In-space Manufacturing: Pioneering a Sustainable Path to Mars

Rocket City Science Cafe
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ISM is responsible for developing the on-demand manufacturing capabilities that will be required for affordable, sustainable operations during Exploration Missions (in-transit and on-surface) to destinations such as Mars. This includes advancing the needed technologies, as well as establishing the skills & processes (such as certification and characterization) that will enable the technologies to go from novel to institutionalized.

- These technologies are evolving rapidly due to terrestrial markets. ISM is leveraging this commercial development to develop these capabilities within a realistic timeframe and budget.
- ISM utilizes the International Space Station (ISS) as a test-bed to adapt these technologies for microgravity operations and evolve the current operations mindset from earth-reliant to earth-independent.

**On-demand Manufacturing Capability for Exploration Missions**

**TECHNOLOGIES**

- Design
- Optimize
- Characterize
- Certify

**SKILLS & PROCESSES**
### ISM Technologies Under Development for Sustainable Exploration Missions

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<th>RECYCLER</th>
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<td>Recycling/Reclaiming 3D Printed Parts and/or packing materials into feedstock materials. This capability is crucial to sustainability in-space.</td>
<td>Leverage ground-based developments to enable in-space manufacturing of functional electronic components, sensors, and circuits. Image: <em>Courtesy of Dr. Jessica Koehne (NASA/ARC)</em></td>
<td>The combination of 3D Print coupled with Printable Electronics enables on-orbit capability to produce “on demand” satellites.</td>
<td>Additively manufacturing metallic parts in space is a desirable capability for large structures, high strength requirement components (greater than nonmetallics or composites can offer), and repairs. NASA is evaluating various technologies for such applications. Image: <em>Manufacturing Establishment website</em></td>
<td>Astronauts will perform repairs on tools, components, and structures in space using structured light scanning to create digital model of damage and AM technologies such as 3D Print and metallic manufacturing technologies (e.g. E-beam welding, ultrasonic welding, EBF3) to perform the repair. Image: NASA</td>
<td>Contour Crafting Simulation Plan for Lunar Settlement Infrastructure Build-Up B. Khoshnevis, USC</td>
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Illustration of a lunar habitat, constructed using the Moon's soil and a 3D printer. Credit: Foster+Partners
In-space Manufacturing (ISM) Path to Exploration

**EARTH RELIANT**

- ISS Platform
  - In-space Manufacturing Rack
  - Demonstrating:
    - 3D Print Tech Demo (plastic)
    - Additive Manufacturing Facility
    - Recycling
    - On-demand Utilization Catalogue
    - Printable Electronics
    - In-space Metals
    - Syn Bio & ISRU
  - External In-space Mfctr. & Repair Demo

**PROVING GROUND**

- Space Launch System

**EARTH INDEPENDENT**

- Planetary Surfaces Platform
  - Additive Construction, Repair & Recycle/Reclamation Technologies (both In-situ and Ex-situ)
  - Provisioning of Regolith Simulant Materials for Feedstock Utilization
  - Execution and Handling of Materials for Fabrication and/or Repair Purposes
  - Synthetic Biology Collaboration

**Earth-Based Platform**

- Certification & Inspection Process
- Material Characterization Database (in-situ & ex-situ)
- Additive Manufacturing Systems Automation Development
- Ground-based Technology Maturation & Demonstrations (i.e. ACME Project)
- Develop, Test, and Utilize Simulants & Binders for use as AM Feedstock

* Green text indicates ISM/ISRU collaboration
# In-space Manufacturing Phased Technology Development Roadmap

## Earth-based

- **Ground & Parabolic centric:**
  - Multiple FDM Zero-G parabolic flights
  - Trade/System Studies for Metals
  - Ground-based Printable Electronics/Spacecraft
  - Verification & Certification Processes under development
  - Materials Database
  - Cubesat Design & Development

## Demos: Ground & ISS

- **3D Print Tech Demo**
  - Plastic Printing Demo
  - Add Mfctr. Facility
  - Recycler
  - Metal Printing
  - Self-repair/replicate
  - External In-space Mfctr

