

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



# Human Lunar Exploration

NASA Advisory Council Human Exploration & Operations Committee

Marshall Smith  
Director, Human Lunar Exploration Programs

May 28, 2019





# The NASA Charge to the Moon

In keeping with SPD-1, NASA is charged with **landing the first American woman and next American man at the South Pole of the Moon by 2024**, followed by a sustained presence on and around the Moon by 2028.

NASA will **“use all means necessary”** to ensure mission success in moving us forward to the Moon.



Vice President Mike Pence speaks about NASA's mandate to return American astronauts to the Moon and on to Mars at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama.



# Why Go to the Moon?

Establishes American leadership and strategic presence

Proves technologies and capabilities for sending humans to Mars

Inspires a new generation and encourages careers in STEM

Leads civilization changing science and technology

Expands the U.S. global economic impact

Broadens U.S. industry & international partnerships in deep space



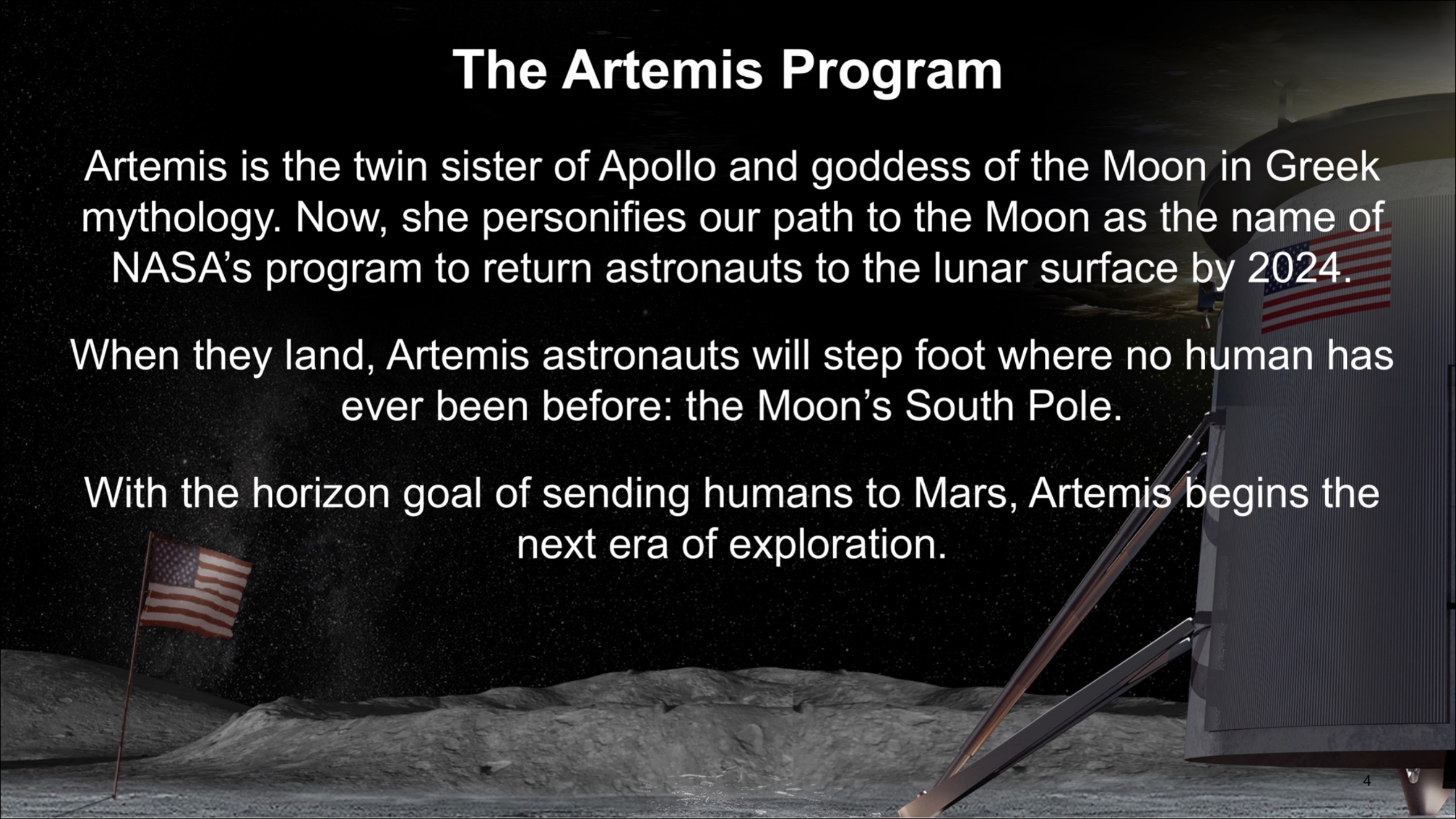


# The Artemis Program

Artemis is the twin sister of Apollo and goddess of the Moon in Greek mythology. Now, she personifies our path to the Moon as the name of NASA's program to return astronauts to the lunar surface by 2024.

When they land, Artemis astronauts will step foot where no human has ever been before: the Moon's South Pole.

With the horizon goal of sending humans to Mars, Artemis begins the next era of exploration.





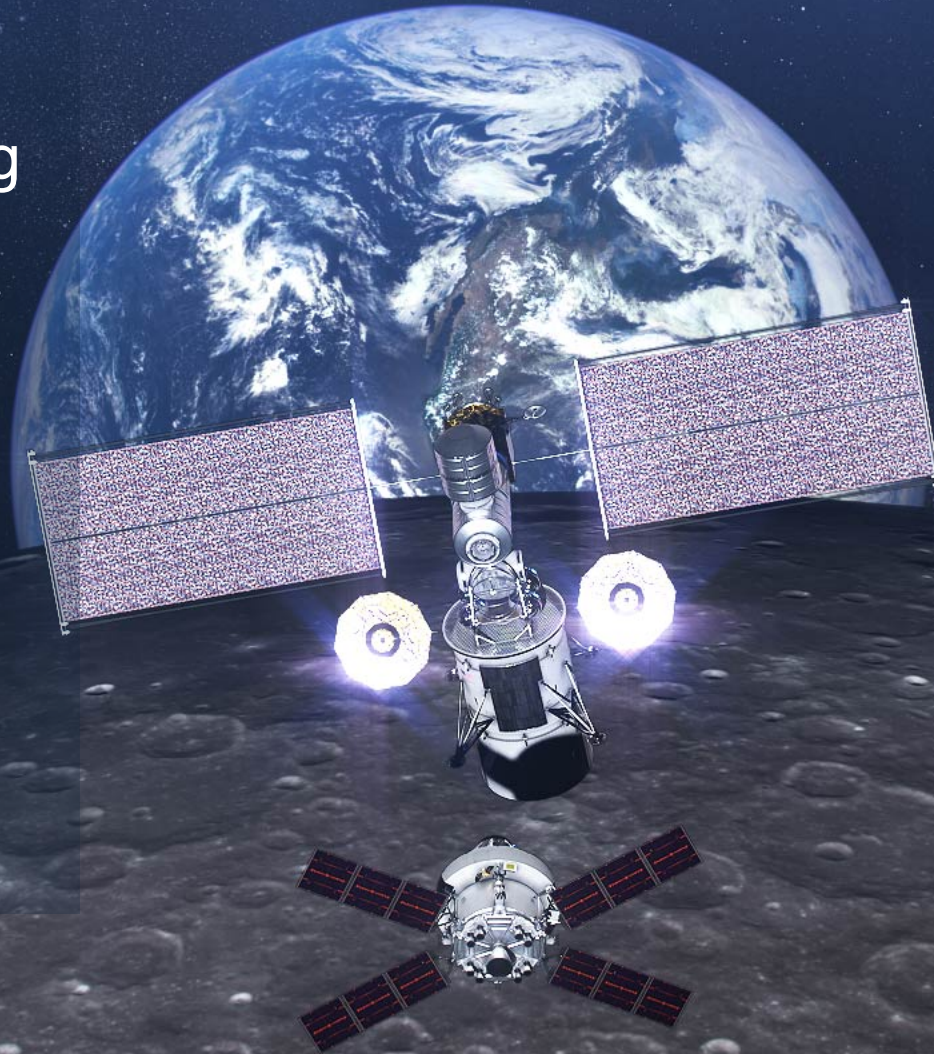
# Phase 1 & Phase 2 Definitions

## Phase 1: Today – 2024 Human surface landing

Missions and systems required to achieve landing humans on the surface of the Moon in 2024

