

An astronaut in a white spacesuit is working on a large, metallic, cylindrical spacecraft module in space. The module has several circular hatches and a small American flag. In the background, two large, gold-colored solar panel arrays are visible, and a bright sun is shining in the dark sky. The scene is set against a backdrop of stars.

# Asteroid Redirect Crewed Mission Building Human Exploration Capabilities

Steve Stich-Deputy Director JSC Engineering  
July 30, 2014

# The Future of Human Space Exploration

## *NASA's Building Blocks to Mars*

U.S. companies  
provide affordable  
access to low  
Earth orbit

Mastering the  
fundamentals  
aboard the  
International  
Space Station

Pushing the  
boundaries in  
cis-lunar space

Developing  
planetary  
independence by  
exploring Mars,  
its moons, and  
other deep space  
destinations

The next step: traveling beyond  
low-Earth orbit with the Space  
Launch System rocket and Orion  
crew capsule

*Missions: 6 to 12 months  
Return: hours*

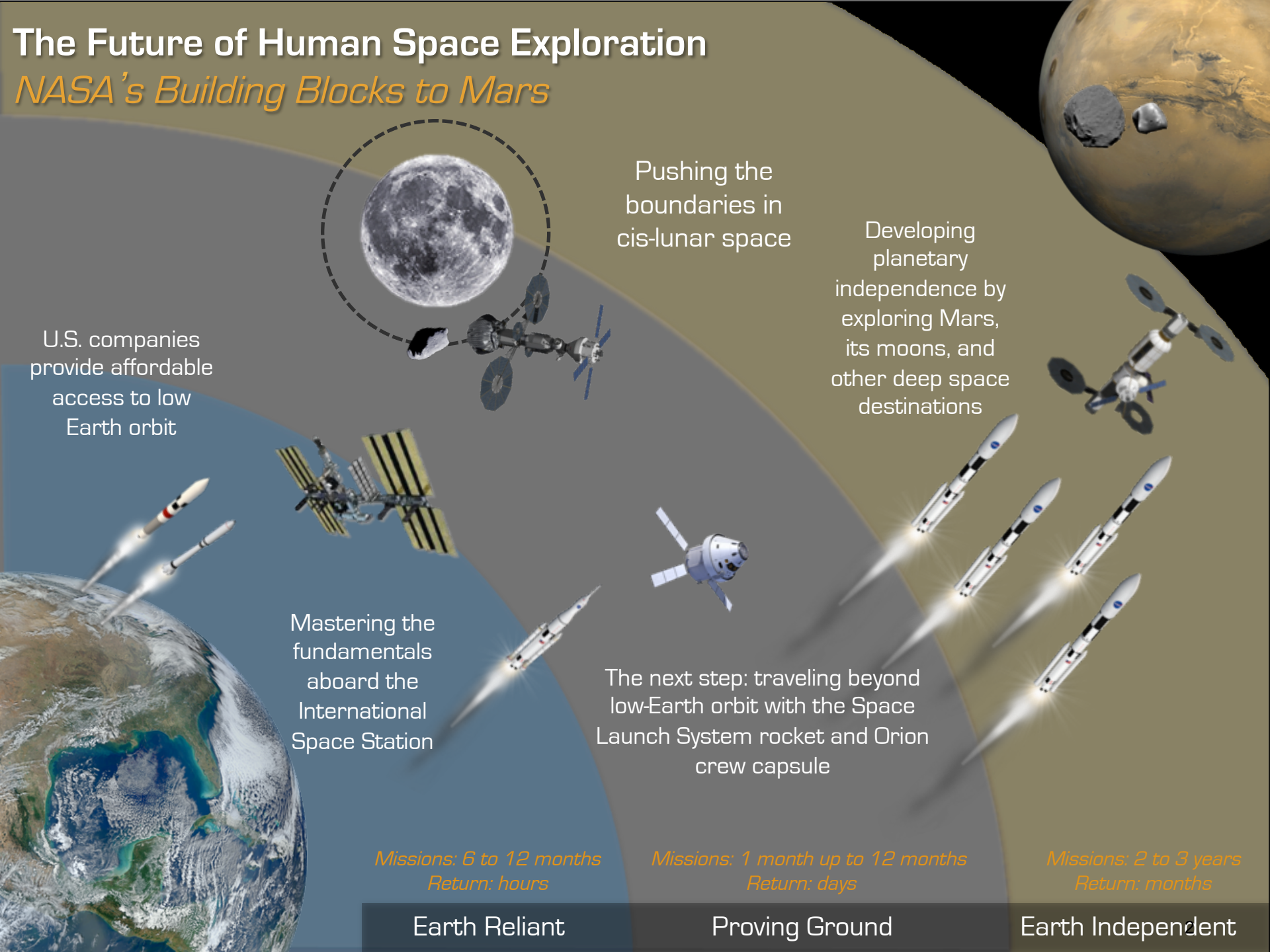
*Missions: 1 month up to 12 months  
Return: days*

