

Recent activities specific to the Elements include:

Upper Stage (US)

US Logistics Support Infrastructure (LSI) Subsystem: Foundation work continues on three new Upper Stage manufacturing areas in B103 at Michoud Assembly Facility (MAF). Completion of the foundation work is scheduled for late March as a prologue for tooling installation in the new MAF Robotic Weld Tool (RWT) and Machining Center facilities, while tooling installation in the new addition to the B103 Vertical High Bay is scheduled to begin in September.



NASA, Boeing, and other contractor personnel view construction work on the B103 Vertical High Bay addition

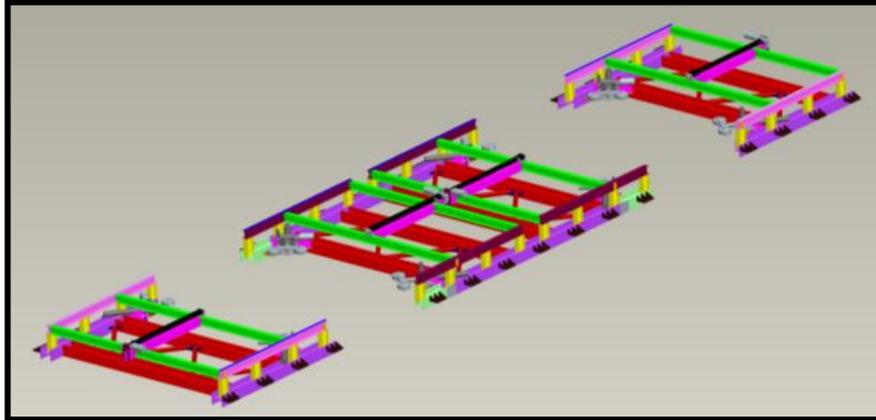
Ares V

Ares V Phase A-Cycle 3 (PA-C3) Checkpoint: Ares V held a PA-C3 checkpoint which was an opportunity to check the progress of the current cycle for Ares V including vehicle-level trade studies, threats and opportunities, and vehicle performance. The meetings also were an opportunity to evaluate the integration process of the Concept of Operations, Functional Flow Block Diagrams, and requirements. The checkpoint was held on January 13 and 14 in Huntsville at the Jacobs Conference Center and included attendees from four Centers including Marshall, the host.



Flight and Integrated Test Office (FITO)

IVGVT Reaction Frame & Moving Platforms (STE) – Test Stand 4550: The Integrated Vehicle Ground Vibration Test (IVGVT) team continues to make progress fabricating required Special Test Equipment (STE) for the upcoming test in Test Stand 4550. Shown below is a conceptual rendering of the completed Reaction Frame and Platforms, as well as ongoing work at the Test Stand.



Project Integration

Inspiring Constellation Workshop: Ares Projects outreach team members supported a January 13 presentation to informal educators from eight states attending an “Inspiring Constellation” workshop at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. Sponsored by MSFC’s Academic Affairs Office, the workshop provided information and curriculum ideas to educators who interact with students outside the traditional classroom setting, such as staff from science museums, planetariums, and scout troops. The presentation focused on Constellation Program objectives, the Ares vehicle architecture, and the complexity of designing human-rated space vehicles, as well as their broader context, such as why humanity explores and tangible benefits from space exploration. The group also viewed a video of the successful Ares I-X launch and toured Ares manufacturing and test facilities.



Ares Outreach lead speaks to educators at the Inspiring Constellation workshop

The Ares Projects look forward to the launch of STS-130, Space Shuttle Endeavour, planned for February 7.