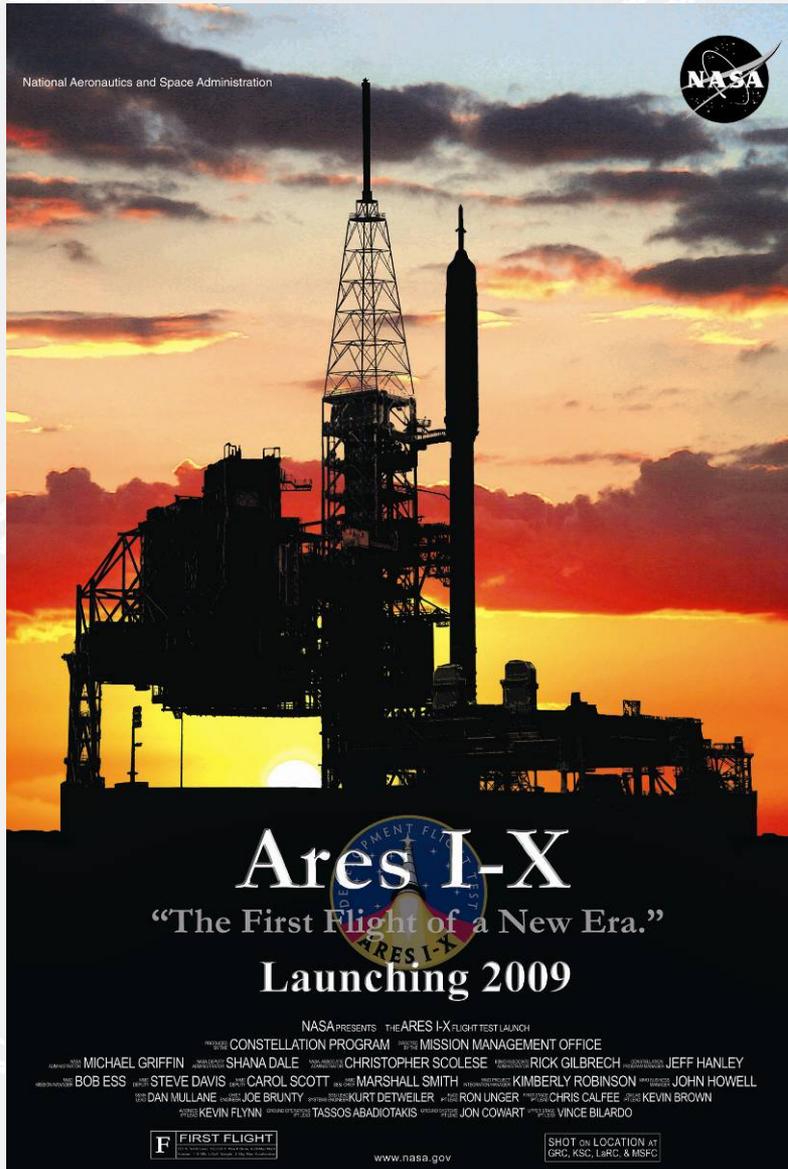


**Stabilizer**



# Video



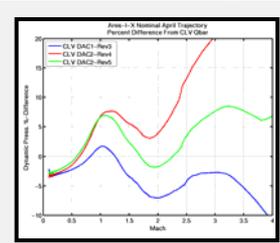
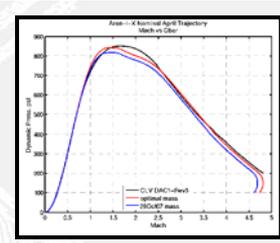
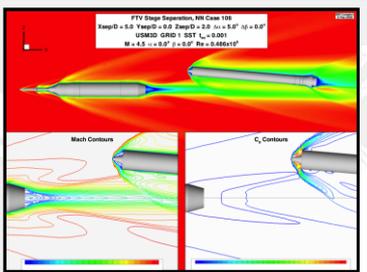