*Missions: 2 to 3 years  
Return: months*

Earth Reliant

Proving Ground

Earth Independent



# ISS and ARM Provides First Steps to Mars



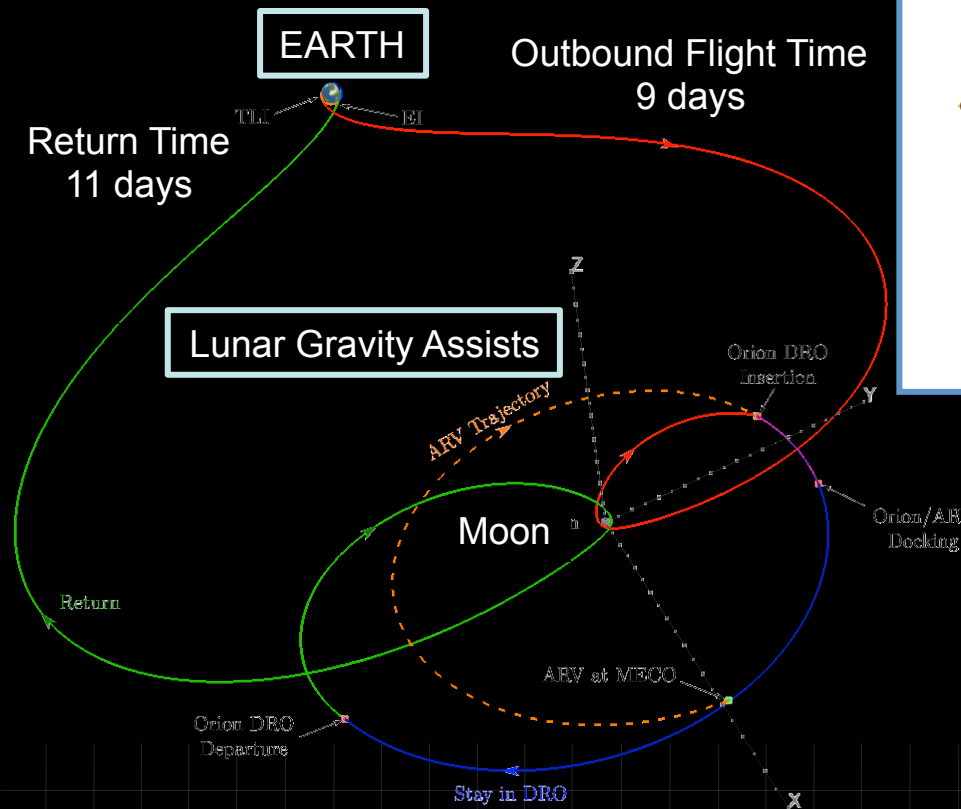
	Mission Sequence	Earth Reliant Current ISS Mission	Proving Ground		Earth Independent		
			Asteroid Redirect Mission	Deep Space Long Stay	Mars Orbit	Mars Surface Short Stay	Mars Surface Long Stay
Mars Destination Capabilities	In Situ Resource Utilization & Surface Power						X
	Surface Habitat						X
	Entry Descent Landing, Human Lander					X	X
	Advanced Propulsion Stage				X	X	X
Initial Exploration Capabilities	Deep Space Habitat			X	X	X	X
	Exploration EVA		X	X	X	X	X
	Solar Electric Propulsion for Cargo		X	X	X	X	X
	Deep Space Guidance Navigation and Control/Automated Rendezvous		X	X	X	X	X
	Crew Operations Beyond LEO – High Speed Entry (Orion)		X	X	X	X	X
	Heavy Lift Beyond LEO (SLS)		X	X	X	X	X
ISS Derived Capabilities	Deep Space Habitat Systems	* →		X	X	X	X
	High Reliability Life Support	* →		X	X	X	X
	Autonomous Assembly	* →		X	X	X	X <sup>3</sup>



