



Status of NASA's Space Launch System

Jody Singer, Deputy Manager
Space Launch System (SLS) Program
NASA Marshall Space Flight Center
April 25, 2012



*To reach for new heights and reveal the unknown,
so that what we do and learn will benefit all humankind.*

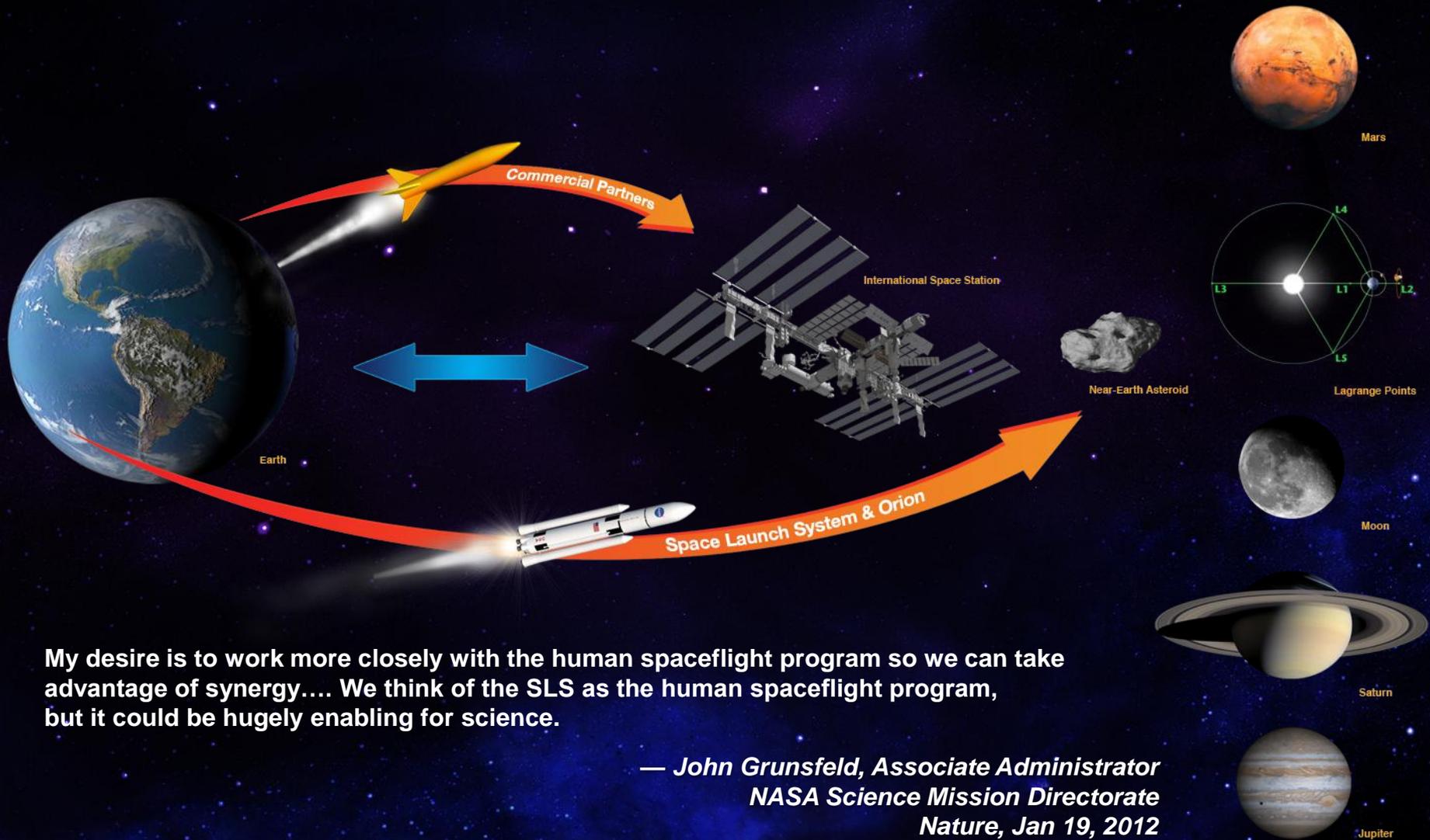
NASA Strategic Goals

- ✓ ***Extend and sustain human activities across the solar system.***
- ✓ Expand scientific understanding of the Earth and the universe in which we live.
- ✓ Create the innovative new space technologies for our exploration, science, and economic future.

Advance aeronautics research for societal benefit.
- ✓ Enable program and institutional capabilities to conduct NASA's aeronautics and space activities.
- ✓ Share NASA with the public, educators, and students to provide opportunities to participate in our mission, foster innovation, and contribute to a strong national economy.

SLS — Safe, Affordable, and Sustainable

The Future of Exploration



My desire is to work more closely with the human spaceflight program so we can take advantage of synergy.... We think of the SLS as the human spaceflight program, but it could be hugely enabling for science.

— John Grunsfeld, Associate Administrator
NASA Science Mission Directorate
Nature, Jan 19, 2012

A National Asset for Stakeholders and Partners



Incremental steps to steadily build, test, refine, and qualify capabilities that lead to affordable flight elements and a deep space capability.

Mars: 33,900,000 mi
54,556,000 km

Planetary Exploration

- Mars
- Solar System

Exploring Other Worlds

- Low-Gravity Bodies
- Full-Capability Near-Earth Asteroid Missions
- Phobos/Deimos

Into the Solar System

- Interplanetary Space
- Initial Near-Earth Asteroid Missions
- Lunar Surface

Extending Reach Beyond LEO

- Cis-Lunar Space
- Geostationary Orbit
- High-Earth Orbit
- Lunar Flyby & Orbit

Initial Exploration Missions

- International Space Station
- Space Launch System
- Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle
- Ground Systems Development & Operations
- Commercial Spaceflight Development

Moon: 237K mi / 381K km

ISS: 237 mi / 381 km

**SLS —
Going Beyond Earth's Orbit**

Surface Capabilities Needed

Advanced Propulsion Needed

High Thrust In-Space Propulsion Needed

Long Duration Habitat Needed

- ◆ **The Congress passed and the President signed the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2010.**
 - Bipartisan support for human exploration **beyond low-Earth orbit (LEO)**
- ◆ **The Law authorizes:**
 - Extension of the International Space Station (ISS) until at least 2020
 - Strong support for a commercial space transportation industry
 - **Development of Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle (MPCV) and heavy lift launch capabilities**
 - A “flexible path” approach to space exploration, opening up vast opportunities including near-Earth asteroids and Mars
 - New space technology investments to increase the **capabilities beyond Earth orbit (BEO)**