- ◆ Ares I-X is the first flight of NASA's new Constellation Program
- ◆ Ares I-X is a developmental test flight to support the Ares I
- ◆ Ares I-X is on track for May 2009 launch date
- ◆ For more information, see [http://www.nasa.gov/mission\\_pages/constellation/ares/flighttests/areslx/index.html](http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/constellation/ares/flighttests/areslx/index.html) or [http://staging.cms.nasa.gov/mission\\_pages/constellation/ares/flighttests/areslx/index.html](http://staging.cms.nasa.gov/mission_pages/constellation/ares/flighttests/areslx/index.html)





# Backup Slides

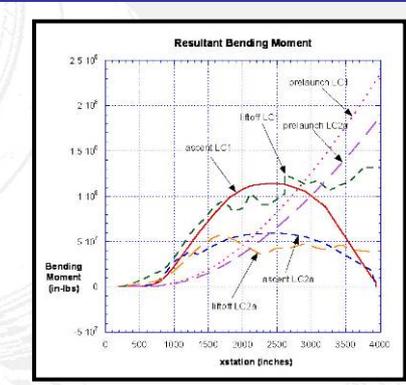
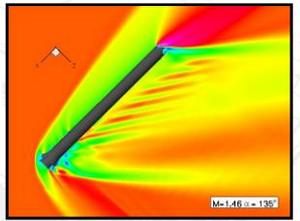


## Trajectory

- Trajectories
- Malfunction Turn
- Baseline Databook
- Prelim Range Data Package

## Aerodynamics

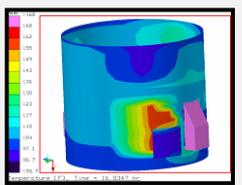
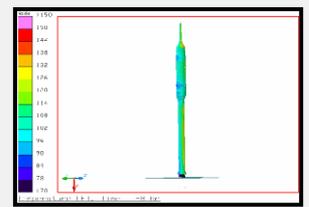
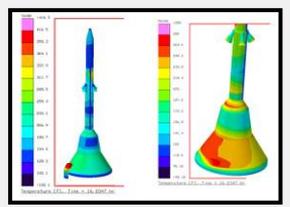
- Ascent Aero
- Transition Lift-off CFD
- Stage Separation CFD
- Rigid Buffet



## Structures

- Coupled Loads Cycle 1
- Cycle 2 Update
- Assess Rigid Buffet data

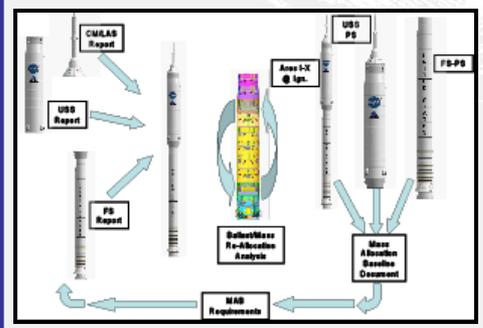
# Integrated Design & Analysis



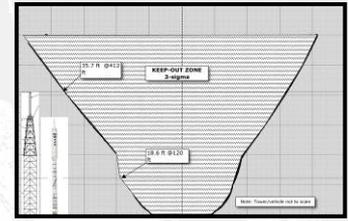
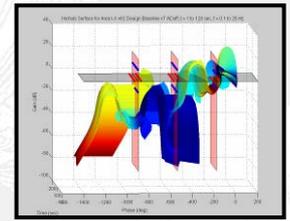
## Thermal