# Trajectory, Rendezvous, and Proximity Operations

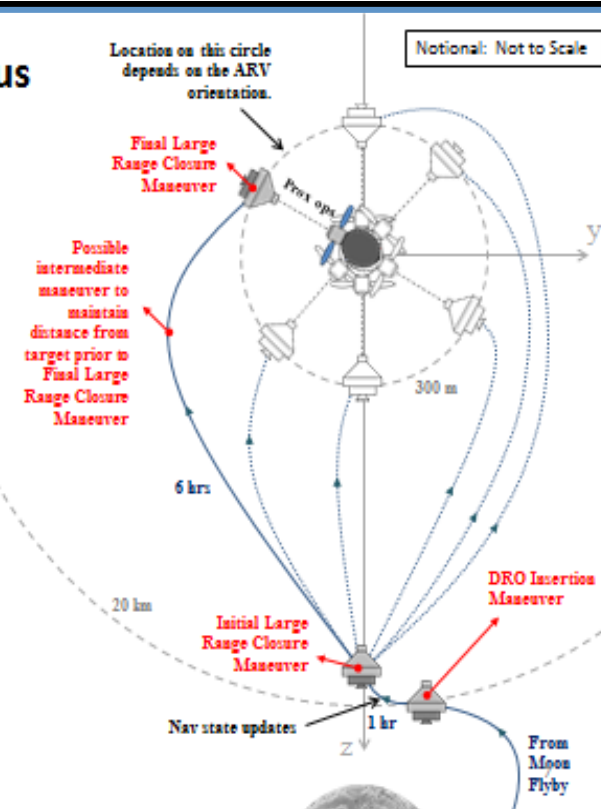


- Common Rendezvous/prox-ops sensors leveraging Space Shuttle Detailed Tests
- Rendezvous /proximity operations maneuvers result largely in rectilinear motion
- Trajectory, launch window, rendezvous, and navigation techniques enable Mars

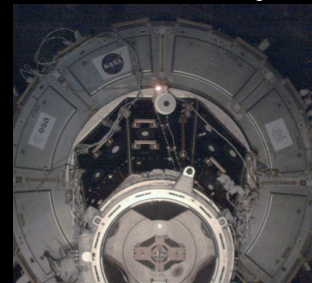


## Far-Field Rendezvous Strategy

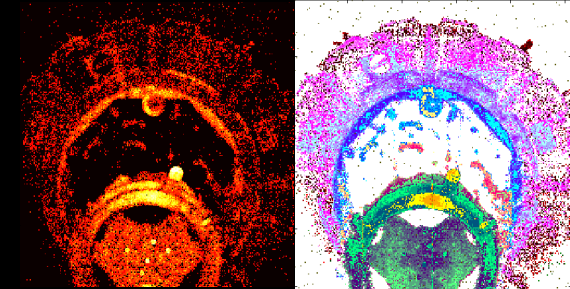
- A large (~20 km) range closure (2-burn) maneuver sequence places the Orion 300 m range from ARV/Asteroid
- The near rectilinear motion in the DRO allows for many possible transfer approaches to the 300 m ARV/Asteroid offset
- The path can be selected to provide desirable collision avoidance and final prox-ops approach geometry (e.g., Sun behind Orion on approach)



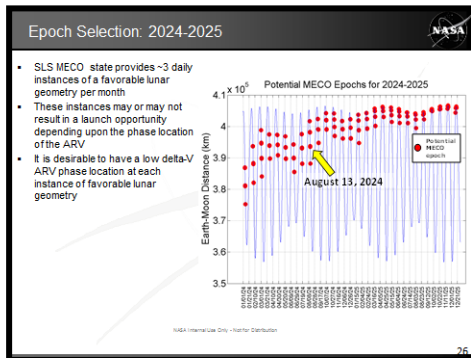
STORM Camera Image



STORM LIDAR Images

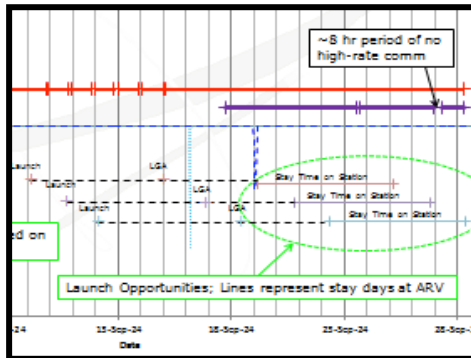
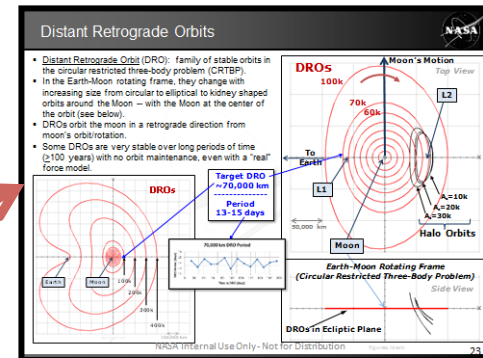