## Phase 2: 2024

Establish a sustainable long-term presence on the lunar surface





# Artemis Phase 1: To the Lunar Surface by 2024



MARS 2020

ARTEMIS 1: FIRST HUMAN SPACECRAFT  
TO THE MOON IN THE 21st CENTURY

ARTEMIS 2: FIRST HUMANS TO  
THE MOON IN THE 21st CENTURY

FIRST HIGH POWER  
SOLAR ELECTRIC  
PROPULSION (SEP)  
SYSTEM

FIRST PRESSURIZED  
CREW MODULE  
DELIVERED TO  
GATEWAY

ARTEMIS 3: CREWED  
MISSION TO GATEWAY  
AND LUNAR SURFACE

## Commercial Lunar Payload Services

- CLPS delivered science and technology payloads

## Early South Pole Crater Rim Mission(s)

- First robotic landing on eventual human lunar return and ISRU site
- First ground truth of polar crater volatiles

## Large-Scale Cargo Lander

- Increased capabilities for science  
and technology payloads

## Humans on the Moon - 21st Century

First crew leverages infrastructure  
left behind by previous missions

**LUNAR SOUTH POLE CRATER TARGET SITE**

2019

2024



# 2024

Develop essential hardware and systems required for a 2024 landing

## CREW

At least 2 on the South Pole

## SUITS

Initial capability suit

## EXPEDITION DURATION

Hours-Days (open trade)

## ROCKETS



## PARTNERS



Significant collaboration with U.S. industry



Potential opportunities for international partners

## ACCESS



## REUSABILITY



# 2028

Establish a sustainable human lunar presence with robust, reusable systems

## CREW

Up to 4 on the Moon

## SUITS

Sustained capability suit

## EXPEDITION DURATION

Days-Weeks (open trade)

## ROCKETS



## PARTNERS



U.S. industry and international collaboration

## ACCESS

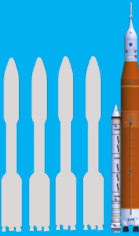
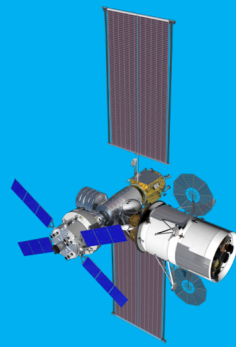
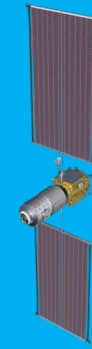
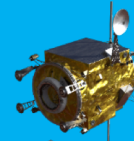
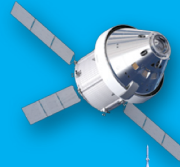
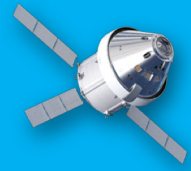


## REUSABILITY





# Phase 1: 2024 Lunar Campaign



First human spacecraft  
to the Moon in the 21<sup>st</sup>  
Century

Commercial Lunar Payload  
Services deliveries starting in 2020

First humans to  
the Moon in the  
21<sup>st</sup> Century

First high power  
solar electric  
propulsion  
system

Descent  
Element  
Test/Rover

Gateway  
expanded with  
habitation  
capability

Crewed mission to  
the lunar surface

2020

2021

2022

2023

2024

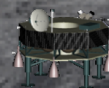
## South Pole Crater Rim Mission(s)

- First robotic landing on eventual human lunar return and ISRU site
- First ground truth of polar crater volatiles

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First crew leverages infrastructure left behind by previous missions

CLPS delivered science  
and technology payloads

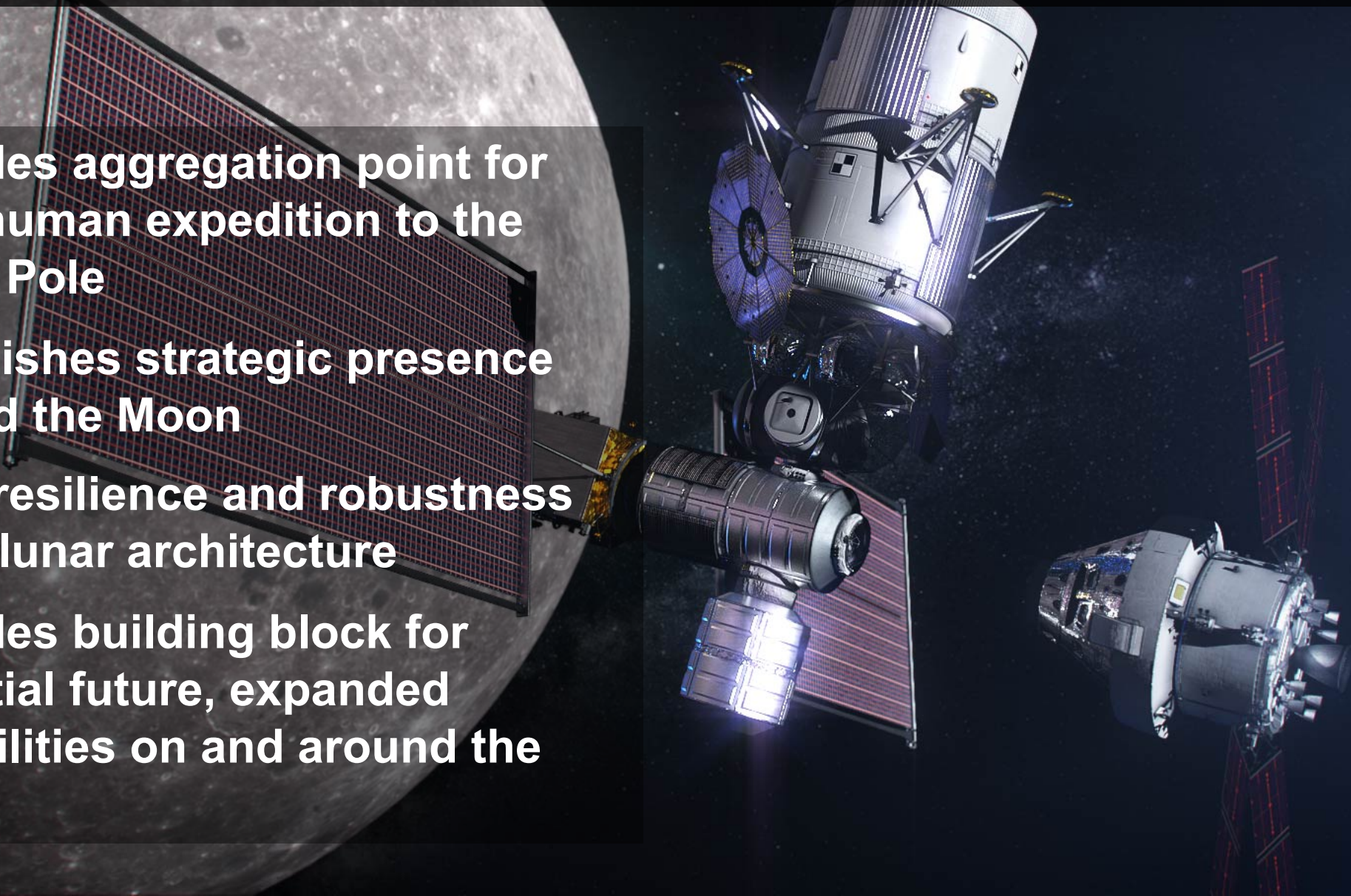


Lunar South Pole Crater Target Site



# Phase 1 Gateway configuration focuses on the minimum systems required to support a 2024 human lunar landing

- Provides aggregation point for 2024 human expedition to the South Pole
- Establishes strategic presence around the Moon
- Adds resilience and robustness in the lunar architecture
- Provides building block for potential future, expanded capabilities on and around the Moon





