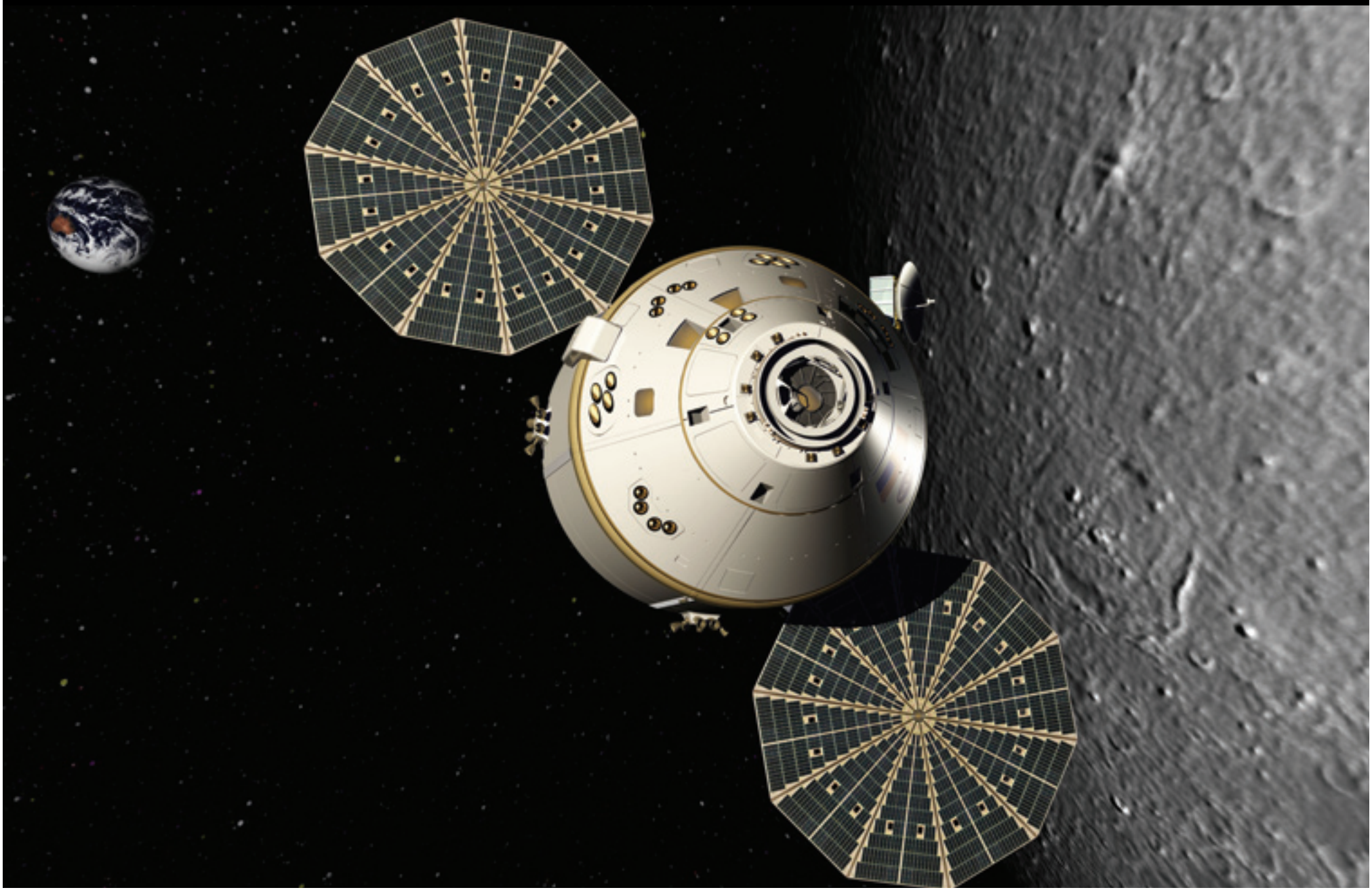
National Aeronautics and Space Administration



Crew Exploration Vehicle (CEV)

NASA's new human spacecraft with its solar panels deployed in orbit around the moon. The new crew capsule will be designed to carry four astronauts on a lunar expedition and can be reused up to 10 times. It can carry up to six crewmembers for reentry from a trip to Mars and can also deliver cargo and crew to the international space station. Sitting atop a service module, the capsule uses an Apollo-like shape, which reduces development time and is safer. But the new spaceship has three times Apollo's volume, allowing room for the bigger crew. The new crew capsule has solar panels to provide electrical power.

Credit: Artist's concept by Lockheed Martin Corp.