# Mission Design Considerations



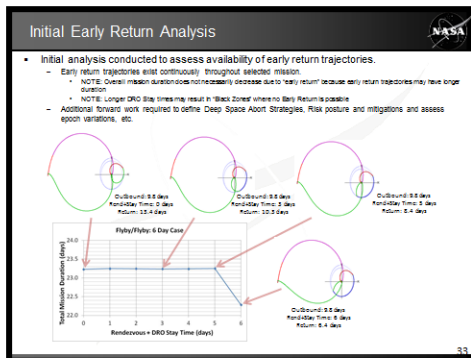
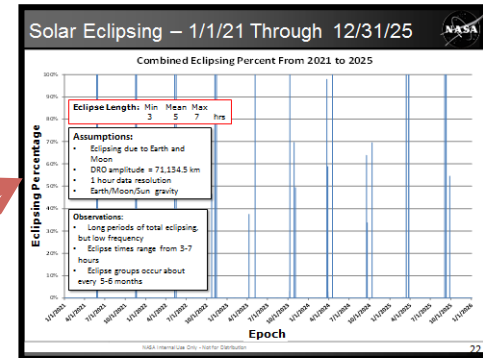
**Launch Availability**  
~2-3 opportunities per month

71433km DRO improves launch availability by syncing with Lunar period



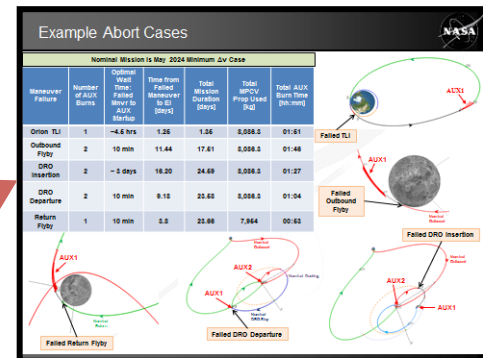
**Acceptable Communications Coverage for Orion/ARRV**

Long Solar Eclipse Periods Manageable for launch availability



**Orion Propellant Available for Early Return Throughout Mission**

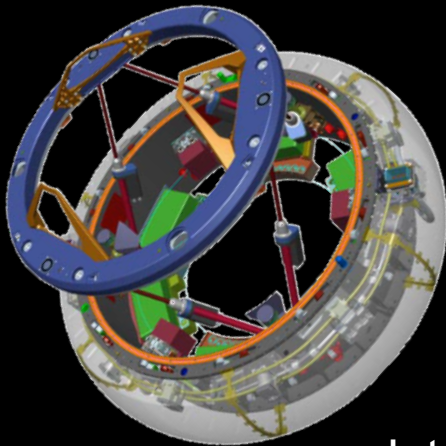
Orion Propellant Allows Auxiliary Thruster Contingency Return



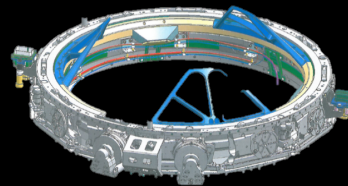
# Docking System



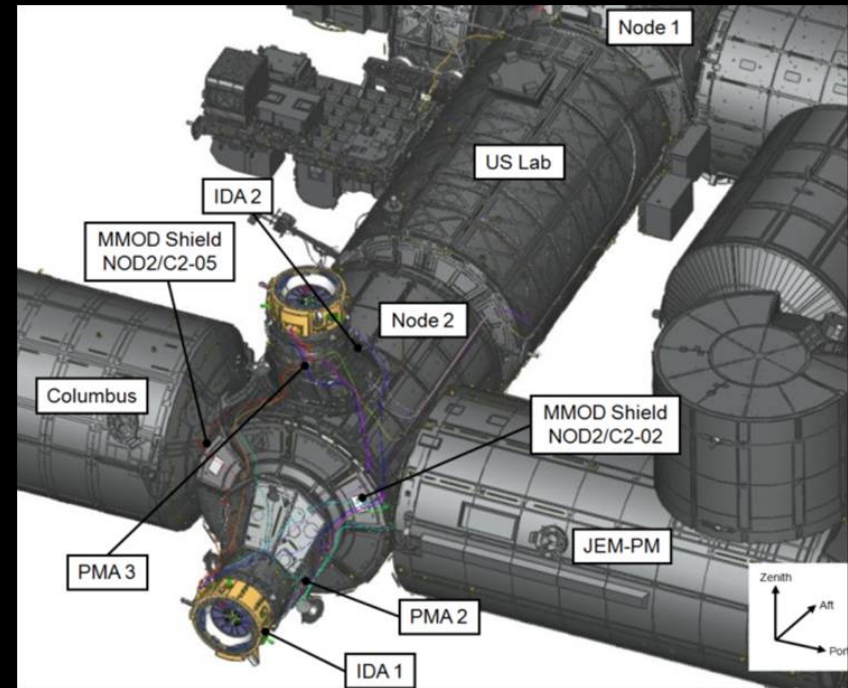
- Docking System for Orion and Robotic Spacecraft leverages development of International Docking System Block 1
- All Mars/Deep Space Architectures will require some form of autonomous docking