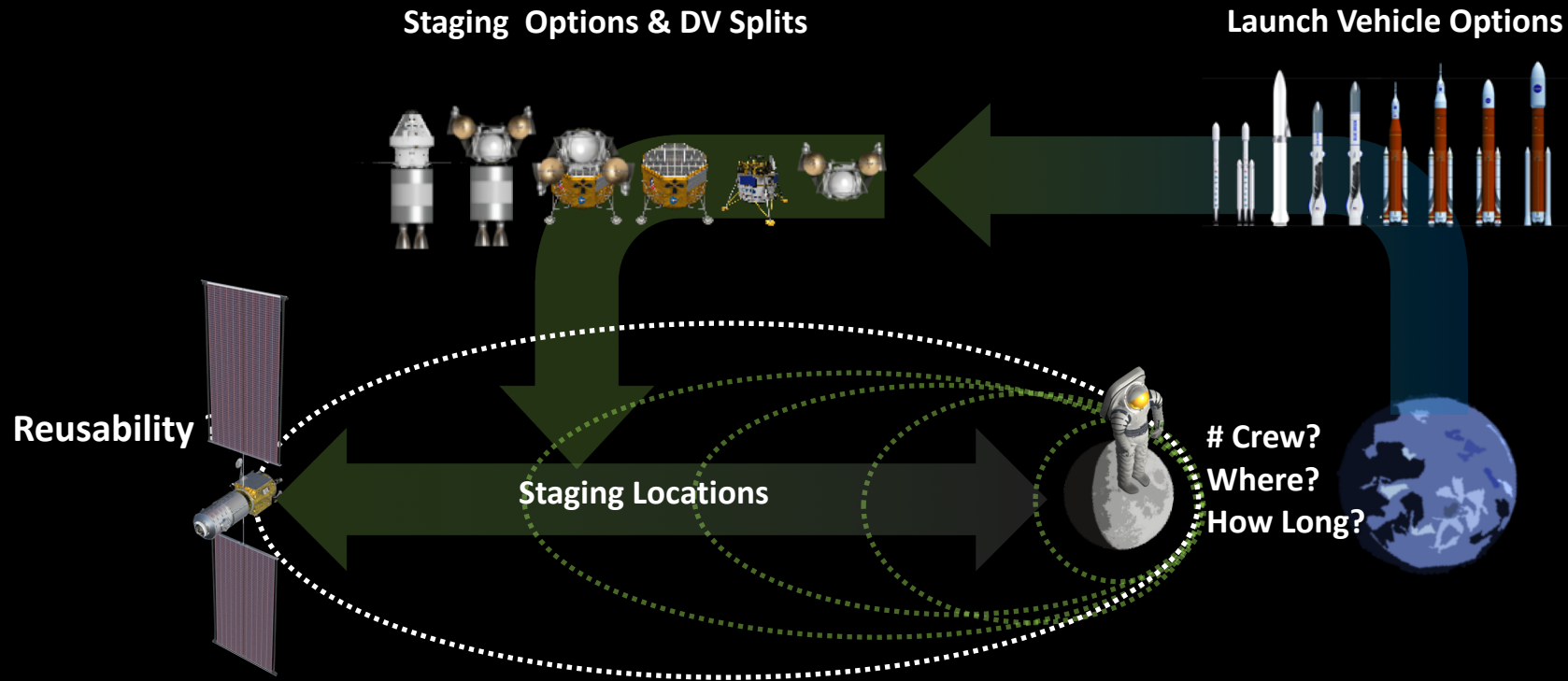


# LUNAR ARCHITECTURE UPDATES

LRO: The phase and libration of the  
Moon for all of 2019 - Tuesday, May 28  
<https://svs.gsfc.nasa.gov/4442>



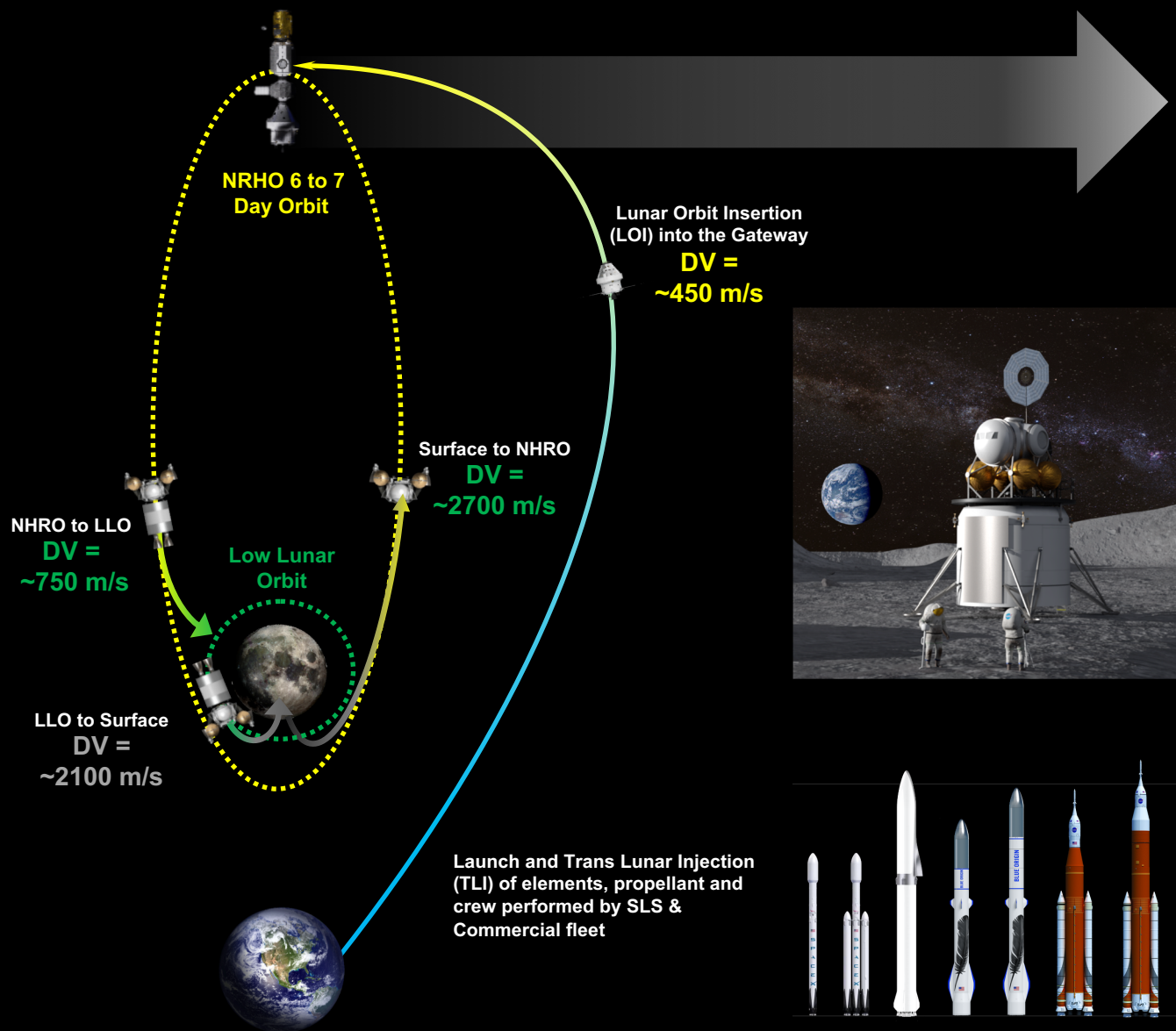
# Broad Trade Space for Sustainable Human Lunar Access



***The architecture for returning humans to the lunar surface is a function of physics, available technology and weighted figures of merit***

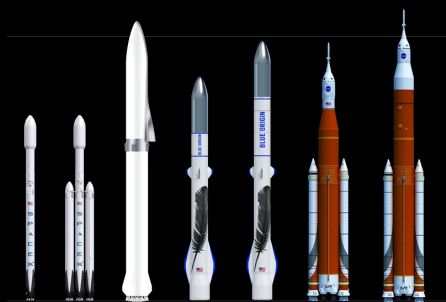
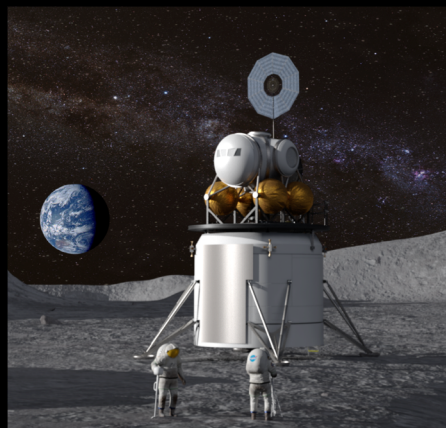


# The Physics Driving Lunar Architecture Choices



*Crewed lunar surface missions to polar regions require 6,390 m/s roundtrip through Gateway.*

