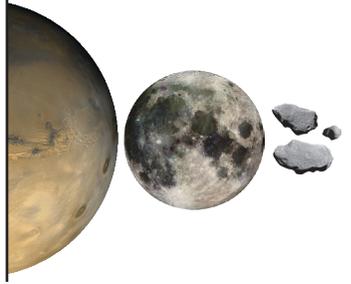


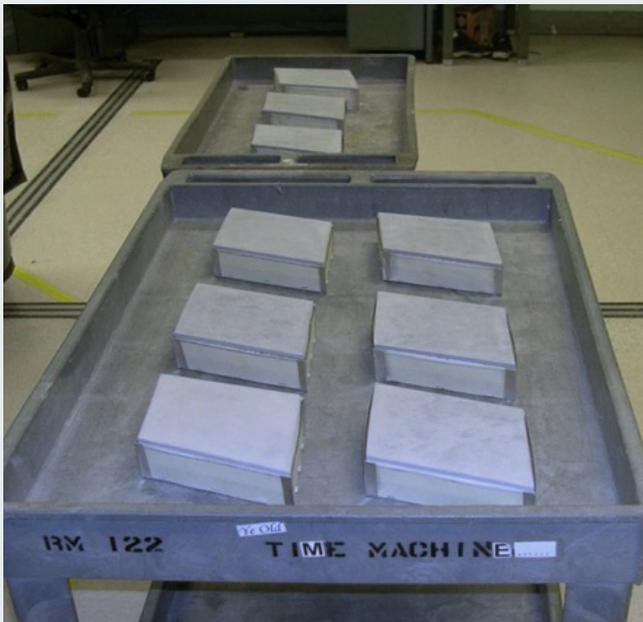
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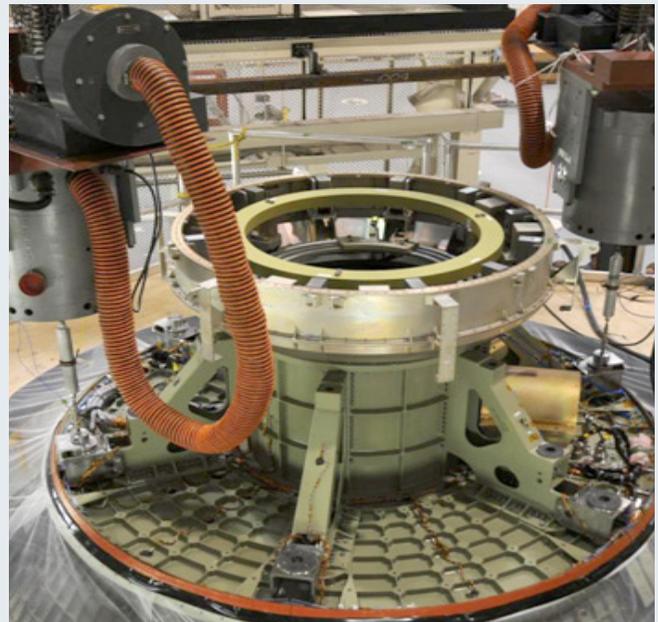
Ready for drop test in Yuma

The parachute team supervised the extraction parachute tow test performed by the Air Force to evaluate the modifications made to the programmer parachute deployment bag in preparation for the first Generation II Parachute Test Vehicle (PTV) drop test in Yuma, AZ scheduled for Feb. 29.



Nine TPS tiles fabricated

The first nine thermal protection system tiles for the backshell of Exploration Flight Test (EFT-1) were manufactured at the Thermal Protection System Facility at Kennedy Space Center and are awaiting inspection. Sixteen tiles are in the coating process and twenty eight tiles are in machining.



Vibration Tests Complete on GTA

The team at Lockheed Martin's facility in Denver successfully completed all eight multi-point vibration tests on the Orion Ground Test Article. Additional data will still be collected throughout the next week. The next planned use of the GTA is landing tests at the Langley Research Center Hydro Impact Facility in early FY2013.

Students help to shape Orion



Students from Texas A&M University visited the Orion Medium Fidelity Mockup as part of the SSANS, or Students Shaping America's Next Spacecraft, program. The students, who are Industrial Engineering majors at Texas A&M, partnered with the Orion Program on two senior design projects: Orion Lighting System hardware for the Orion Full-scale Mockup and the Orion Budget and Planning Project. During their visit on Feb. 22, the students presented their work as part of the Preliminary Design Review at the Johnson Space Center in Houston. While at the center, they had an opportunity to see the Orion mockups and tour center facilities.



NASA Deputy Administrator Lori Garver hosted an All Hands meeting at Johnson Space Center with Center Director Mike Coats and toured the Orion mockups in JSC's Space Vehicle Mockup Facility. Garver also toured the Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans.



The Orion Pad Abort 1 Crew Module has been moved to the Vehicle Assembly Building at the Kennedy Space Center. It will be available for viewing by visitors taking a tour from the KSC visitor center