Orion Active  
Docking  
Mechanism

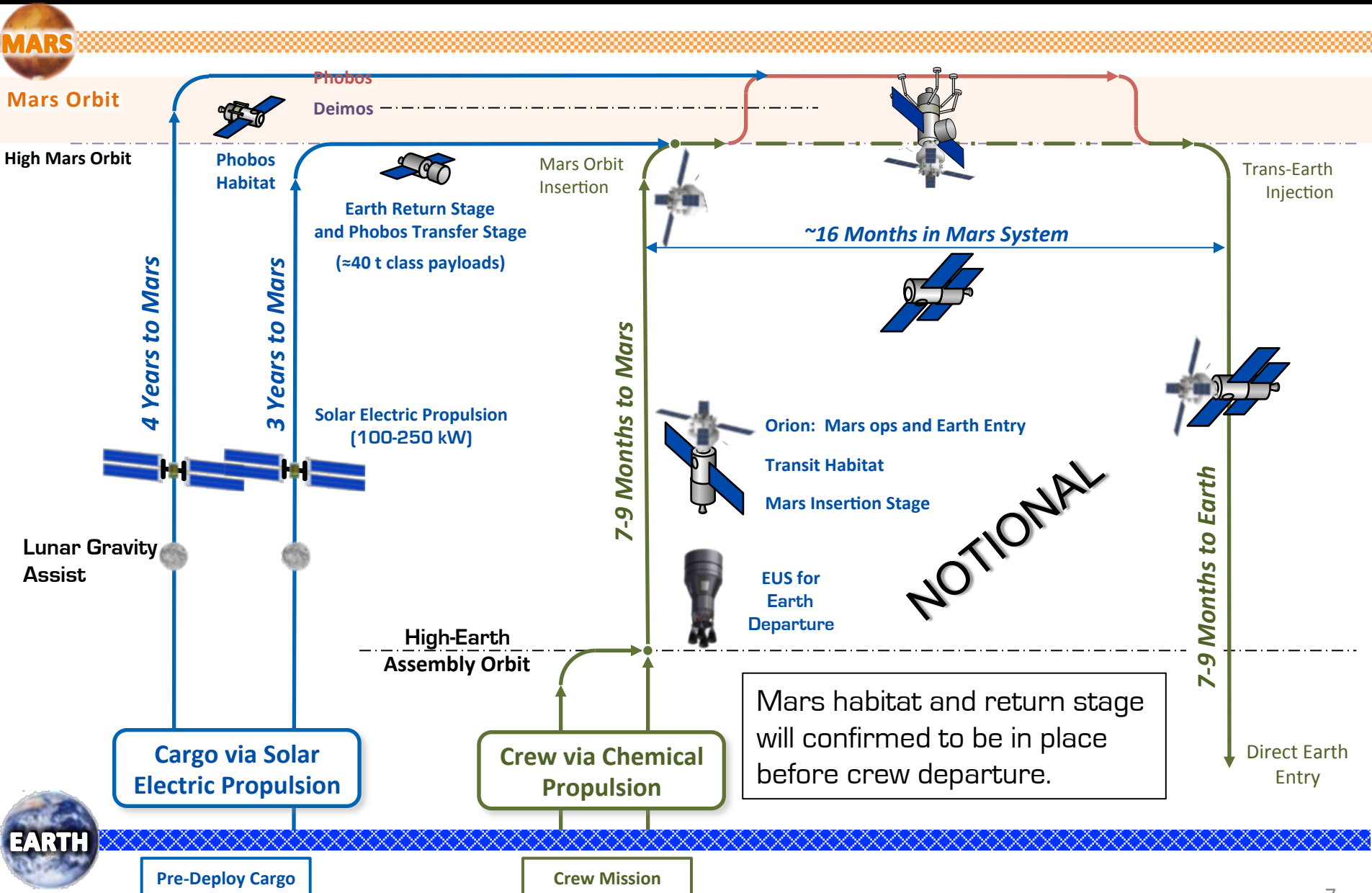


Robotic Spacecraft  
Passive Docking  
Mechanism



- International Docking Adapter will create a docking port on ISS to provide power and data utility connections to visiting vehicles
- Beginning FY14 study with ISS Program to evaluate Block I to Block II:
  - Voltage and avionics
  - Deep space environment
  - Mass reduction opportunities
  - Overall system design efficiency