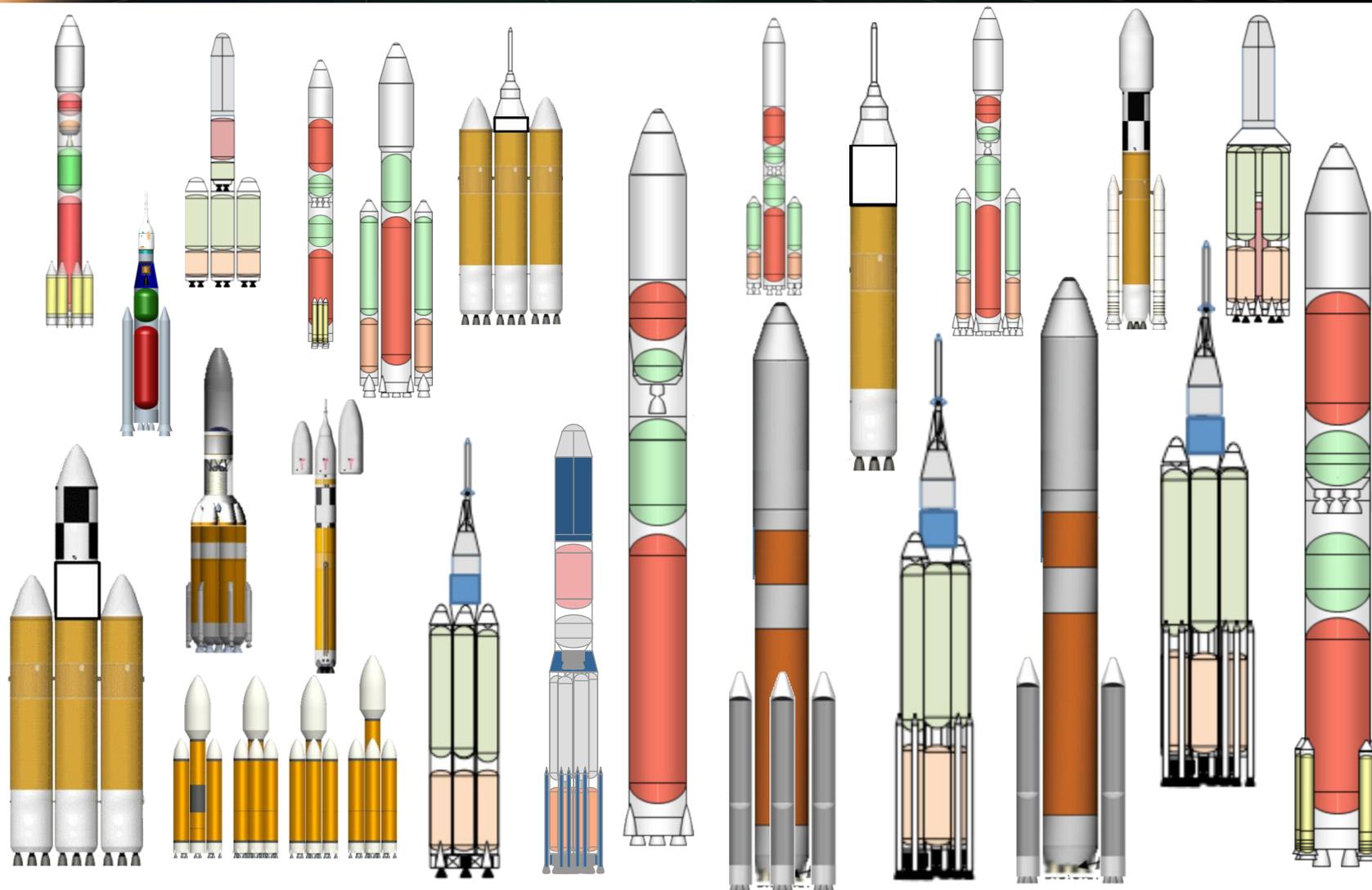
This rocket is key to implementing the plan laid out by President Obama and Congress in the bipartisan 2010 NASA Authorization Act.

— NASA Administrator Charles Bolden
September 14, 2011



Delivering on the Laws of the Land ... and Obeying the Laws of Physics

Many Solutions, One Affordable Answer



“This enterprise is not for the faint of heart.”

—Wayne Hale, former Space Shuttle Program Manager

◆ Safe: Human-Rated

◆ Affordable

- Constrained budget environment
- Maximum use of common elements and existing assets, infrastructure, and workforce
- Competitive opportunities for affordability on-ramps