*Delta-v for equivalent Direct to LLO mission is approximately 5% lower but requires slightly more mass for first mission. However, for subsequent missions, the Gateway approach significantly reduces mass and cost*



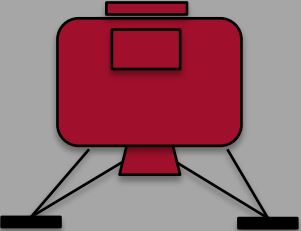
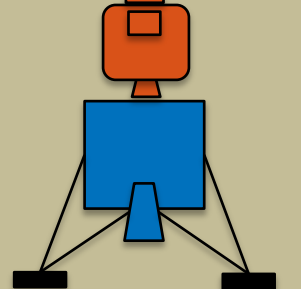
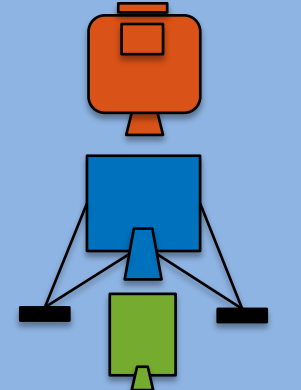
*Gateway approach allows for delta-v to be distributed across multiple elements reducing mass per launch*

*Commercial Launch Vehicles projected to be capable of sending around 15 mT to TLI*



# Key Takeaways from Initial Internal Architecture Approach Studies

- Several lander vehicle architecture options were assessed
- Single stage landers are not viable given desired requirements
- Still trading two and three stage options (and other hybrids)

 <p>LANDER Element</p> <p>50+ mT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Direct single-stage human lander is not viable</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Does not fit on any launch vehicle, including SLS Block 2 Cargo</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
 <p>ASCENT Element</p> <p>9-12 mT</p> <p>DESCENT ELEMENT</p> <p>32-38 mT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Two-stage options</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Ascent Element fits on commercial launch vehicles expected to be available</li> <li>– Maybe able to accommodate 2 stage options with different orbits</li> <li>– Descent Element may not fit on single commercial launch vehicle and requires SLS-class launch vehicle</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
 <p>ASCENT MODULE</p> <p>9-12 mT</p> <p>DESCENT MODULE</p> <p>12-15 mT</p> <p>TRANSFER VEHICLE</p> <p>12-15 mT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Three-stage options</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Fits on commercial launch vehicles expected to be available</li> <li>– Single elements potentially can be co-manifested payload on SLS</li> <li>– Allows increased partnering opportunities</li> <li>– Maximizes reusability and flexibility</li> <li>– Small module commonality across habitable volumes</li> </ul> </li> </ul>





# Lunar Science by 2024

## Polar Landers and Rovers

- First direct measurement of polar volatiles, improving our understanding of their lateral and vertical distribution, as well as their physical state and chemical composition
- Information on the geology of the South-Pole Aitken basin, the largest impact in the solar system

## Non-Polar Landers and Rovers

- Ability to explore scientifically valuable terrains not explored by Apollo.  
Examples include:
  - Land at a lunar swirl and make the first surface magnetic measurement
  - Visit young volcanic features such as Ina to understand volcanic evolution
- PI-led instruments - Discovery-class science such as geophysical network and visiting lunar volcanic region

## Artemis 1 – Cube Satellite Program

- Over a dozen satellites will be launch as part of Artemis 1

## Orbital Data

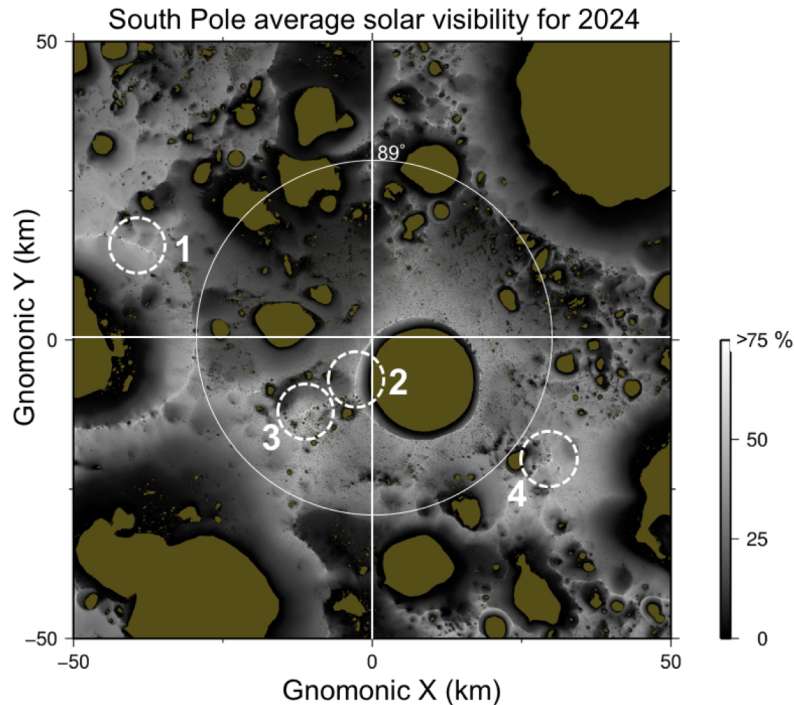
- Cubesats delivered by CLPS providers, or comm/relay spacecraft could acquire new scientifically valuable datasets
- Global mineral mapping (including resource identification), global elemental maps, improved volatile mapping

## In-Situ Resource Initial Research

- What is the composition and ability to use lunar ice for sustainment and fuel



# American Strategic Presence on the Moon – High solar illumination areas within 2 degrees (<50 km) of the lunar south pole.



Four highly illuminated areas shown above:

1. De Gerlache Rim,
2. Shackleton Rim
3. Shackleton – De Gerlache Ridge
4. Plateau near Shackleton



## High Priorities for Sustained Surface Activities

- **Long duration access to sunlight:** A confirmed resource providing power and minimal temperature variations
- **Surface roughness and slope:** Finding the safest locations for multiple landing systems, robotic and astronaut mobility
- **Direct to Earth communication:** Repeatable Earth line-of-sight communication for mission support
- **Permanently Shadowed Regions and Volatiles:** Learning to find and access water ice and other resources for sustainability



A large, detailed image of the Moon's surface serves as the background for the slide. The Moon is shown in a three-quarter view, with its heavily cratered and textured surface clearly visible. The lighting creates a strong contrast between the sunlit side and the dark, shadowed regions.