# Notional ARM Derived Phobos Mission

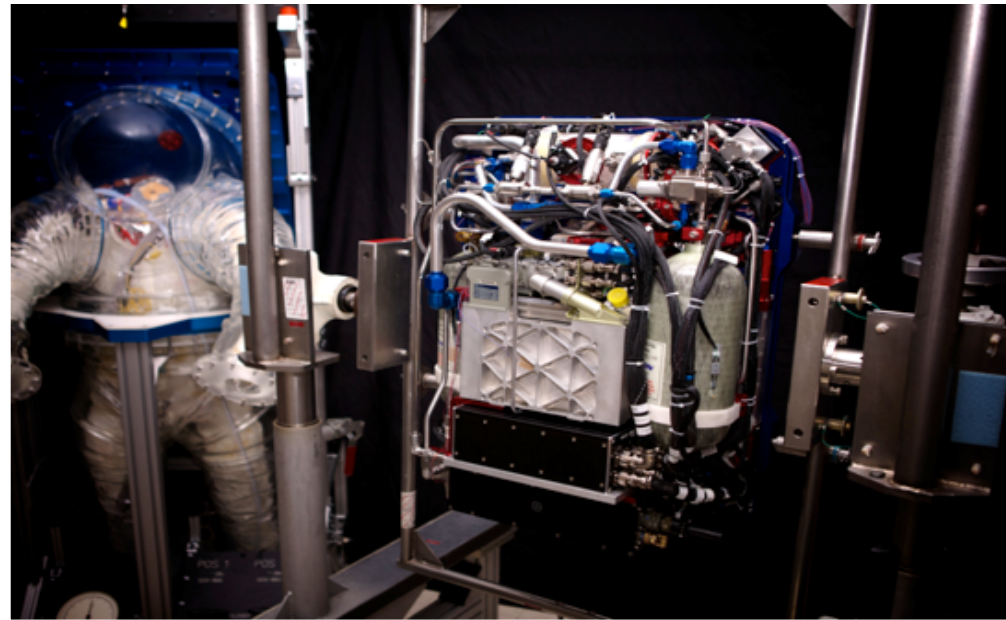




# EVA Suit and Primary Life Support System (PLSS)



- **Exploration PLSS- capable with small modifications of ISS EMU, Exploration Suit, or MACES with architecture that is Mars capable**
  - PLSS 2.0 prototype completed in FY13
  - Variable Oxygen Regulator flammability testing completed at White Sands Test Facility
  - FY14 work includes integrated metabolic and functional testing and fabrication of a PLSS/MACES integration kit



