



GROUND SYSTEMS
Development and Operations

E X P L O R A T I O N B E G I N S H E R E

DAWN
OF A NEW ERA

SLS

SPACE LAUNCH SYSTEM

SPACE LAUNCH SYSTEM

Space Launch System (SLS) – The Space Launch System is the technological heir to the Saturn V rocket and space shuttle. A massive rocket with more thrust than any launcher ever built, the SLS is designed to get astronauts and large exploration machines such as landers and telescopes into deep space. The SLS is taller than the Saturn V rockets that launched astronauts to the moon from 1968 to 1972, and more powerful. Building on the legacy of the space shuttle, the SLS is powered by space shuttle main engines and solid rocket boosters. It will be strong enough to push astronauts and their spacecraft out of Earth orbit and on to the moon, asteroids or even Mars. It will provide the nation with the ability to push beyond our current limits of exploration and discovery.

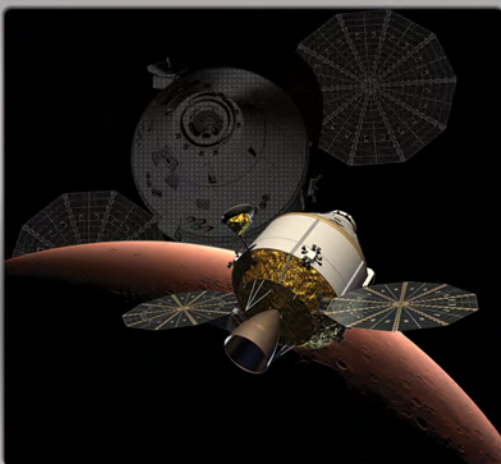


ORION

O R I O N

MULTI-PURPOSE CREW VEHICLE

NASA is counting on Orion to carry astronauts safely to the moon, an asteroid or even Mars in the future. Riding atop a Space Launch System rocket, the Orion spacecraft is designed to give people everything they need to survive and work in space. The spacecraft is designed to protect the astronauts during launch with an escape rocket that can pull the capsule out of harm's way in an emergency. Orion also will sport a robust heat shield able to survive the intense heat of reentry from deep space to deliver astronauts safely back to Earth after a mission. From air and water to the complex computers and navigation gear needed to steer through the void of space, Orion will be equipped to venture farther out into space than anyone has gone in 40 years.



GSDO

INFRASTRUCTURE

VEHICLE PROCESSING

A New Kind of Spaceport - Spacecraft and rockets stand as the cutting-edge marvels of engineering and technology, and the machinery used to get them ready for space is no less innovative. The challenge of inventing such marvels is changing, though, as NASA's Ground Systems Development and Operations Program, or GSDO, develops devices and techniques so the agency's premiere launch site at NASA's Kennedy Space Center can host several different kinds of rockets and spacecraft safely. By modifying existing facilities -- including the landmark Vehicle Assembly Building and the historic Operations and Checkout Building, along with several others -- the center will be able to work as a factory for all kinds of space vehicles, providing ground test facilities, launch control and, of course, launch pads.



EXPLORATION

BEGINS

HERE

For more information go to: <http://go.nasa.gov/groundsystems> or take a picture of the QR code with your Smartphone.