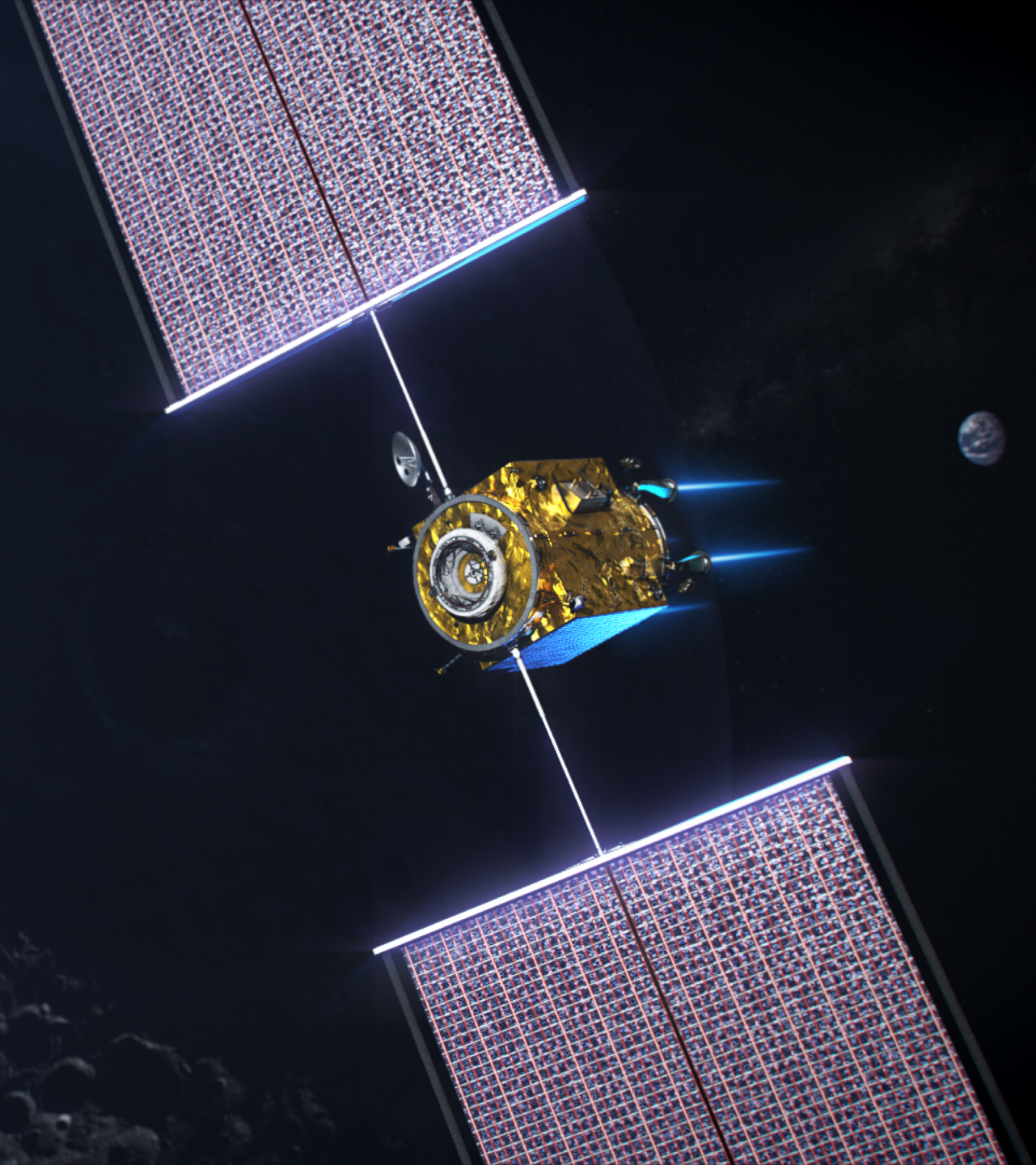
# PROGRESS UPDATES

LRO - Tuesday, May 28

<https://svs.gsfc.nasa.gov/4442>



# Power and Propulsion Element



# PPE Milestones Completed & Upcoming Events



✓ Final BAA released for Spaceflight Demonstration of a PPE	Sep 6, 2018
✓ Participation in Gateway Formulation Sync Review (FSR) Kickoff	Sep 10-14, 2018
✓ AIAA Space Forum panel participation*	Sep 18, 2018
✓ International Astronautical Congress 2018 PPE status presentation*	Oct 1, 2018
✓ PPE participation in Gateway/ESPRIT/PPE Virtual TIM with international partners	Oct 16, 2018
✓ PPE Leadership Retreat, Plum Brook Station	Oct 24-25, 2018
✓ Proposals to Final PPE Solicitation due	Nov 15, 2018
✓ Participation in Gateway Formulation Sync Review (FSR) Kickoff	Feb 13, 2018
✓ PPE partnership selection and contract award	May 23, 2019
• International Space Development Conference*	June 6-9, 2019
• AIAA Propulsion & Energy Forum*	Aug 19-22, 2019
• International Astronautical Congress*	Oct 21-25, 2019

*\*External events*







# MAXAR

TECHNOLOGIES

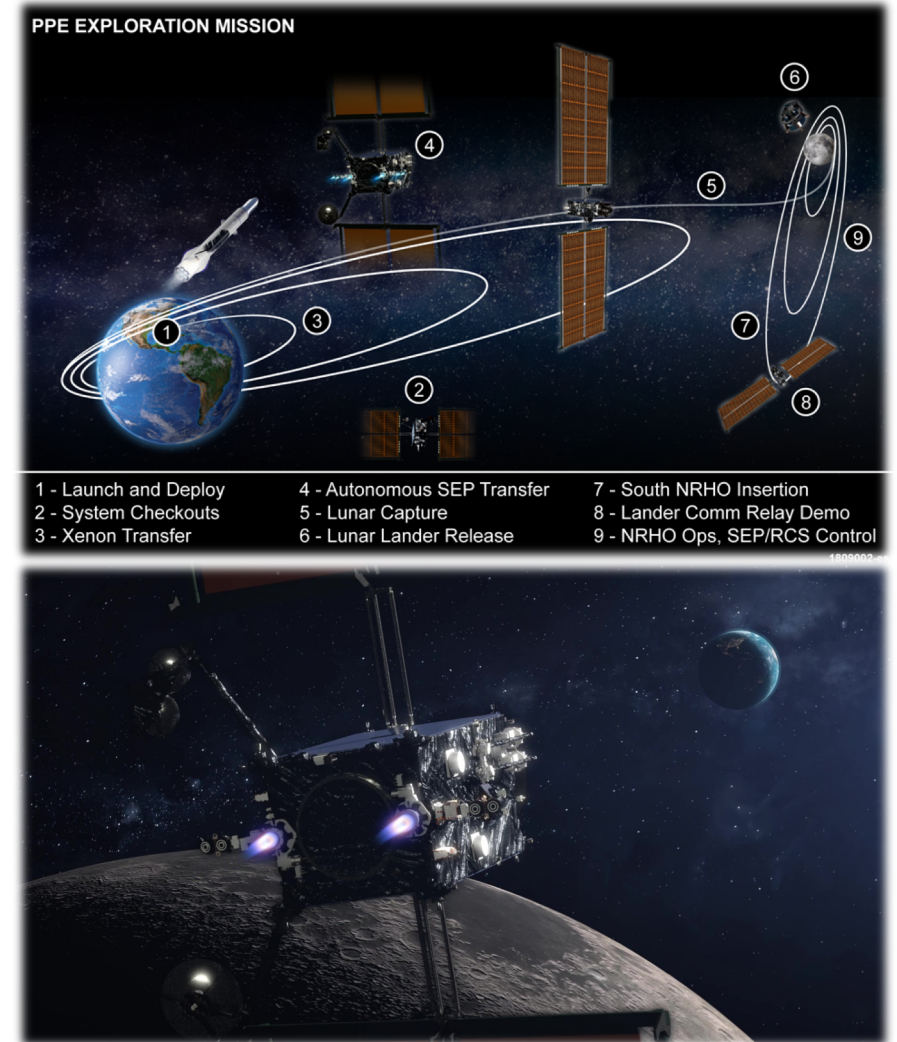


# Summary of Maxar's PPE approach



**Leverage heritage reliability, proven development approach, and the scalable 1300-class platform as the basis for a PPE demonstration mission culminating with delivery of PPE to NASA in the target NRHO**

- **Power** – 60 kW+ provided by Roll Out Solar Array (ROSA) and Maxar's 1300 commercial power subsystem
- **Propulsion** – Leverage NASA development of 12.5 kW Electric Propulsion (EP), and internal Maxar advanced EP development, with Maxar expertise in system accommodation of EP elements
- **Communications** – Ka-band relay from Lunar vicinity to Earth, accommodations for future optical communications payloads
- **Guidance Navigation and Control** – Utilize proven approaches for station keeping, momentum management, and autonomous low thrust electric orbit transfer
- **Gateway Interfaces** – Support all interfaces with elements of Gateway including docked components, visiting vehicles, robotics, science payloads, Orion, and Human Landing System elements
- **Payload Transfer** – 1000kg for lunar lander or science instruments