Variable Oxygen Regulator  
Testing at WSTF

MACES with PLSS  
and EVA Suit Kit

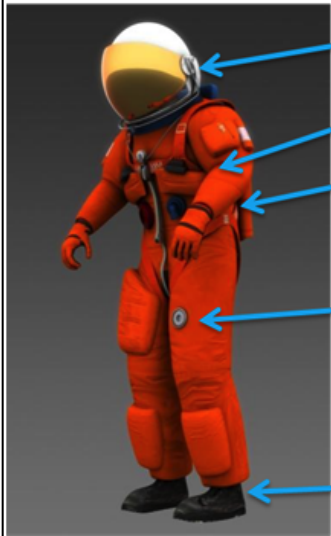




# Mission Kit Concept Enables Affordable Crewed Mission

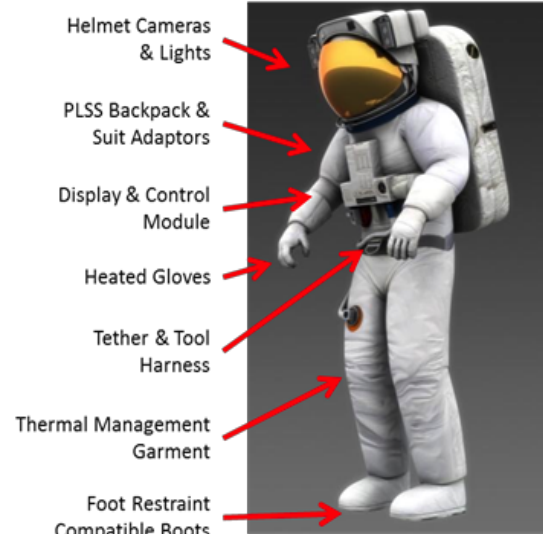


## Enhanced MACES (launch and entry configuration)



- Dual-Use Visor/Sunshield-Modified Helmet
- Arm Bearings
- Flexible Elbows
- Set-point added to Dual Suit Controller Valve To Support Decompression Sickness Treatment
- Reconfigurable Boots

## PLSS MACES (EVA configuration)



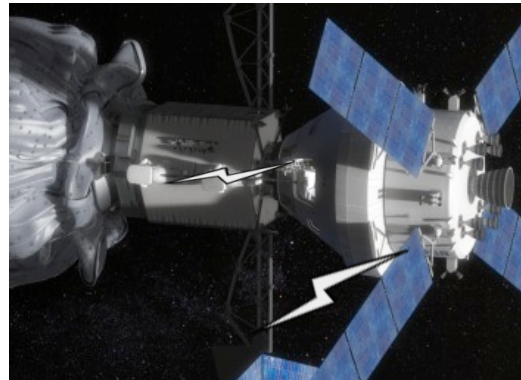
- Helmet Cameras & Lights
- PLSS Backpack & Suit Adaptors
- Display & Control Module
- Heated Gloves
- Tether & Tool Harness
- Thermal Management Garment
- Foot Restraint Compatible Boots



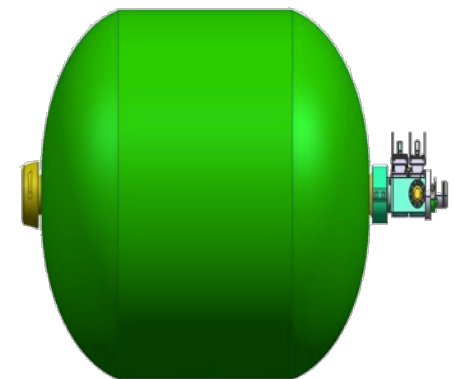
Tools & Translation Aids



Sample Container Kit



EVA Communications Kit



Repress Kit

Much of the EVA hardware can be utilized for other future exploration missions

# Modified ACES Testing Summary



## Lab, Zero G, ARGOS tests



MACES EVAs are demonstrated as feasible and neutrally buoyant testing is warranted

## NBL Series #2 – 5 tests (2, 3 and 4 hours long)



Task complexity increases while improvements are made to the suit including EMU gloves, drink bag, etc.

Need for improved stability and work envelope

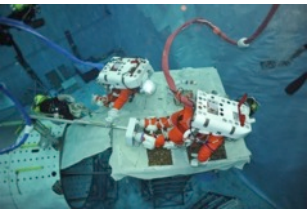


## NBL Series #1 – 3 tests (2 hours long)



Established NBL Interface, ability to weigh-out the suit, and the subject's ability to use the suit underwater.

## NBL Series #3 – 5 tests (4 hours long)



Evaluation of mobility enhancements, improved worksite stability, and testing on higher fidelity capsule mockups with tools culminating in a full ARCM EVA timeline.