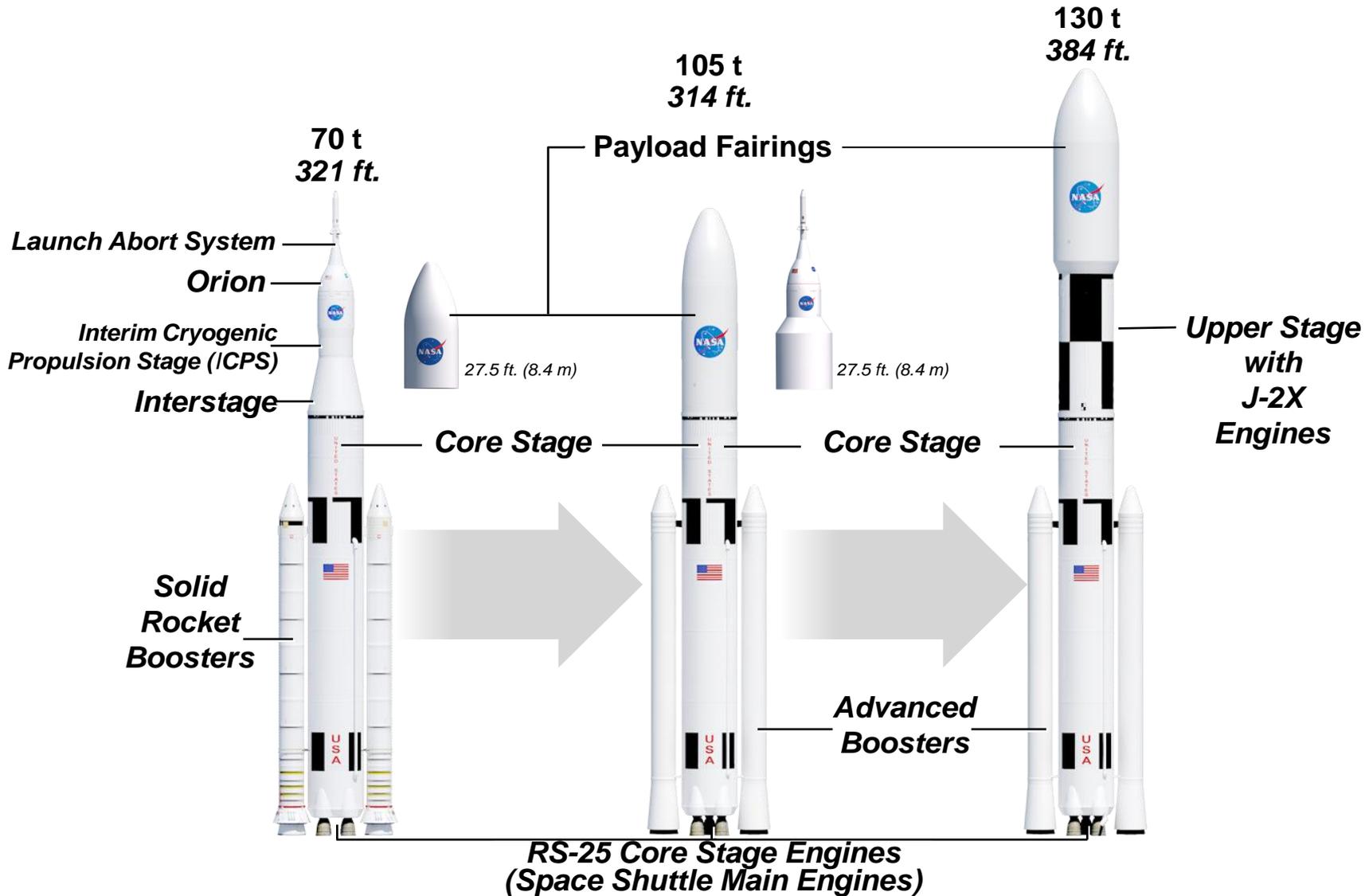
◆ Sustainable

- Initial capability: 70 metric tons (t), 2017–2021
 - Serves as primary transportation for Orion and exploration missions
 - Provides back-up capability for crew/cargo to ISS
- Evolved capability: 105 t and 130 t, post-2021
 - Offers large volume for science missions and payloads
 - Modular and flexible, right-sized for mission requirements



Flexible Architecture Configured for the Mission

SLS Architecture Block Upgrade Approach



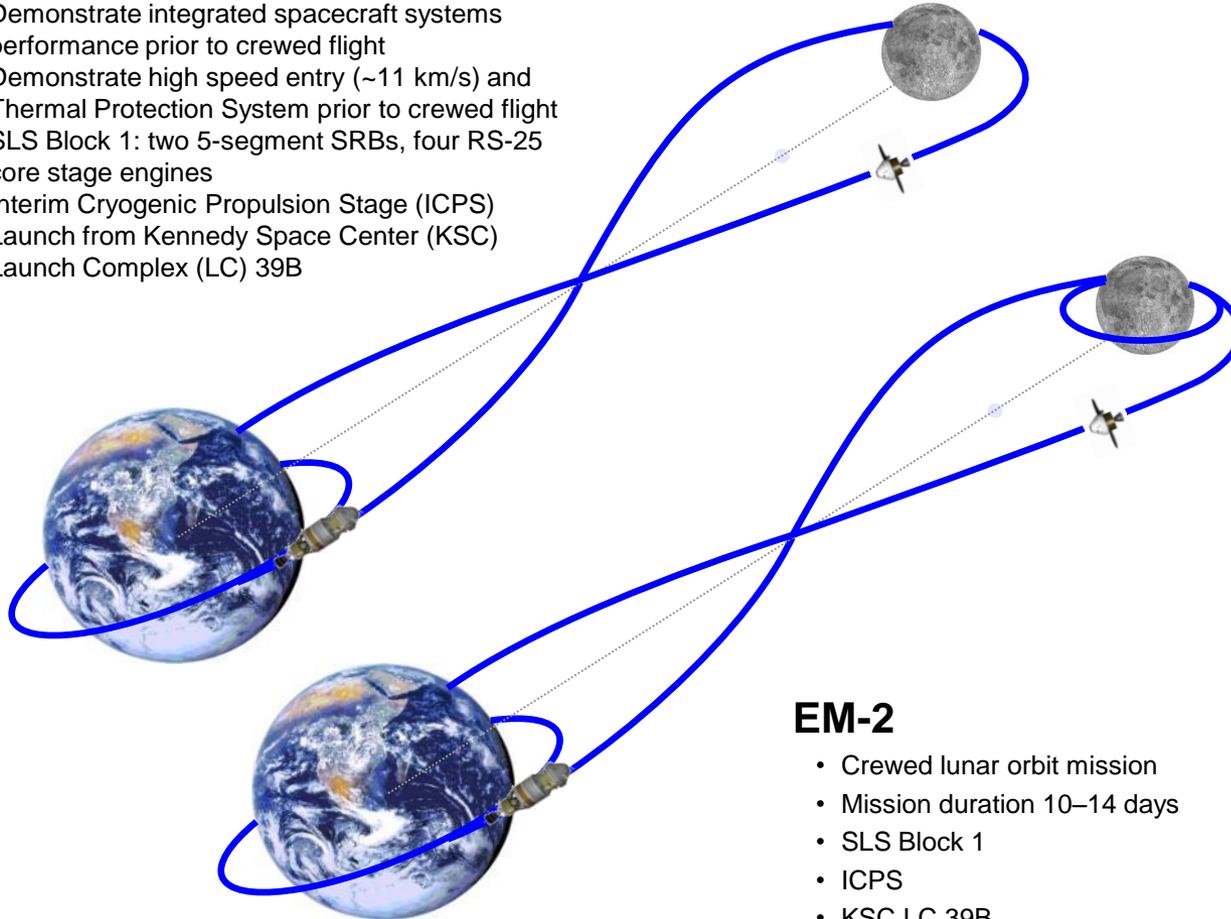
Starting with Available Assets and Evolving the Design

Initial Exploration Missions (EM)



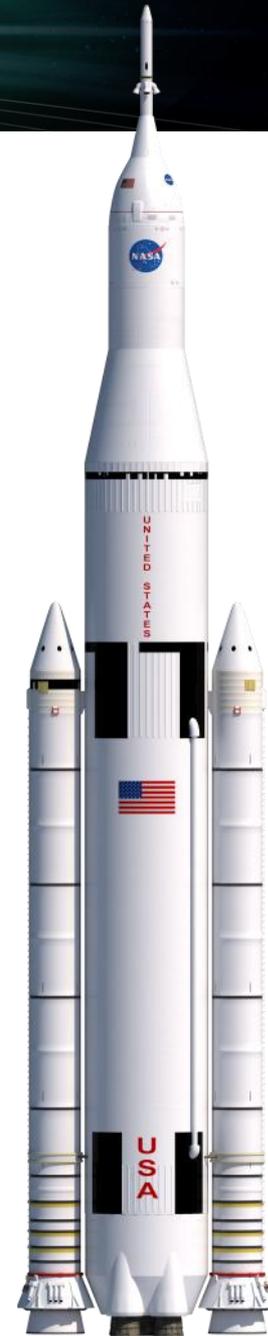
EM-1

- Un-crewed circumlunar flight – free return trajectory
- Mission duration ~7 days
- Demonstrate integrated spacecraft systems performance prior to crewed flight
- Demonstrate high speed entry (~11 km/s) and Thermal Protection System prior to crewed flight
- SLS Block 1: two 5-segment SRBs, four RS-25 core stage engines
- Interim Cryogenic Propulsion Stage (ICPS)
- Launch from Kennedy Space Center (KSC) Launch Complex (LC) 39B