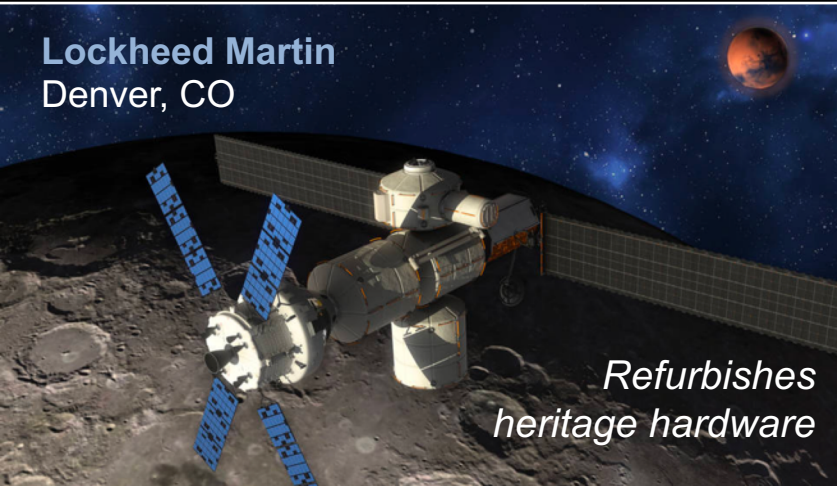




# NextSTEP Habitat Prototype Testing

*Five full-sized ground prototypes delivered for testing in 2019.*

**Lockheed Martin**  
Denver, CO



**Northrop Grumman**  
Dulles, VA



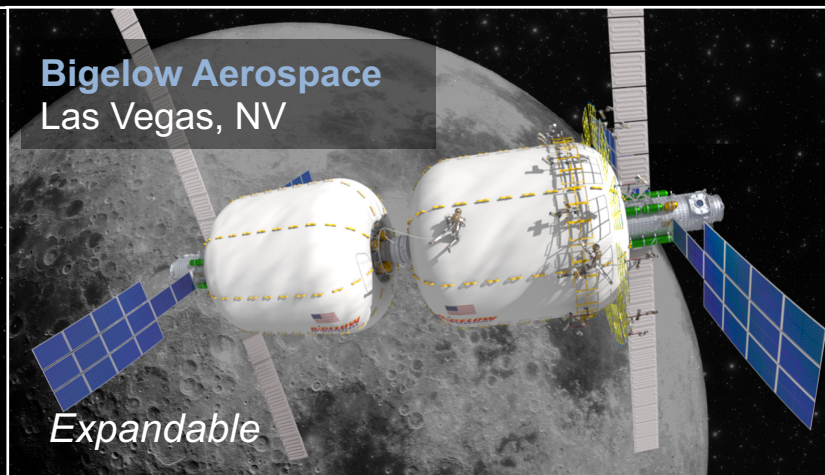
**Boeing**  
Pasadena, TX



**Sierra Nevada**  
Louisville, CO



**Bigelow Aerospace**  
Las Vegas, NV

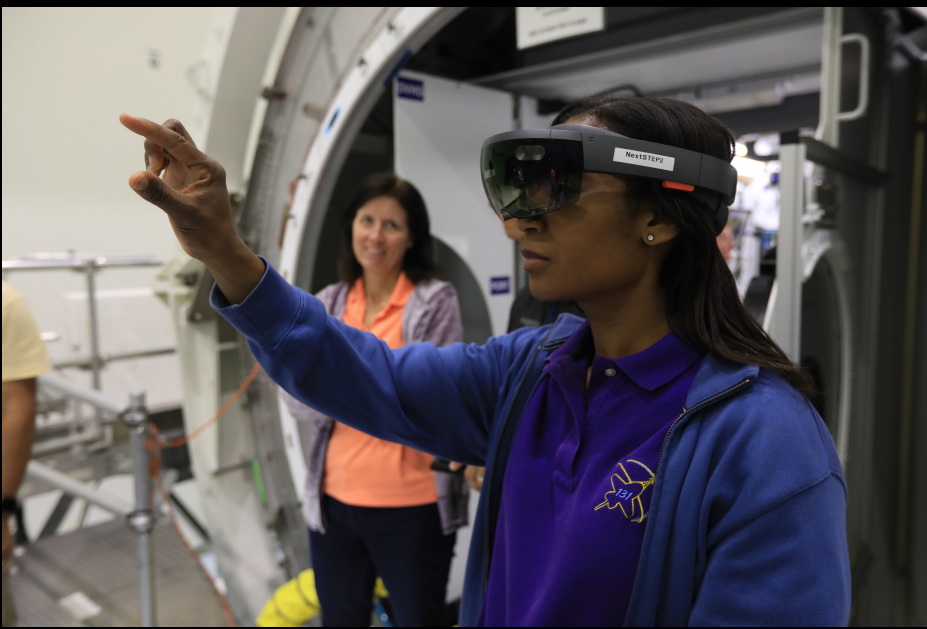
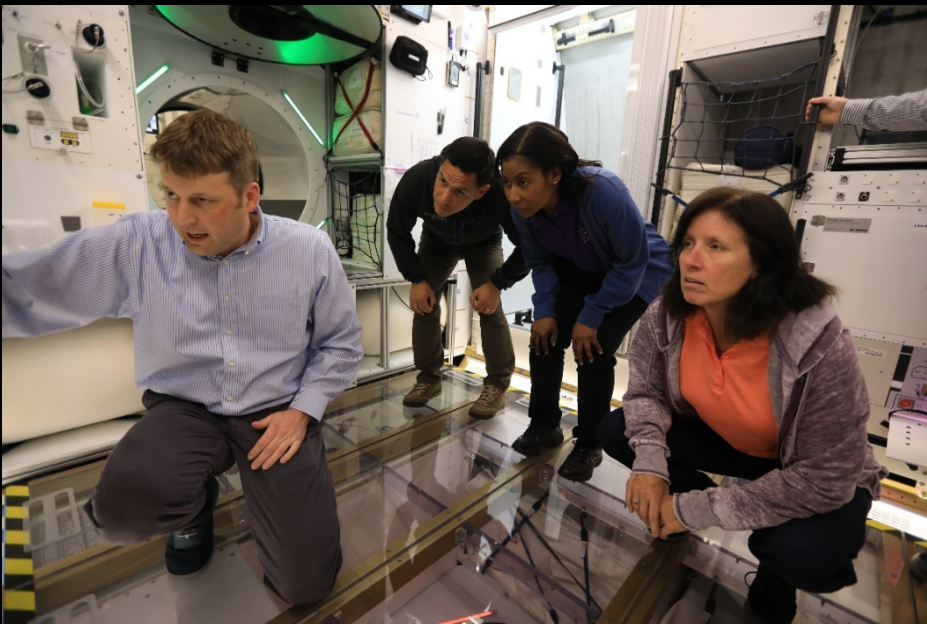


“Because of this prototyping exercise, we are 12-18 months farther along than we would normally be at this stage of concept development. Future programs should go through this approach along with requirements iteration with NASA.”

“The NextSTEP approach has been really helpful. The mockup showed us we had more cargo space in our habitat than we originally believed based on the CAD models.”