## Exploration

- **2020-25**
  - Lunar, Lagrange FabLabs
  - Planetary Surfaces Points Fab
  - Mars Multi-Material Fab Lab

- **2025**
  - Initial Robotic/Remote Missions
  - Provision feedstock
  - Evolve to utilizing in situ materials (natural resources, synthetic biology)

- **2030 - 40**
  - Transport vehicle and sites would need Fab capability
  - Additive Construction & Repair of large structures

## ISS Serves as a Key Exploration Test-bed for the Required Technology Maturation & Demonstrations

- **ISS:**
  - **Utilization/Facility Focus**:
    - 3D Print Demo
    - Future Engineer Challenge
    - Utilization Catalogue
    - ISM Cert Process
    - Add. Mfctr. Facility (AMF)
    - In-space Recycler SBIR
    - In-space Material Database
    - External In-space 3D Printing
    - Autonomous Processes
    - ACME Simulant Dev. & Test for Feedstock; Ground Demo

*Green text indicates ISM/ISRU collaboration*
ISM Step #1: First 3D Printer in Space!

- The 3D Print Tech Demo launched on SpaceX-4 (9/21/14) and was installed in the Microgravity Science Glovebox on ISS. The printer was designed and built by Made in Space, Inc. under NASA Small Business Innovation Research contract.
- To date, 21 parts have been printed in space (13 unique designs); the printer functioned nominally.
- First part “emailed” to Space: 3D Print of a ratchet tool demonstrated on-demand capability by uplinking a part file that was not pre-loaded to the 3D Printer.
- The first flight samples were ‘unboxed’ at NASA MSFC in April 2015. Test & Analyses is underway with results to be openly published Fall 2015.

Images courtesy of NASA
3D Printer International Space Station (ISS) Technology Demonstration Initial Samples

Mechanical Property Test Articles
- Tensile
- Compression
- Flex
- Torque

Functional Tools
- Crowfoot
- Wrench
- Cubesat Clip
- Container

Printer Performance Capability
- Calibration
- Hole Resolution
- Feature Resolution
- Overhang
- Layer Quality
In-Space Manufacturing Tasks

◆ **Material Characterization Database Development**
  - Objective: Characterize microgravity effects on printed parts and resulting mechanical properties. Develop design-level database for microgravity applications.
  - MSFC team has performed initial characterization on ABS and ULTEM using various printer and feedstock vendors.
  - MSFC will generate design property database from ground samples produced using the flight spare 3D printer.
  - Phase II operations for additional on-orbit prints of engineering test articles, as well as utilization parts, are being planned with ISS for later this year.
  - All datasets will be available through the MSFC Materials and Processes Technical Information System (MAPTIS)

◆ **On-demand ISM Utilization Catalogue Development**
  - Objective: Develop a catalogue of approved parts for in-space manufacturing and utilization.
  - Joint effort between MSFC AM materials and process experts and space system designers and JSC ISS Crew Tools Office
  - Parts being assessed include crew tools, payload components, medical tools, exercise equipment replacement parts, cubesat components, etc.
  - First parts are in design and ground test process.

ISM Characterization of Materials and Process Variability (above)

Housekeeping Vacuum Crevice Tool

EVA Suit Fan Shipping Container: Design Clearances had to be relaxed for part to be printed on one FDM printer (red) vs. another in order for the parts to be assembled.
In Space Manufacturing Tasks

◆ **AMF - Additive Manufacturing Facility (SBIR Phase II-Enhancement) with Made In Space, Inc.**
  - Commercial printer for use on ISS
    - Incorporates lessons learned from 3D Printer ISS Tech Demo
    - Expanded materials capabilities: ABS, ULTEM, PEEK
    - Increased build volume
  - Anticipated launch late CY2015

◆ **In-space Recycler ISS Technology Demonstration Development (SBIR 2014)**
  - Objective: Recycle 3D printed parts into feedstock to help close logistics loop.
  - Phase I recycler developments completed by Made In Space, Inc. (MIS) and Tethers Unlimited, Inc..
  - Phase II SBIR (2014) awarded to TUI
  - Final deliverable will result in flight hardware for the In-space Recycler for proposed ISS Technology Demonstration in FY2017.