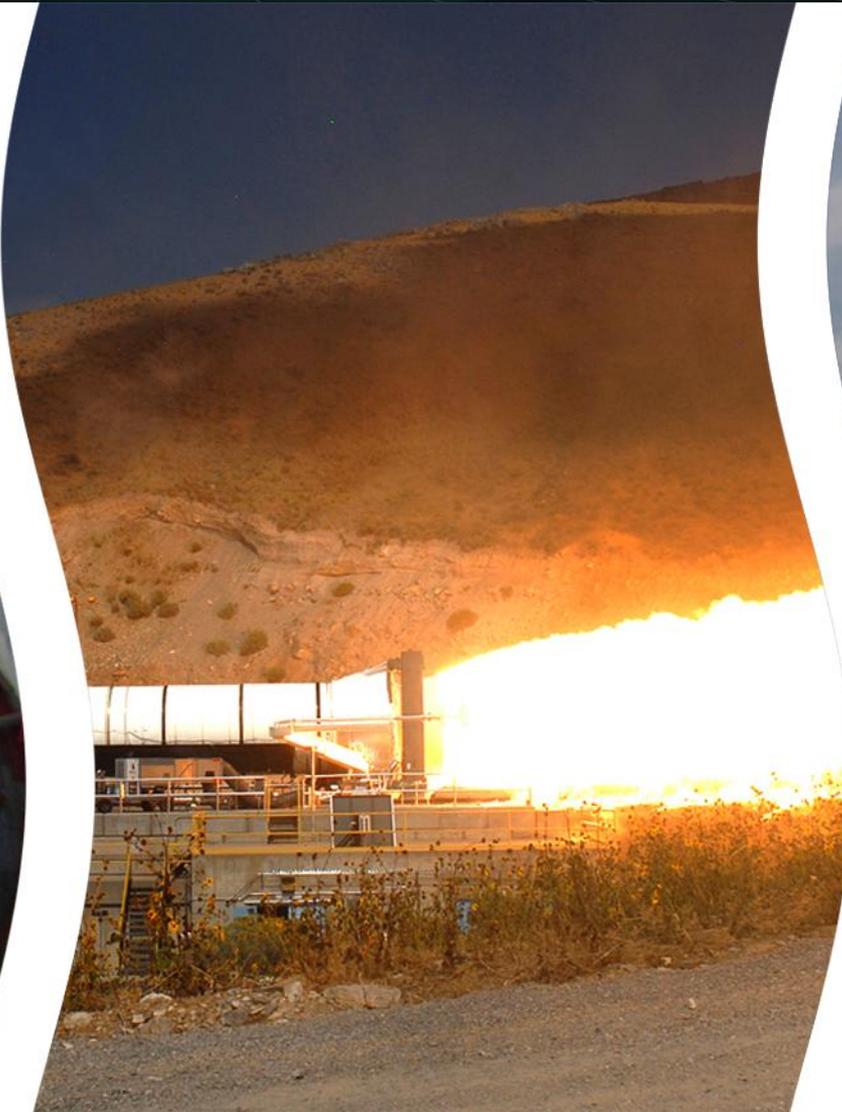


EM-2

- Crewed lunar orbit mission
- Mission duration 10–14 days
- SLS Block 1
- ICPS
- KSC LC 39B



Assets in Inventory and Testing in Progress

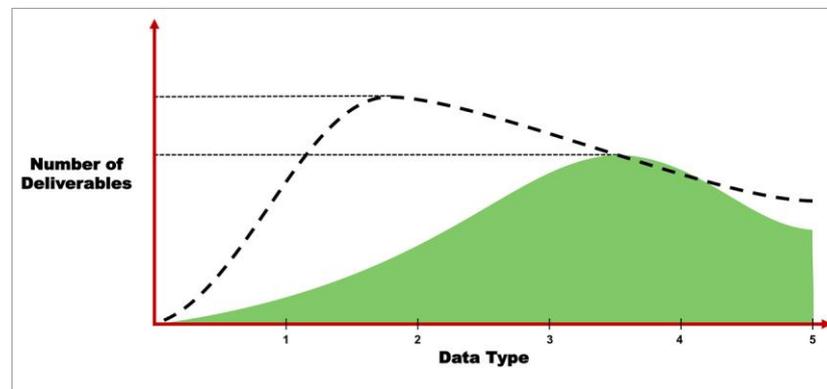
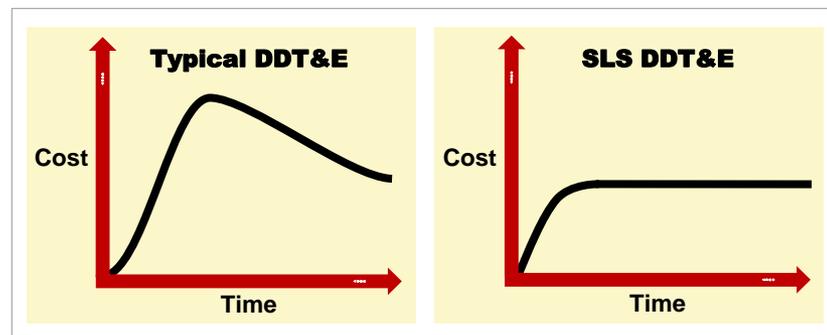


First Flight 2017

SLS Affordability Begins with Accountability



- ◆ Evolvable Development Approach
- ◆ Robust Designs and Margins
- ◆ Risk-Informed Government Insight/Oversight Model
- ◆ Right-Sized Documentation and Standards
- ◆ Lean, Integrated Teams with Accelerated Decision Making



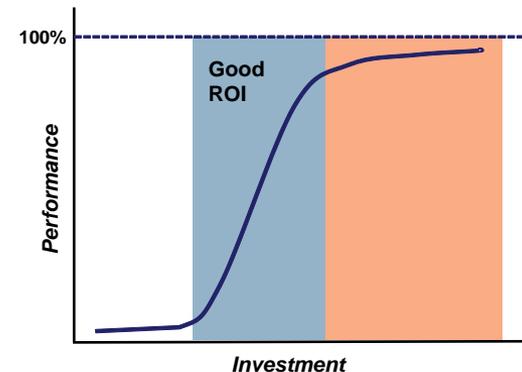
Focuses on the Data Content and Access to the Data

Affordability: The ability to develop and operate the SLS within the National means, to sustain funding for the Program.