# Lockheed Martin – Testing Complete at KSC



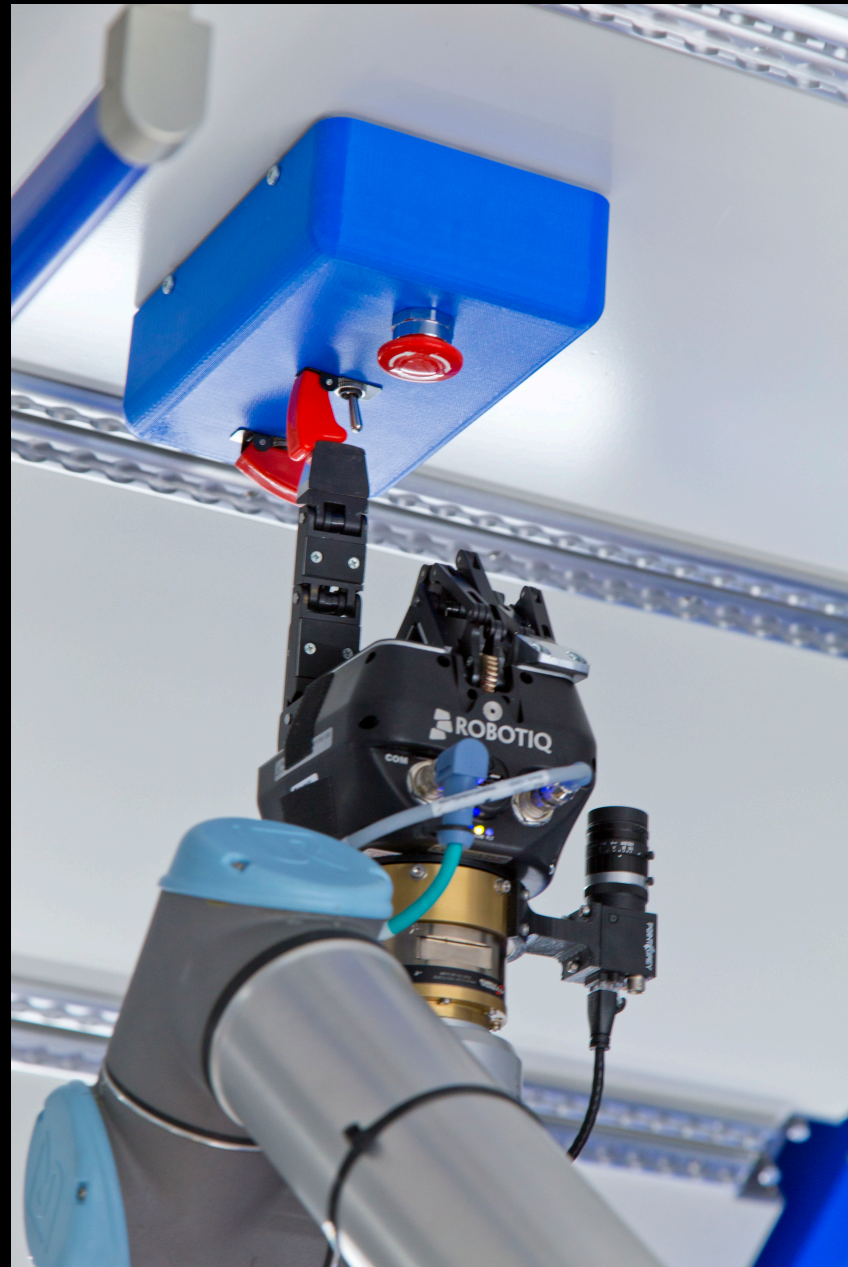


# Northrop Grumman – Testing Complete at JSC



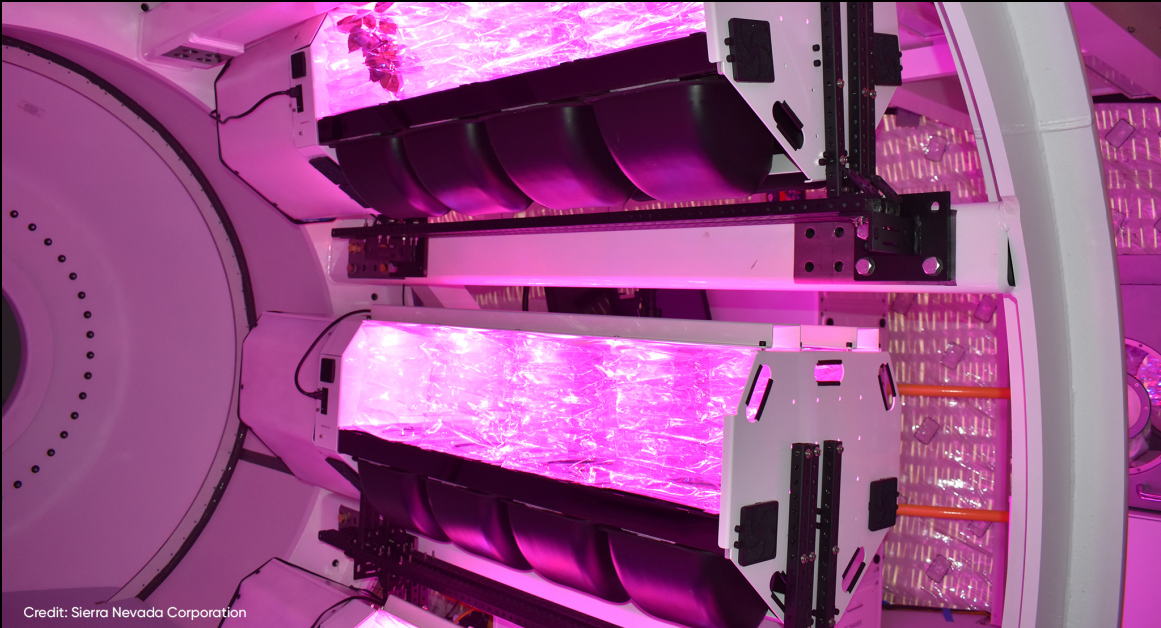


# Boeing – Prototype Delivered to MSFC






# Sierra Nevada Corporation – Prototype Delivered to JSC





A large, detailed image of the Moon's surface serves as the background for the slide. The Moon is shown in a three-quarter view, with its heavily cratered and textured surface clearly visible. The lighting creates a strong contrast between the sunlit areas and the deep shadows of the craters.

# ACQUISITION STATUS

LRO - Tuesday, May 28  
<https://svs.gsfc.nasa.gov/4442>

# System Summary

## Phase 1 (Initial Capability by 2024)

- **Human Landing System (HLS)**
  - Initial mission including cargo launch
- **Gateway**
  - PPE (CLV)
  - Minimal Habitat (CLV) in 2023
  - Logistics/Tug (CLV) in 2024
- **Initial Capability Suit for 2024**
- **ESD**
  - Orion
  - SLS
  - EGS

## Phase 2 (Sustaining Capability 2028)

- **HLS Landing Services (2024 and beyond)**
- **Refueling**
- **Gateway**
  - Logistics (CLV)
  - International contributions as provided
- **Sustained Capability Suit**
- **Surface Logistics**
- **Surface Systems**
  - International contributions as provided
- **ESD**
  - Orion
  - SLS
  - EGS



# Lunar Development Plans Summary

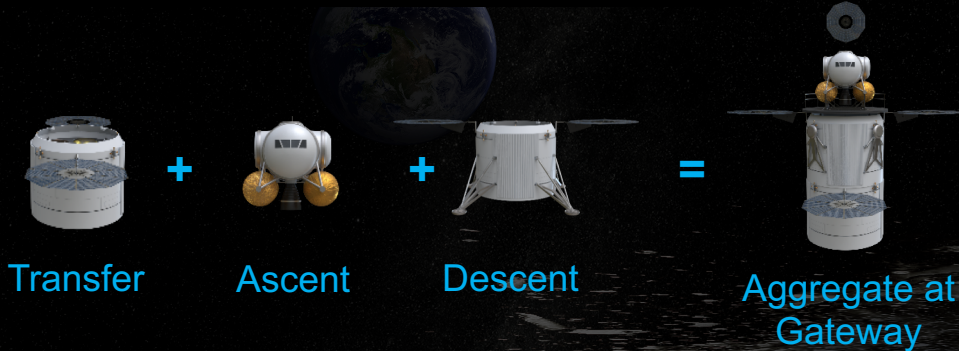


- **Integrated Human Landing System**
  - 11 companies selected for NextSTEP BAA Appendix E – Descent Element, Transfer Element, and Refueling studies and prototypes
  - Multiple industry systems will be developed to support a 2024 lunar landing demonstration mission via NextSTEP Appendix H
    - Launch options to be proposed by offerors
- **Gateway**
  - May 23, 2019, Selected Maxar Technologies to provide the Power and Propulsion Element
  - May 20, 2019 – released Logistics services RFP Synopsis for Gateway Logistics Services
  - Will leverage investments and work performed by NextSTEP-2 Appendix A contractors for the pressurized modules
- **Surface Suit**
  - Initial Capability Suit will mitigate schedule and mass risk in order meet 2024 mission timeline
  - Sustained Capability Suit will be available for Phase 2
- **Refueling Element**
  - Study phase for Refueling Elements already in work as part of NextSTEP Appendix E



# Current Thoughts on Human Landing System

## HLS Notional Transportation Elements



### NextSTEP Appendix E: Human Lander System

- Issued: Feb 7
- Proposals submitted: March 25
- Selections: May
- Awards: July
- Phase A Risk Reduction Studies and prototypes for
  - Descent Element
  - Transfer Element
  - Refueling