◆ **Launch Packaging Recycling Phase I SBIR (2015)**
  - Objective: Recycle packaging materials (foam, bubble wrap, plastic bags) into useable 3D Printing feedstock to help close logistics loop.
  - Awarded TUI, Cornerstone, and Techshot Phase I SBIRs
In-Space Manufacturing Tasks

◆ In-space Printable Electronics Technology Development
  • Development of inks, multi-materials deposition equipment, and processes
  • Collaborating with Xerox Palo Alto Research Center (PARC) on Printable Electronics technologies developed at MSFC and Xerox PARC.
  • NASA Ames Research Center developing plasma jet printable electronics capability
  • Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL) has Advanced Concepts project to develop “printable spacecraft”
  • “Printing” ultracapacitors, RFID tags & antennae, & boards in one process
  • Printable Electronics Roadmap developed targeting ISS technology demonstrations including RF sensors/antennae, in-space printed solar panel, and printable cubesats

◆ In-space Multi-Material Manufacturing Technology Development
  • In-space Adaptive Manufacturing (ISAM) project with Dynetics utilizing the Hyperbaric Pressure Laser Chemical Vapor Deposition (HP-LCVD)
  • HP-LCVD technology holds promise for a novel solution to manufacturing with multiple materials (including metallics & composites) in microgravity.
  • Phase I deliverable in September 2015 is spring similar to design utilized on ISS in furnaces
In Space Manufacturing Collaborations

◆ ACME - Additive Construction by Mobile Emplacement (NASA STMD GCD & Army Corps of Engineers)
  
  • Joint initiative with the U. S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center – Construction Engineering Research Laboratory (ERDC-CERL) Automated Construction of Expeditionary Structures (ACES) Project
  • Objective: Develop a capability to print custom-designed expeditionary structures on-demand, in the field, using locally available materials and minimum number of personnel.
  • Goal: Produce half- scale and full-scale structures with integrated additive construction system at a lab or planetary analog site (September 2017)

◆ NASA/DARPA External In-space Manufacturing & Repair BAA (To be released in FY16)
  
  • Objective: External Additive Manufacturing shows great promise for Exploration missions. A joint NASA/ Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) is proposed to explore the technologies available today that could be utilized for a future in-space demonstration.
  • Targeted Areas of Interest for an External In-space Manufacturing & Repair Technology Flight Demo include: Additive Manufacturing Technologies, Printable Electronics, Autonomous & Remote Ops, Inspection - Manufacturing context, situational awareness and metrology, Ionic Liquids Extraction & Utilization
In-space Manufacturing STEM & Outreach: Leveraging External Platforms for Technology and Skillset Development

**National Future Engineers STEM Program:** National challenge conducted jointly by NASA and American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)
- Competition was held in two divisions, Junior (K-12) and Teen (13-18)
- First Challenge was to design a tool that astronauts could use on ISS. Teen winner’s part will be printed on ISS later this year.
- The Space Container Challenge was announced on 5/12/15 and closes 8/2/15. [www.futureengineers.org](http://www.futureengineers.org)
- Discussions underway for a joint NASA/IndyCar Challenge

**NASA GrabCAD Handrail Clamp Assembly Challenge**
- GrabCAD has a community of nearly 2 million designers
- Challenge was to design a 3D Printed version of the Handrail Clamp Assembly commonly used on ISS
- Nearly 500 entries in three weeks
- Five winners were selected
In-space Manufacturing Initiative Summary

In order to provide meaningful impacts to Exploration Technology needs, the ISM Initiative Must Influence Exploration Systems Design Now.

- **In-space Manufacturing offers:**
  - Dramatic paradigm shift in the development and creation of space architectures
  - Efficiency gain and risk reduction for low Earth orbit and deep space exploration
  - “Pioneering” approach to maintenance, repair, and logistics will lead to sustainable, affordable supply chain model.