Cost is a Function of Performance



- ◆ Extreme requirements drive up costs by **215%**.
- ◆ Question: Is a 14% increase in maximum speed (performance) **worth** a 215% increase in **cost**?
- ◆ Question: Is a 28% increase in 0 – 60 mph acceleration (performance) **worth** a 215% increase in **cost**?



Porsche 911 Carrera



Cylinders	6
Engine layout	Rear
Performance	180 mph
0-60 mph	4.7 sec
MSRP	\$77,800

Horsepower 345

Porsche 911 Turbo



Cylinders	6
Engine layout	Rear
Performance	195 mph
0-60 mph	3.5 sec
MSRP	\$160,700

Horsepower 530

Porsche 911 GT2 RS



— Source: Porsche website

Cylinders	6
Engine layout	Rear
Performance	205 mph
0-60 mph	3.4 sec
MSRP	\$245,000

Horsepower 620

We Will Factor the Real Cost into Our Decisions

The *Real* Cost of Launch Vehicle Development



- ◆ **Affordability requirements demand that we develop the SLS in a faster and more efficient manner, including the decision-making process.**
- ◆ **We cannot afford to delay decisions ... or delay getting behind them!**

Flight Hardware

Other Costs:
Workforce,
Infrastructure,
Processes, etc.

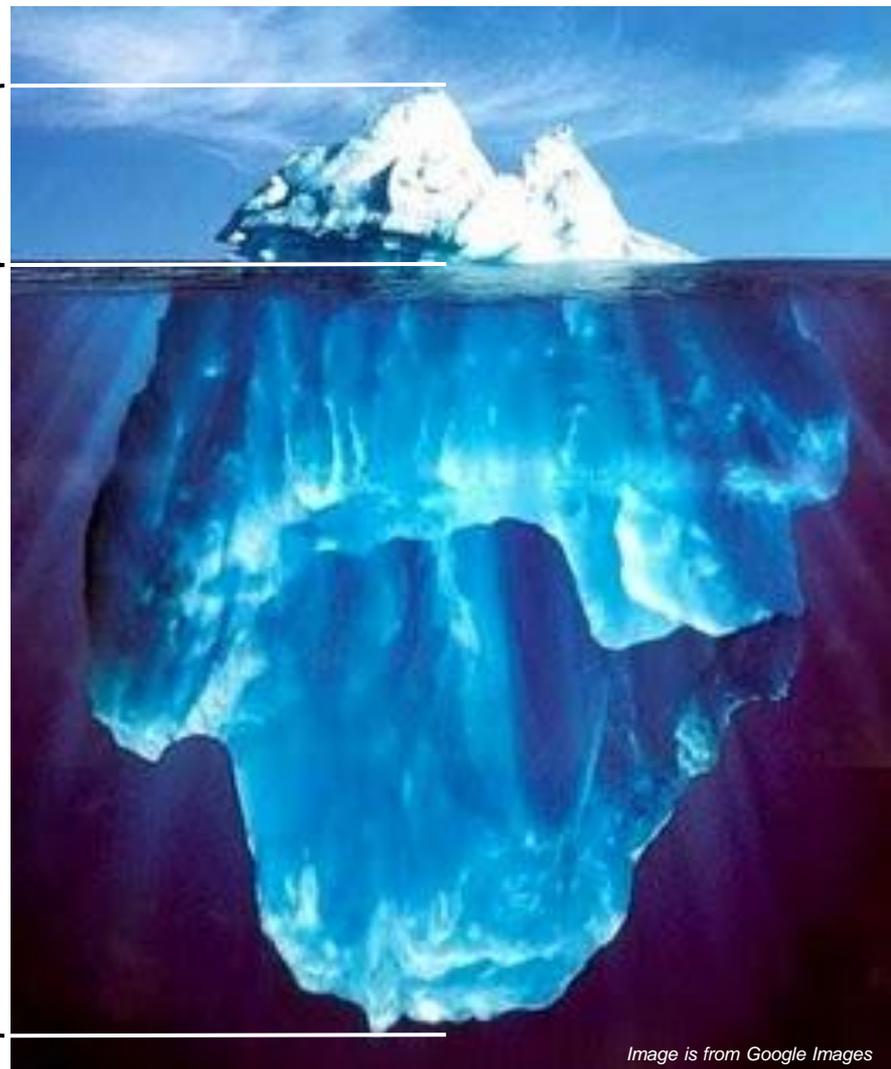


Image is from Google Images

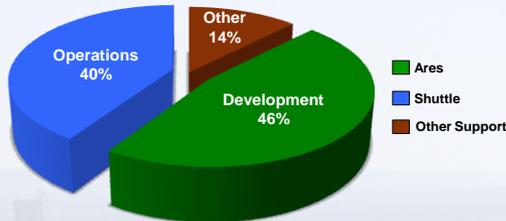
Time Is The One Resource That We Can Never Regain

SLS Program Organization at MSFC



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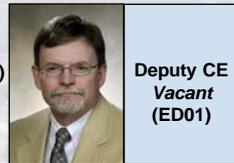
Marshall Workforce Supporting SLS



- Ares
- Shuttle
- Other Support

A Learning Organization Dedicated to Doing Things Differently

Chief Engineer (CE)
Garry Lyles



Deputy CE
Vacant (ED01)