Studies expedited via Undefined Contract Awards

### NextSTEP Appendix H: Human Lander System 2

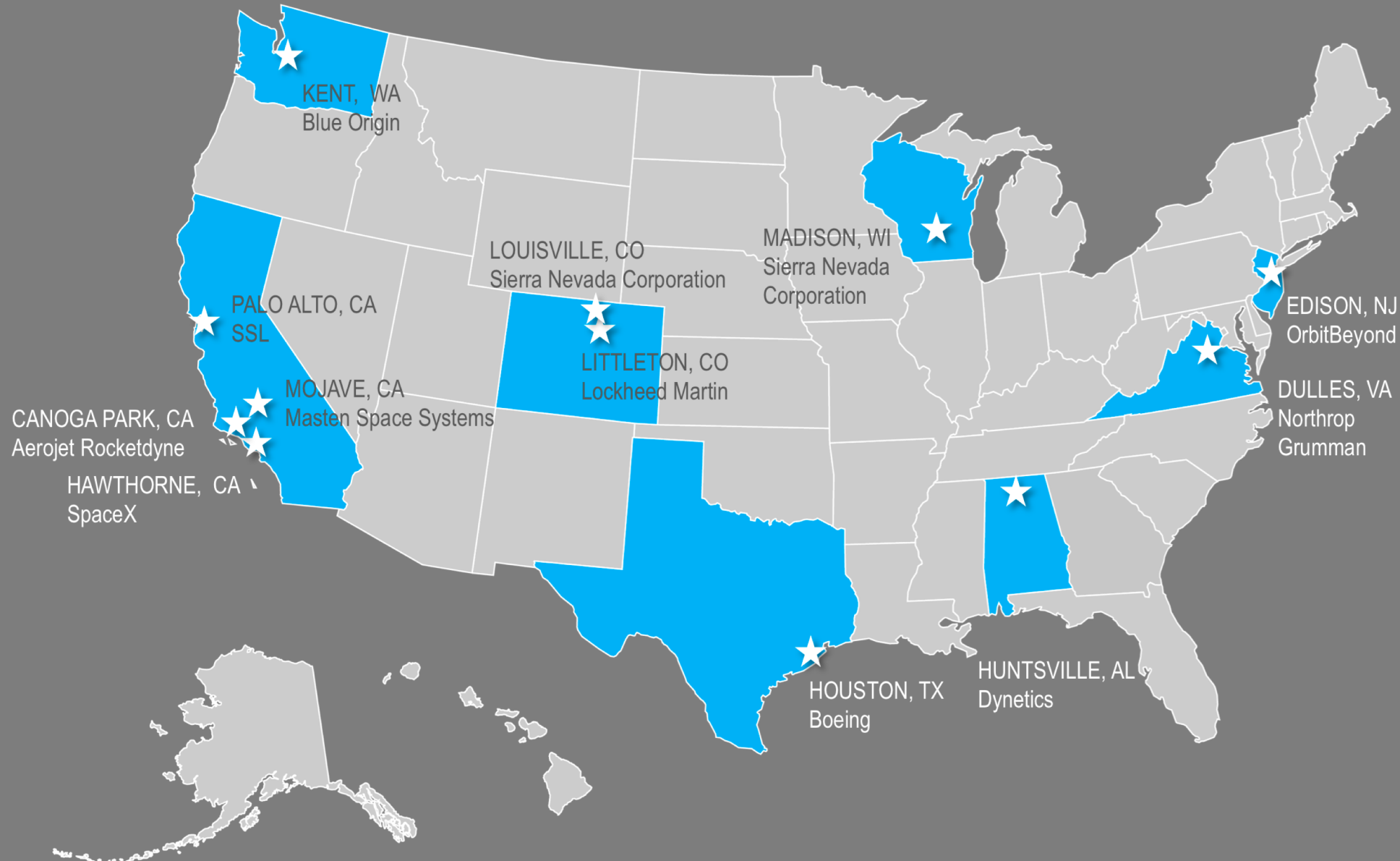
- Synopsis Issued: April 8, for Ascent Element
- Synopsis updated: April 26, now for development, integration, and crewed demonstration of integrated landing system
- Final solicitation: NET July





# LUNAR INDUSTRY SUPPLIERS: Human Landing System

8 States • 11 Contractors  
17 Studies • 25 Prototypes



## NextSTEP Appendix E Selections

### Descent Element

- 7 Studies
- 17 Prototypes

### Transfer Vehicle

- 5 Studies
- 3 Prototypes

### Refueling Element

- 5 Studies
- 5 Prototypes

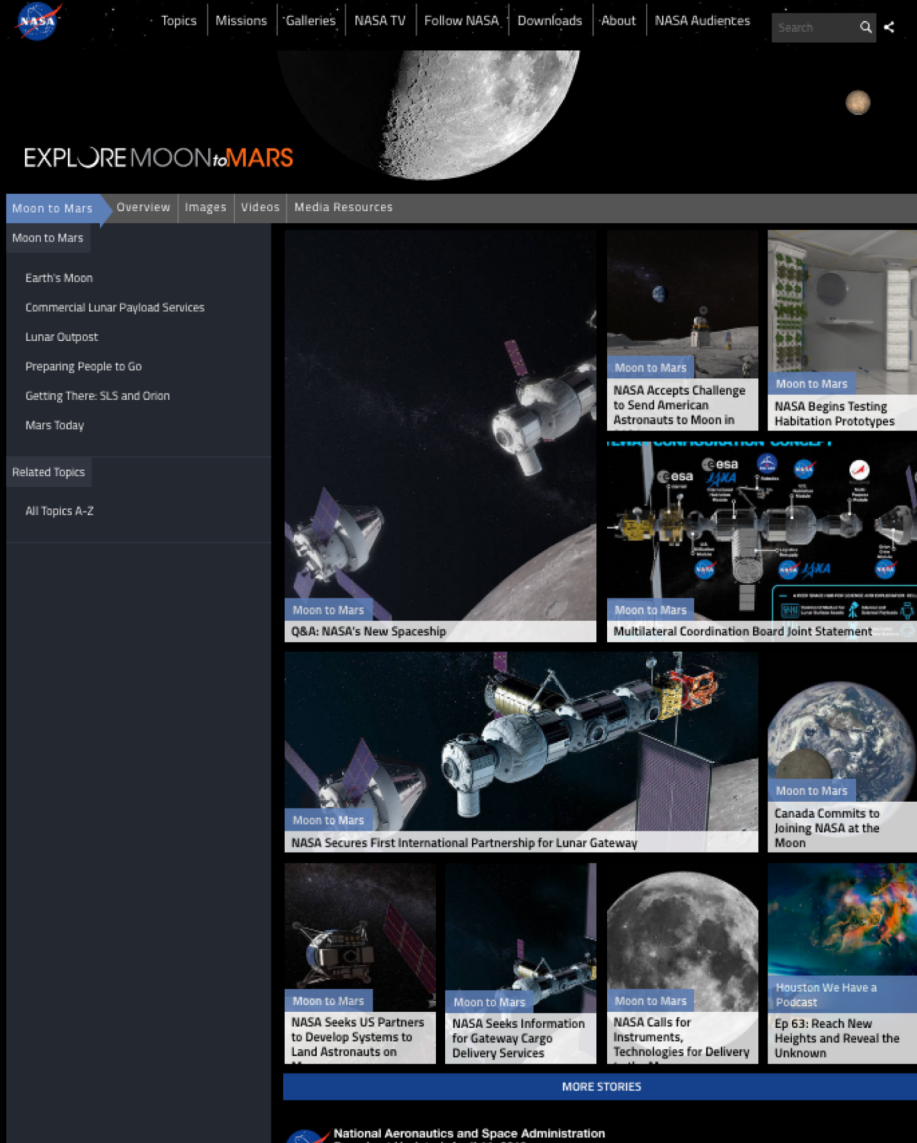


A large, detailed image of the Moon's surface, showing numerous craters and lunar maria, serves as the background for the central text. The Moon is positioned on the left side of the frame, with its right edge partially obscured by the text.

# STAY CONNECTED

LRO - Tuesday, May 28  
<https://svs.gsfc.nasa.gov/4442>

# Stay Connected Between Committee Meetings



- [NASA Awards Artemis Contract for Lunar Gateway Power, Propulsion](#) (May 23, 2019)
- [NASA Taps 11 American Companies to Advance Human Lunar Landers](#) (May 16, 2019)
- [Sending American Astronauts to Moon in 2024: NASA Accepts Challenge](#) (April 9, 2019)
- [Sending American Astronauts to the Moon in 2024: NASA Accepts Challenge](#) (April 2019)
- [NASA Begins Testing Habitation Prototypes](#) (March 27, 2019)
- [Canada Commits to Joining NASA at the Moon](#) (Feb. 2019)
- [NASA Seeks U.S. Partners to Develop Reusable Systems to Land Astronauts on Moon](#) (Feb 2019)
- [NASA seeks information for Gateway Cargo Delivery Services](#) (Oct. 2018)
- [Q&A: NASA's New Spaceship](#) (Nov. 2018)

Sign up to get Moon to Mars updates from NASA:  
<https://www.nasa.gov/specials/moon2mars/#five>



# EXPLORE MOON<sub>to</sub>MARS

QUESTIONS?