- **In order to develop application-based capabilities in time to support NASA budget and schedule, ISM must be able to leverage the significant commercial developments.**
  - Requires innovative, agile collaborative mechanisms (contracts, challenges, SBIR’s, etc.)
  - NASA-unique Investments to focus primarily on adapting the technologies & processes to the microgravity environment.

- **We must do the foundational work – it is the critical path for taking these technologies from lab curiosities to institutionalized capabilities.**
  - Characterize, Certify, Institutionalize, Design for AM

- **Ultimately, ISM will utilize an ISS US Lab rack to develop an integrated “Fab Lab” with the capability to manufacture multi-material parts with embedded electronics, inspect the parts for quality, and recycle multiple materials into useable feedstock that will serve Exploration Missions.**
BACKUP
1.0 In-Space Manufacturing Project Management Resource Analyst

1.1 In-Space Manufacturing Technologies
- 3D Printing in Zero-G Tech Demo
- Additive Manufacturing Facility (AMF)
- In-space Recycling Capability
- Printable Electronics
- In-Space Metals Printing
- Autonomous and Remote Operation Technologies

1.2 Materials Characterization
- Material Properties Needed for Design using FDM
- Develop Material Properties Database
- Develop Design & Analyses Tools & Models
- Quantification of Variables Affecting Baseline Database - Microgravity - Printer Capability - Feedstock - Recycler Process

1.3 Parts Utilization Catalogue
- Catalogue Content Definition
- Develop Catalogue Database Format and Structure
- Develop Process for Candidate Part Inclusion - Sample Part Dev - Verification & Validation Process Dev

1.4 In-Space External Manufacturing & Repair
- External In-space Additive Manufacturing and Repair Technology Development
- DARPA/NASA BAA

1.5 STEM Outreach
- Future Engineers Challenges
- GRAB CAD Challenge
ISM Level – 1-4 Requirements Decomposition

Level 1
HQ - Level 1 Objective
New Expanded Requirements for In-Space Manufacturing in Addition to Original 3D Print Above

Utilize ISS as a Test Bed to further TRL maturation on enabling and critically enhancing technologies needed for long duration human exploration beyond earth orbit.

OCT Materials, Structures, Mechanical Systems, & Manufacturing Road Map, Technology Area 12
- Table 18 Page TA12-22, “in-space assembly, fabrication and repair introduction of new materials and methods to fabricate structures in-sace”
- Sect 5.2.1 para 6 p TA12-31, “Enable cost-effective manufacturing for reliable high performance structures and mechanisms made in low-unit production, including in space manufacturing”
- Sect 5.3 12-14.2 Intelligent Integrated Manufacturing and Cyber Physical Systems (Manufacturing) p TA12-33, “This technology would enable physical components to be manufactured in space, on long-duration human missions if necessary.

NASA Human Research Program (HRP) Decadal Survey AP/10
- Design and Develop advanced materials that meet new property requirements to enable human exploration at reduced cost using both current and novel materials synthesis and processing techniques and computational methods.

Level 2
AES, STMD and ISS Program - Level 2 Requirements

In-Space Manufacturing shall develop a parts catalog of pre approved items that can be printed in-space to support ISS and Exploration needs.

In-Space Manufacturing shall develop a capability to support ISS & Future Exploration Needs.

Level 3
In-Space Manufacturing (Former 3D Print) Project - Level 3 Requirements

The In-Space Manufacturing Project shall develop and institutionalize a Verification and Certification Process for candidate parts to be included in the parts catalog that ensures that the part designs meet all functional and ISS interface / safety requirements.

The In-Space Manufacturing Project shall develop a process for identifying candidate parts for addition to parts catalog database

The In-Space Manufacturing Project shall develop an electronic database catalog of pre approved items that can be called up and printed on an as needed basis

The In-Space Manufacturing Project shall develop a Material Characterization Database that quantifies the material properties of print material in the as printed state such as needed by a design engineer to facilitate the design of parts in the parts catalog

The In-Space Manufacturing Project shall develop NASA customer goals and requirements for an In-Space Manufacturing Facilities both for commercial, ISS and exploration applications.

