

LEAG Annual Meeting

Site Selection & the Lunar Outpost



Overarching Question:

How can risk/cost be reduced through cooperation and partnerships in technological developments and demonstrations?

What are the drivers for the site of the lunar outpost and have they changed from the criteria previously used?

Building upon the wealth of material that has been previously published, what is the “ideal” site for operations, science, exploration, ISRU, commerce, and/or international cooperation?



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Site Selection: process needs to be open, build on history, and be inclusive of all stake-holders.

There needs to be an ISRU demonstration mission for sustainability and Mars feed forward.

ISRU can be enabling without being in the critical path. It can be done anywhere, but S Pole is favorite although the nature of the H deposits are unknown. ISRU can be used to mitigate ΔV issues and feed forward.

Mars feed forward requirements:
learn to live off the land, mobility, ISRU.
Outpost site should provide this.



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Sustainability should promote growth
- need resources and products for commercial investment.

Commerce: site needs to be resource/energy rich; provide entertainment/public engagement value; be accessible to areas of scientific interest.

NASA: site exploration that provides on-ramps for commercial development.

Need a forum better than COTS to facilitate strong private-public partnerships - no tokenism.