Program Manager
Todd May



Deputy Manager
Jody Singer



Associate Program Manager
Jerry Cook



Assistant Program Manager
Sharon Cobb

— Hard line programmatic
- - - Matrix relationship

Program Planning & Control
Acting Manager
Jerry Cook



Deputy Manager
Daryl Woods

Chief Safety Officer (CSO)
Rick Burt



Deputy CSO
Dan Mullane

Procurement Manager
Earl Pendley



Strategic Development Manager
Steve Creech



Boosters Manager
Alex Priskos



Deputy Manager
Bruce Tiller

Engines Manager
Mike Kynard



Deputy Manager
Sheryl Kittredge

Stages Manager
Tony Lavoie



Deputy Manager
John Honeycutt

Ground Operations Liaison Manager
Brian Matisak



Assistant Manager
Andy Warren

Advanced Development Office Manager
Fred Bickley



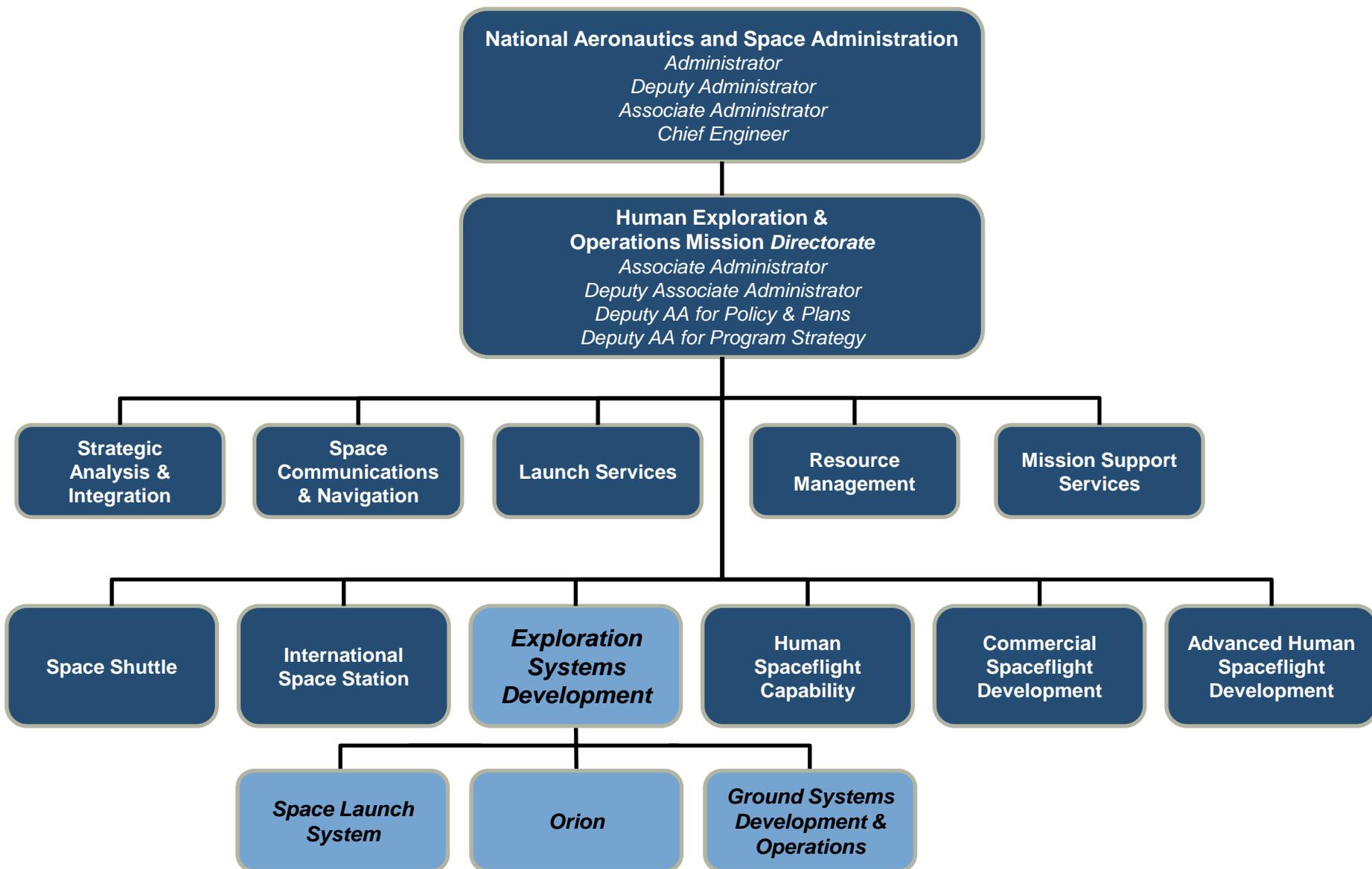
Assistant Manager
Tim Flores

Spacecraft & Payload Integration Manager
David Beaman



Assistant Manager
Craig McArthur

Programmatic Authority Flow



SLS Program Life Cycle



NASA Life Cycle Phases	Approval for Formulation			Approval for Implementation				
	FORMULATION			IMPLEMENTATION				
Program Life Cycle Phases	Pre-Phase A: Concept Studies	Phase A: Concept & Technology Development	Phase B: Preliminary Design & Technology Completion	Phase C: Final Design & Fabrication	Phase D: System Assembly, Int. & Test, Launch & Checkout	Phase E: Operations & Sustainment	Phase F: Closeout	
Program Life Cycle Gates and Major Events	KDP A ✓ FAD ✓ Draft Project Requirements ✓	Preliminary Program Plan ✓	Baseline Program Plan	Final PCA	Launch	End of Missions	Final Archival of Data	
Agency Reviews	ASM ✓	WE ARE HERE						
Human Space Flight Project Reviews	MCR ✓	SRR/SDR Steps 1 & 2	PDR	CDR	SIR	FRR PLAR	DR DRR	

We are Following NPR 7120.5



Systems Requirements Review/System Definition Review (SRR/SDR)

- ◆ **Solid planning and effective execution**
 - Teamwork and collaboration at all levels
- ◆ **Plan in place to address and close 154 items identified during Review Item Discrepancy (RID) process**
- ◆ **Pre-board and Board met during the week of March 26, 2012**
 - **Technical solutions vetted:**
 - Designs close on technical requirements
 - Options identified that address challenges
- ◆ **Findings presented to Marshall's Center Management Council (CMC) on April 4, 2012**
- ◆ **Integrated baseline (including life-cycle costs) to be addressed in detail in Step 2**

- ◆ **Prepare and review inputs for Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution (PPBE14) to Marshall, Exploration Systems Development (ESD), and Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate (HEOMD).**
 - ✓ SLS Program Review – April 12, 2012
 - ✓ ESD Review – April 16–18, 2012
 - ✓ MSFC Submit – April 19, 2012
 - Agency Submit – April 27, 2012

- ◆ **Baseline/Drop Documents for SRR/SDR Step 2, May 14, 2012**
- ◆ **Step 2 – Standing Review Board (SRB) Assesses Cost and Technical**
 - Assessment – May 14–June 8, 2012
 - SRB Outbrief to SLS – June 12, 2012
 - Joint CMC/Directorate Program Management Council (DPMC) – June 20, 2012
 - Agency Program Management Council (APMC)/Key Decision Point B (KDP-B) – June 27, 2012

- Goal:** Integrated baseline updated for the SLS Program and approval of Key Decision Point to move to Phase B (Preliminary Design and Technology Completion)

◆ Synchronizing SLS reviews with:

- **ESD**
 - ✓ Cross-Program SRR (CP-SRR) – Fall 2011
 - ✓ Cross-Program SDR (CP-SDR) – Winter 2012
- **Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle (MPCV) and Ground Systems and Development Operations (GSDO)**
 - MPCV re-synch activities – Summer 2012
 - GSDO SRR/SDR kickoff – July 2012
- **SLS Elements**
 - Spacecraft and Payload Integration (SPIO) SRR Kickoff – April 2012
 - Stages SRR Kickoff – May 2012
 - Boosters Requirements Review Kickoff and Board – June and July 2012
 - Other Elements maturing, with reviews planned in 2012