The In-Space Manufacturing Project shall develop a design capability for Additive Manufacturing that takes advantage of the microgravity and exoplanetary environments

The In-Space Manufacturing Project shall develop printable electronics ground demo to enable additive manufacturing of electronic circuits for in space applications.

The In-Space Manufacturing Project shall develop an ISS in space recycler tech demo development to enable use of available materials and minimize launch of renewable resources.

The In-Space Manufacturing Project shall develop a quality assessment approach to assure that the parts printed are manufactured to the design requirements intended.

The In-Space Manufacturing Project shall develop technology to enable automated remote in space additive manufacturing for ISS and explorations applications.

The In-Space Manufacturing Project shall develop technology to enable large scale structure manufacturing in the exposed vacuum environment of space.

The In-Space Manufacturing Project shall develop technology to enable additive repair of tools, components and structures in space to cut dependence on earth to orbit replacement of damaged parts.

The In-Space Manufacturing Project shall develop a Future Engineers Program 3D printing in space challenge to design a tool that could be used in space including students in K-12.

Level 4
Level 4 Requirements - Made In Space Contract and In-house Task

The In-Space Manufacturing Project shall utilize MAPTIS to publish results for the material database

The In-Space Manufacturing Project shall ensure that the lessons learned from the 3D Print Technology Demonstration are integrated into the AMF printer and will be applicable to NASA ISM objectives.

The In-Space Manufacturing Project shall develop and implement a procurement model for NASA to procure print services from the MIS AMF commercial 3D Printer on ISS.

Automation & Sensor Development for Remote operation of Additive Manufacturing Technologies

External In-space Manufacturing BAA

In-Space Manufacturing shall develop a STEM outreach program to gather interest from the public
Visual and photographic Inspection

- Identification and documentation of anomalies, damage (e.g., print tray removal damage)
- Identification and documentation of any visual differences between flight and ground samples (initial identification of microgravity effects)
- Attention will be given to any signs of delamination between layers, curling of the sample, surface quality, damage, voids or pores, and any other visually noticeable defect.

Mass Measurement / Density Calculation

- Mass measurement using a calibrated laboratory scale accurate to 0.1mg repeated five times for a mean mass
- Density calculation requires the volume determined by structured light scanning
  - Provides information on void space or expansion of the material created during the printing process
  - Flight samples will be compared with their respective ground samples to assess any differences
Structured Light Scanning
- ATOS Compact Scan Structured Light Scanner
- Blue light grid projected on the surface
- Stereo-images captured
- Image processing provides
  - A CAD model of the printed part
  - A comparison of the printed part and the original CAD file from which the part was printed
  - A statistically valid determination of the volume of the sample

Computed Tomography (CT) Scanning/X-Ray
- Phoenix Nanome|x 160
- X-ray scans
- Provides 2D and 3D models of the internal structures that could affect mechanical properties
  - Internal voids
  - De-lamination of the ABS layers
- Resolution as low as 8-10 microns is possible
3D Printing ISS Tech Demo Sample Testing Techniques

**Mechanical (Destructive) Testing**

- ASTM Standards Applied on Mechanical Samples only
- D638 for tensile testing
  - Tensile strength, tensile modulus, and fracture elongation
- D790 for flexure testing
  - Flexural stress and flexural modulus
- D695 for compression testing
  - Compressive stress and compressive modulus

**Optical and Scanning Electron Microscopy**

- Detail the surface microstructures of the layers
- Detail the surface of the flight prints damaged by over-adhesion to the build tray; it is hoped this will identify the root cause of seemingly increased adhesion of part to tray
- Inter-laminar regions will be investigated; flight and ground samples will be compared
- Defects or anomalies noted by the initial inspection will examined, as well as the fracture surfaces from the mechanical tests