

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



The International Space Station, Exploration and the Commercial Development of LEO

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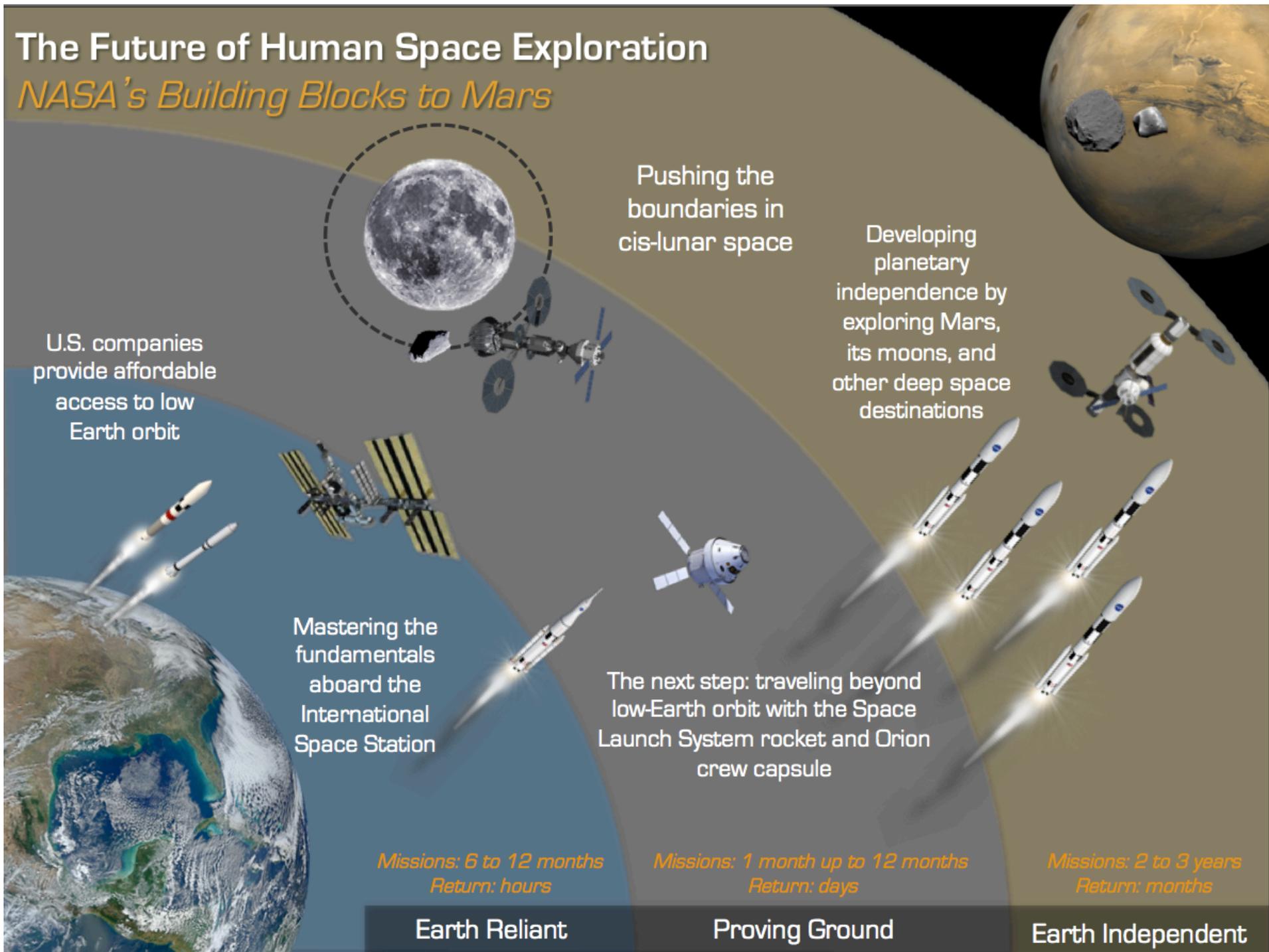
The Space Station will be around
for at least another 10 years...