Cross Program Integration: Key to Success

Space Launch System – Steady Progress



SLS Industry Day at U.S. Space & Rocket Center



Stages Industry Day at Michoud Assembly Facility



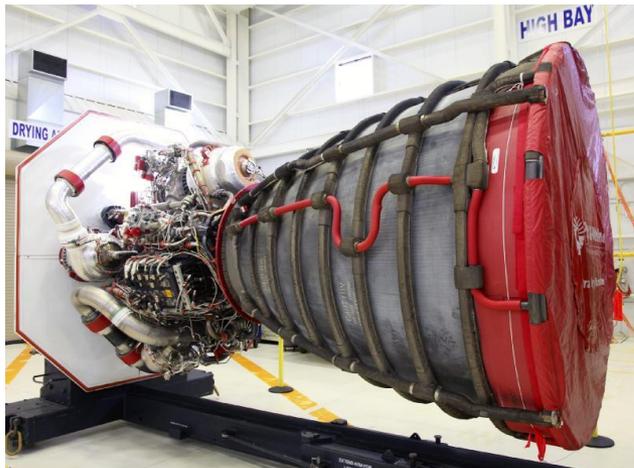
"Pass the Torch"
Lecture at U.S. Space & Rocket Center



J-2X Test, Control Room Monitoring



Engineers and technicians install the J-2X powerpack into the Stennis Space Center (SSC) A-1 test stand



RS-25D in the Engine Processing Facility at Kennedy



First J-2X Stability Test: 80-sec duration test firing; NASA began characterizing the rocket engine's combustion stability



J-2X 500-sec test firing at SSC

Stages Element Progress



Completed Orbiter Vehicle (OV) 103 Main Propulsion System Hardware Removal

- ◆ Orbiter hardware reuse study concluded significant cost and schedule savings.
- ◆ OV-103, OV-104, and OV-105 hardware removal in process.



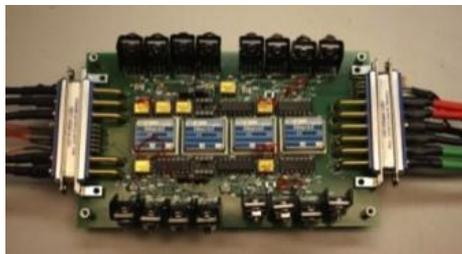
Thrust Vector Control Auxiliary Power Unit



NASA Budget Rollout at the Michoud Assembly Facility

Avionics Developments

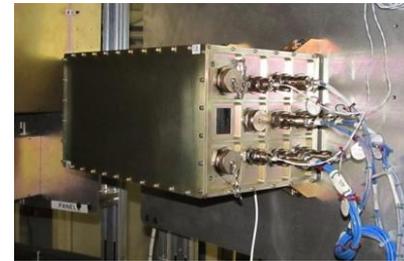
- ◆ Completed early prototype design and development for high-risk items.



PTS Prototype



3 Channel RPC Prototype



Redundant Inertial Navigation Unit

- ◆ Fabricated and demonstrated Power Transfer Switch (PTS) and Remote Power Controller (RPC) prototypes in April 2011.
- ◆ Completed long-cable test simulating Mobile Launch Equipment in Nov 2011.

- ◆ Completed initial integration with flight software.

Boosters Element Progress



◆ Development Motor-3 (DM-3) Static Test

- Successfully conducted on Sept 8, 2011, at ATK

◆ Value Stream Mapping (VSM)

- 46% cycle-time improvement (308 sources of waste and 447 moves eliminated)

◆ Subscale Solid Motor 20-Sec Test-Firing

- Low-cost replica (9-ft long, 2-ft dia) of SLS solid rocket motor
- Hot-fired at Marshall on March 14 to test new motor insulation materials



◆ Booster Avionics Flight Control Test 1

- Scheduled for March 29
- Full-scale hot-fire test of new avionics boxes controlling the thrust vector control system within a flight-like aft skirt

◆ Qualification Readiness Review (QRR)

- Major motor components (case, propellant, liner, insulator, nozzle, final assembly) to establish the motor's baseline
- Nozzle QRR and final assembly scheduled for April 10

◆ Booster Requirements Review (BRR)

- Scheduled for June 2012

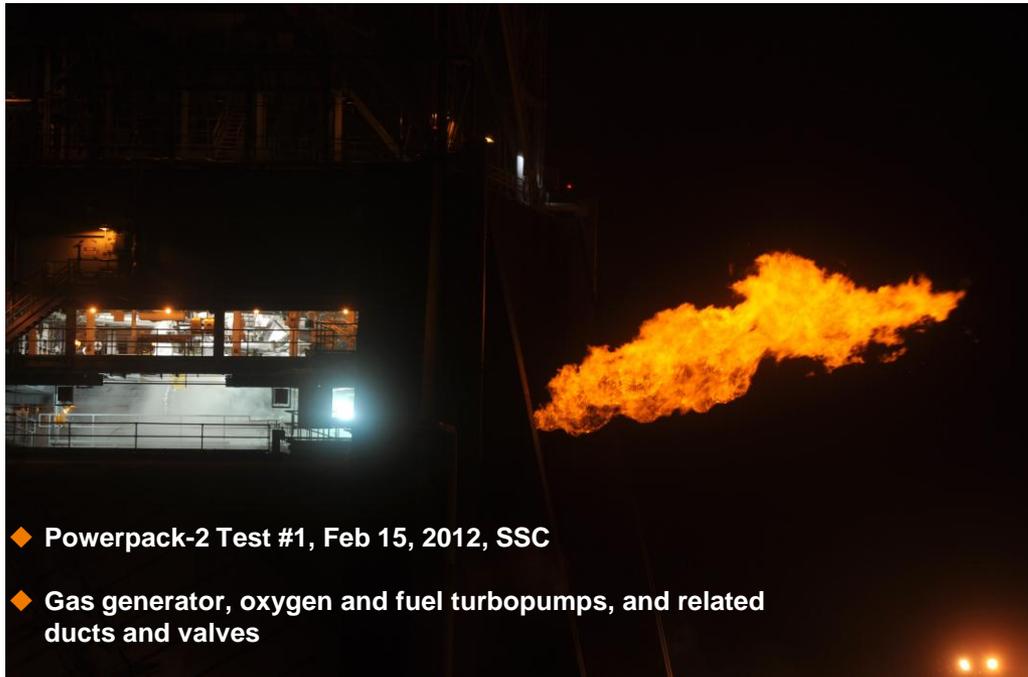
◆ Qualification Motor-1 (QM-1)

- Static test scheduled for Spring 2013



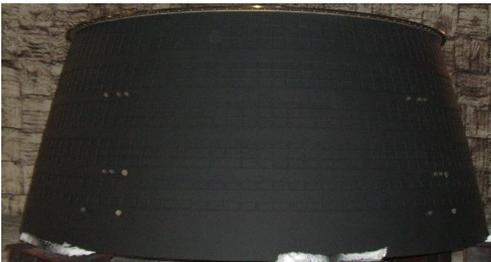
DM-3 Static Test

Liquid Engines Element Progress



- ◆ Powerpack-2 Test #1, Feb 15, 2012, SSC
- ◆ Gas generator, oxygen and fuel turbopumps, and related ducts and valves

- ◆ Reinstalling J-2X E10001 in A-2 test stand at SSC.
- ◆ Preparing for second engine test series.