- Preliminary Stack
- Ascent on Pad
- Thermal Prediction Report & Databook

## Integrated Mass Properties



-Mass Allocation

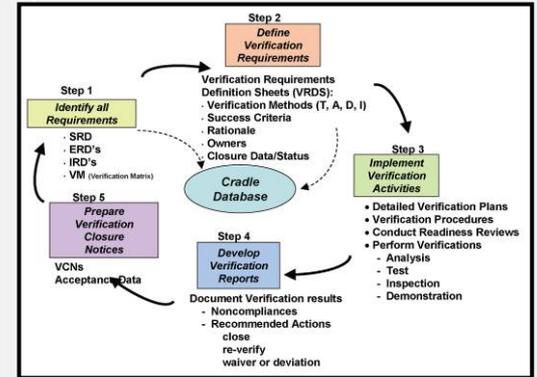
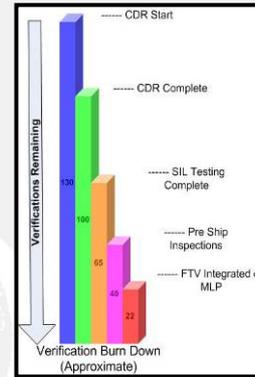
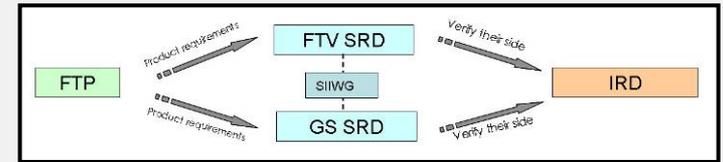
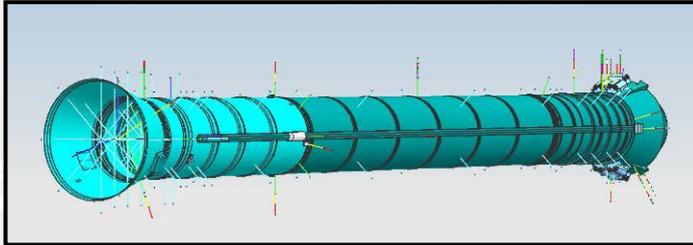
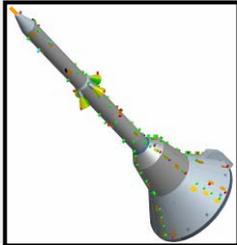
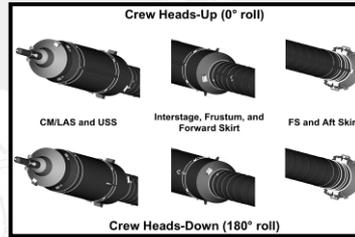


## Guidance, Navigation & Control

- Initial Flight Control Architecture
- Preliminary Stability Analysis
- Updated Drift Analysis
- Stage Separation Analysis

## Systems Engineering

- Outer Mold Line
- Development Flight Instrumentation
- Design Definition Document



- Systems Engineering
- System Requirements & Verification
- Launch Operations & Flight Integration