The use and evolution of the ISS is directly
linked to deep space human spaceflight
and the commercial development of LEO

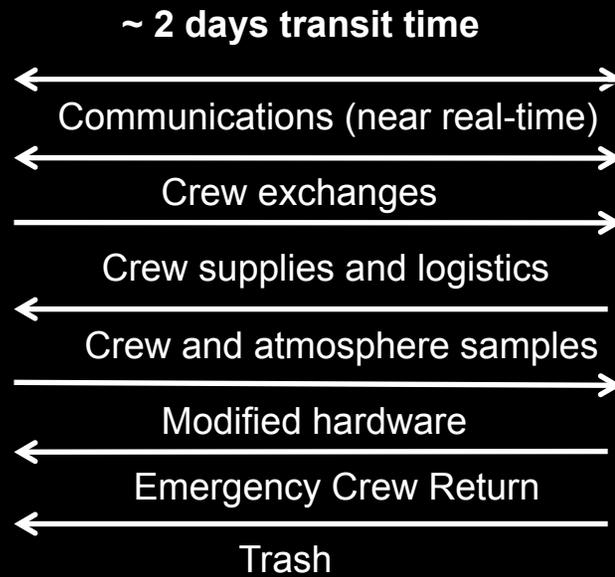
The Future of Human Space Exploration

NASA's Building Blocks to Mars





From Earth Reliant



~400 kilometers



“car camping in space”



To Earth Independent



~228,000,000 kilometers

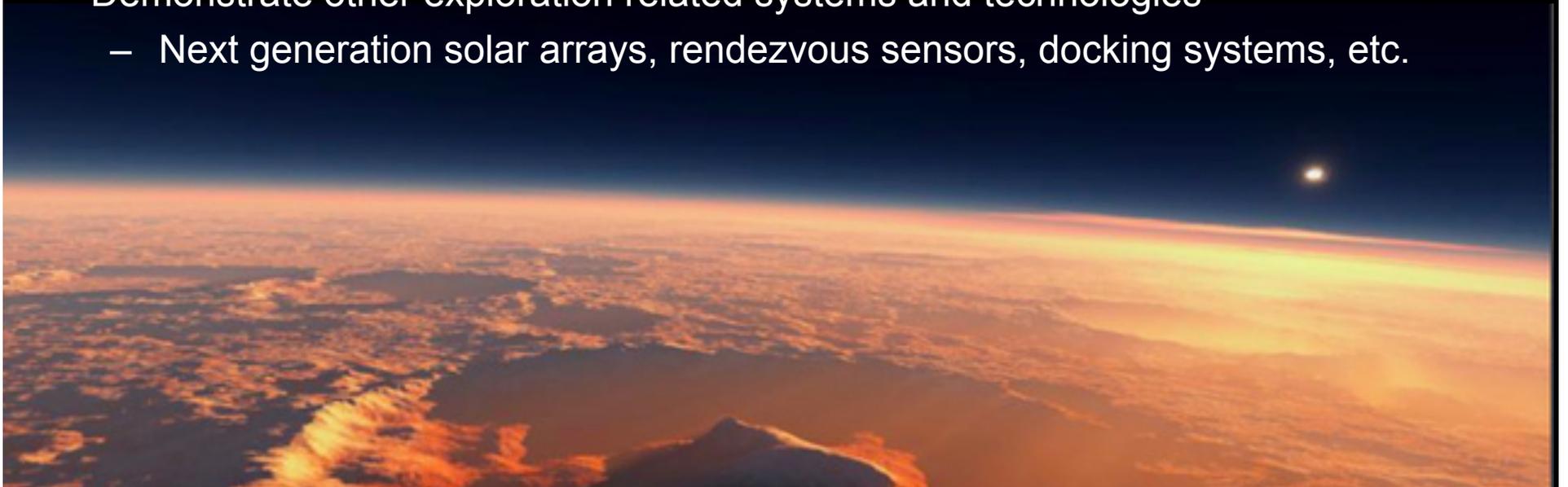
← ~2 - 3 years transit time
Communications (up to 42 minutes) →



“recreate living on Earth”

What is ISS doing to fill in the gap between Earth Reliant to Earth Independent

- Demonstrate the life support system that will take us to Mars
- Validate micro-gravity human health, performance and countermeasures
- Learn how to break the bonds to the earth
 - Logistics, crew health monitoring, ground-to-crew communications, etc.
- Demonstrate other exploration related systems and technologies
 - Next generation solar arrays, rendezvous sensors, docking systems, etc.