- ◆ J-2X E10001 Nozzle Extension for second engine test series in A-2 .

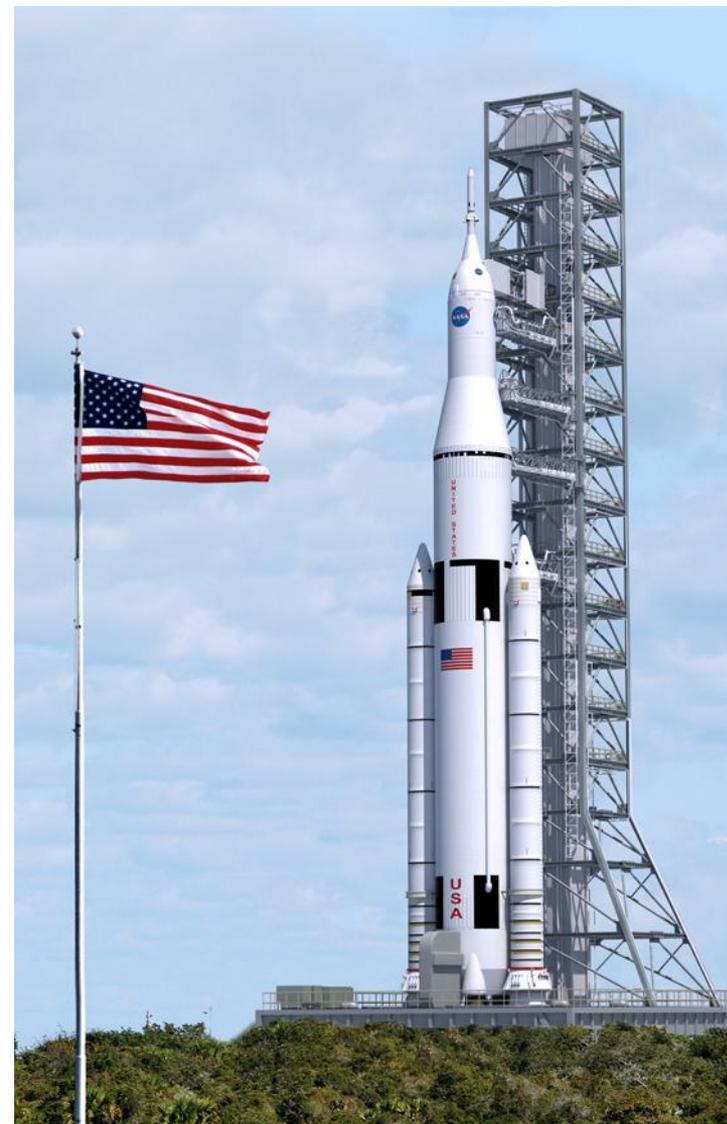


Transporting RS-25 core stage engines from Kennedy Space Center to storage at SSC.

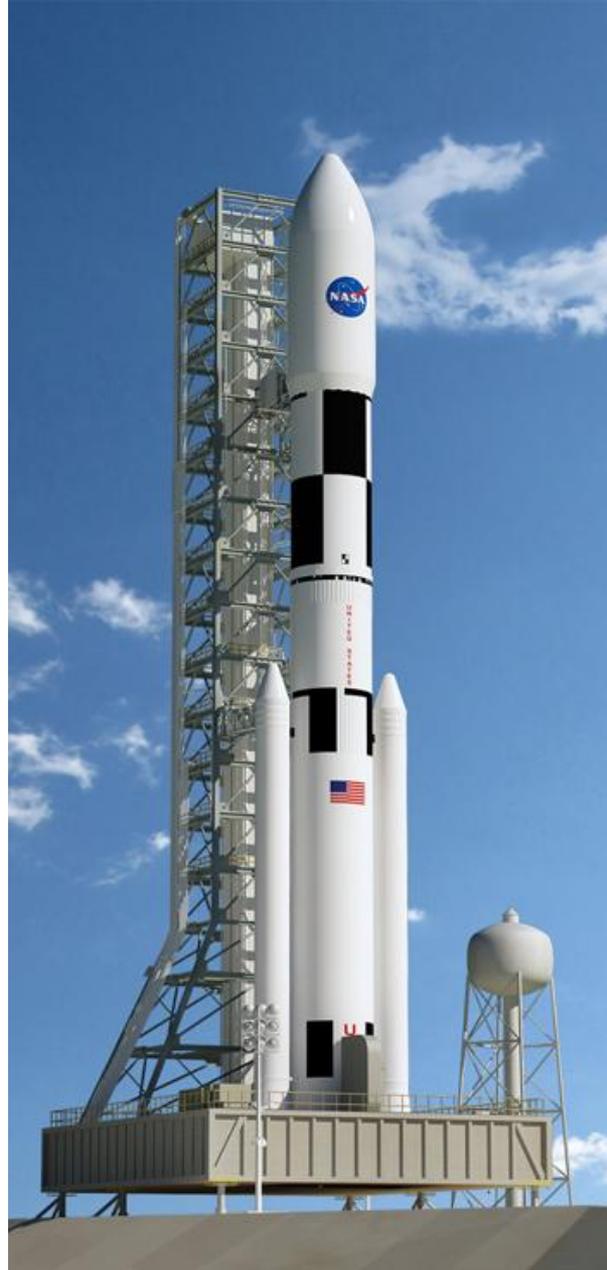
NASA's Space Launch System Summary



- ◆ **Vital to NASA's exploration strategy and the Nation's space agenda.**
- ◆ **Key tenets: safety, affordability, and sustainability.**
- ◆ **System Requirements Review/System Definition Review in progress.**
- ◆ **Partnerships with Exploration Systems Development (HQ), Orion and Ground Operations Programs, and Centers.**
- ◆ **Prime contractors on board, engaging the U.S. aerospace workforce and infrastructure.**
- ◆ **Competitive opportunities for innovations that affordably upgrade performance.**
- ◆ **On track for first flight in 2017.**



For More Information



www.nasa.gov/sls

Space Launch System: Future Frontier Video

http://www.nasa.gov/multimedia/videogallery/index.html?media_id=131955371

A composite image of the solar system. In the upper left, a bright yellow Sun glows. To its right, Earth is shown with a satellite in orbit. Further right, Mars is depicted with several smaller moons or asteroids nearby. The bottom half of the image is filled with a large number of brown, rocky asteroids of various sizes, scattered across the dark blue space.

*Somewhere, something incredible
is waiting to be known.*

— Carl Sagan