## System Requirements & Verification

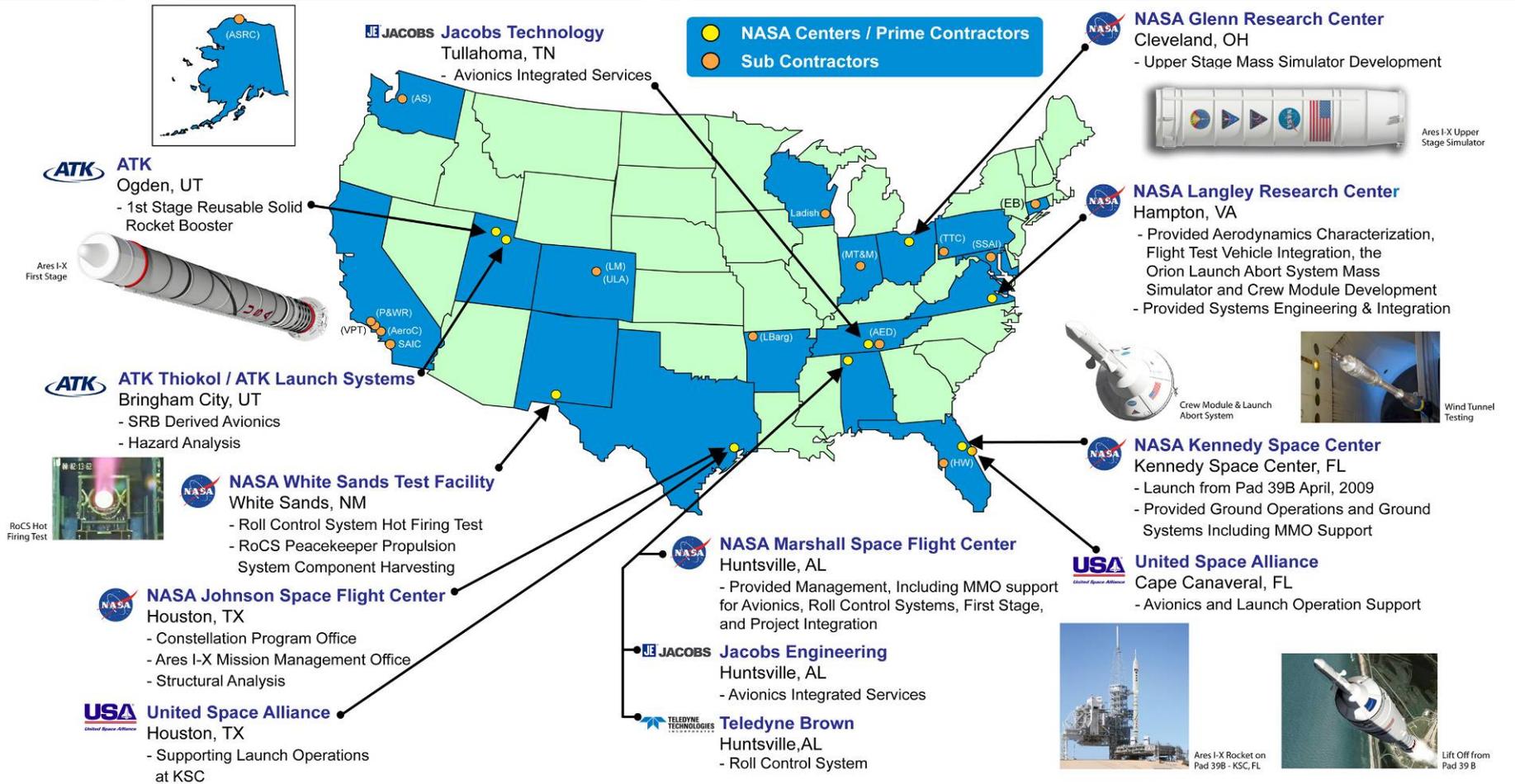
- System Requirements Document
- Verification Requirements Document
- Interface Control Documents
- Interface Requirements Documents



## Launch Operations & Flight Integration

- Tailored Range Document
- Launch Commit Criteria
- Flight Data Package

# Ares I-X FTV Integration



- **Votaw Precision Technologies**  
 Santa Fe Springs, CA  
 - Rolled FS/SS Steel Structures
- **Andrews Space**  
 Seattle, WA  
 - Deceleration Subsystem Management and Engineering Support
- **Ensign Bickford**  
 Simsbury, CT  
 - First Stage  
 - Roll Control System

- **Ladish**  
 Milwaukee, WI  
 - Pyro Component Manufacturer
- **Major Tool and Machine**  
 Indianapolis, IN  
 - Forward Assemblies Manufacturer
- **Science Systems & Applications**  
 Lanham, MD (home)  
 - Engineering analysis support

- **Honeywell**  
 Clearwater, FL  
 - Avionics Command and Control Line Replaceable Units
- **Lockheed Martin**  
 Denver, CO  
 - Avionics Integrated Services and Primary Avionics Hardware Provider
- **Arctic Slope Research**  
 Barrow, AK  
 - Scheduling Support

- **United Launch Alliance**  
 Denver, CO  
 - Avionics Integrated Services
- **LaBarge**  
 Berryville, AR  
 - Wire Harness Assemblies
- **Arnold Engineering**  
 Development Center  
 Tullahoma, TN  
 - Wind tunnel support

- **Teletronics Technology Corp**  
 Newton, PA  
 - Development Flight Instrumentation Line Replaceable Units
- **Aerospace Corp**  
 Altadena, CA  
 - Verification & Validation
- **Manthia Corp**  
 Hampton, VA  
 - Contamination Assessment Support

- **United States Air Force**  
 Cape Canaveral, FL  
 - Range Management
- **Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne**  
 Canoga Park, CA  
 - Roll Control System