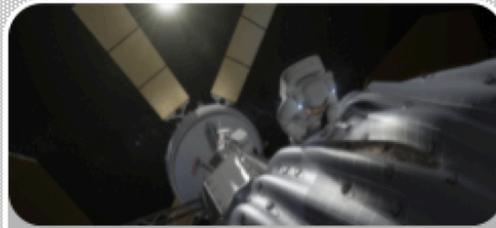
Evolutionary Capabilities



EARTH RELIANT

Return to Earth: hours

EARTH-BASED SUPPORT: HIGH
Mastering the Fundamentals



PROVING GROUND

Return to Earth: days

EARTH-BASED SUPPORT: LIMITED
Pushing the Boundaries



EARTH INDEPENDENT

Return to Earth: many months

EARTH-BASED SUPPORT: NEGLIGIBLE
Exploring Independently

Working In Space

Exploration and Science

- Microgravity science and human physiology research

- Sampling asteroid for return to Earth for analysis

- Mars moons and surface exploration and search for life with in-situ analysis

Communicating with Earth

- Immediate and continuous support from mission control

- Limited delay with minimal crew impact

- Independent and self-reliant crew operates with up to 40 min. delay

Spacewalk and Mobility

- Zero-g outside spacecraft for short distances

- Zero-g systems for short-distance, exploration

- Surface exploration in partial gravity with longer distance and duration

Spacecraft Assembly & Maintenance

- Crew-assisted ISS Assembly
- Frequent deliveries & servicing

- Limited deliveries requires more efficient systems with common, interchangeable parts

- Maintenance with only the parts and tools they carry or produce in-situ

Human-Robotic Interactions

- Testing safety and control methods for efficient human-robotic teams

- Human-robot teams, with periods where robots are left alone

- Pre-deployed equipment depends on robots until humans arrive, then human-robot teams share critical tasks

In-situ Resource Utilization

- Recycle and reuse water and trash

- Learning to recycle destination resources for fuel, water, oxygen, and building materials

- Crew harvests destination resources to create fuel, water, oxygen, and building materials

Evolutionary Capabilities



EARTH RELIANT

Return to Earth: hours

EARTH-BASED SUPPORT: HIGH
Mission Duration:
6-12 months



PROVING GROUND

Return to Earth: days

EARTH-BASED SUPPORT: LIMITED
Mission Duration:
1-12 months



EARTH INDEPENDENT

Return to Earth: many months

EARTH-BASED SUPPORT: NEGLIGIBLE
Mission Duration:
2-3 years

Staying Healthy

Spacecraft Life Support Systems

- Developing onboard life support systems for long-duration missions

- Validating onboard recycling and regenerating life support systems without resupply

- Living and working in spacecraft that must fully support crew for years

Human Health and Performance

- Studying space environment health risks and testing solutions

- Applying health and performance risk mitigation techniques

- Living in space for years while maintaining crew health and performance

Autonomous Medicine

- Developing integrated medical capability and crew-reliant medical care

- Testing semi-autonomous integrated medical capability and crew-reliant medical treatment

- Autonomous medical capability and medical crewmember for diagnosis and treatment

Environmental Monitoring

- Testing on-board environmental monitors with ground validation

- Demonstrating onboard environmental monitoring systems (no sample return)

- Monitoring crew environment for hazards, eliminating environmental emergencies

Advanced Space Suits

- Testing next-generation space suits

- Demonstrating advanced space suits in deep space

- Conducting EVAs in unprecedented planetary environments

Deep space human spaceflight and the commercial market in LEO

Many of the systems and capabilities needed for the LEO commercial market
- evolved from ISS - can be utilized for deep space missions



Habitat Structures

Environmental support and monitoring systems

- Regenerative ECLSS
- Waste systems
- Sabatier
- Atmosphere monitoring

Crew Health and Performance Equipment

- Medical equipment
- Exercise equipment

EVA Support Systems

Spacecraft Systems

Cargo Resupply