**Hardware and Procedure Improvements**

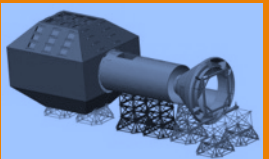
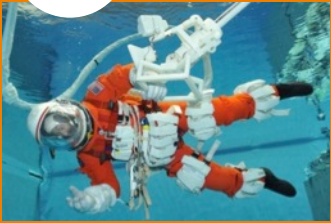
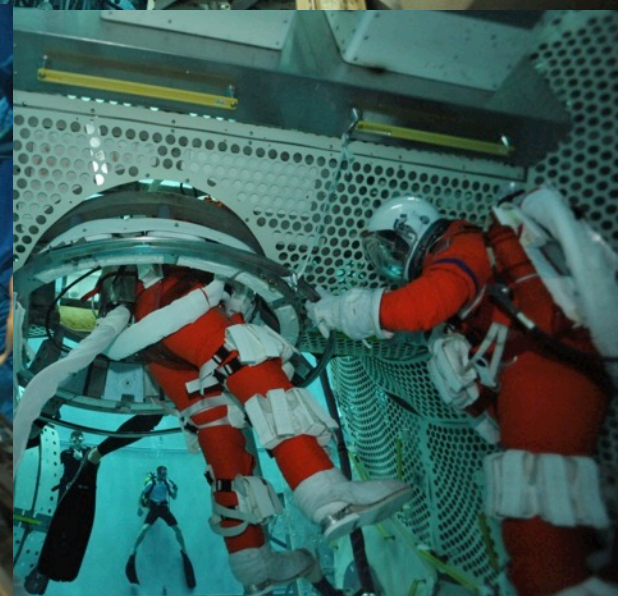
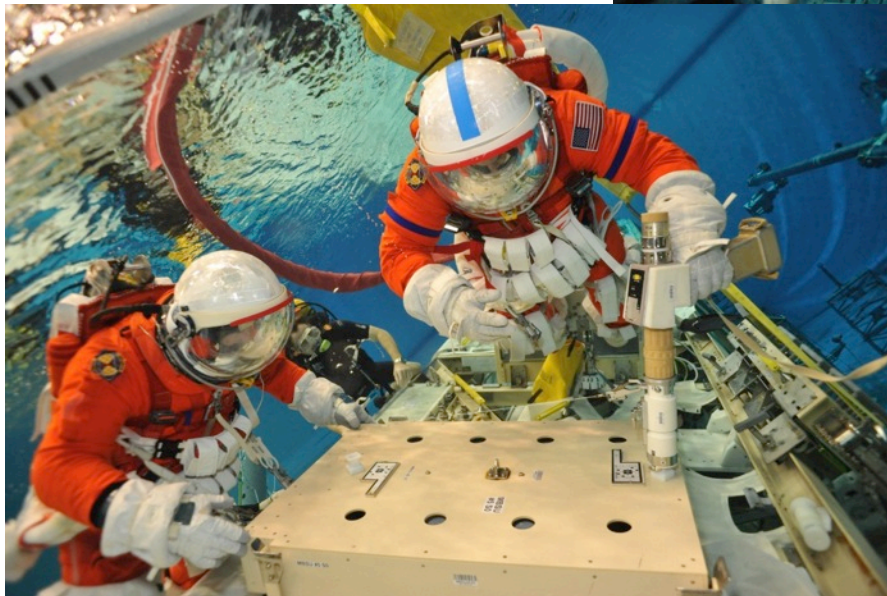
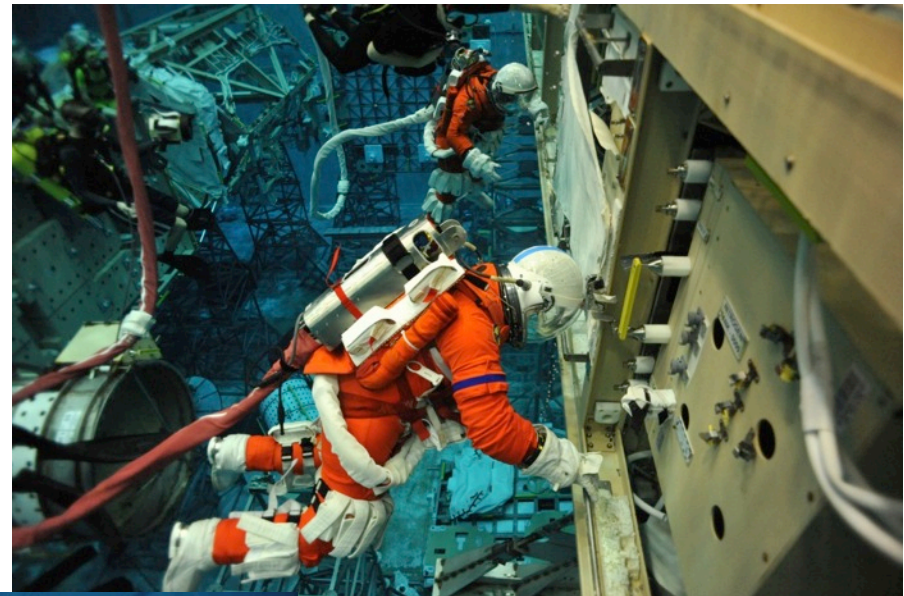
Background \* NASA Internal Use Only





# NBL Testing – Basic Mobility

- The crew was able to complete translation, body positioning, and hatch ingress tasks.
- Successfully completed ISS Global Position Satellite and Main Bus Switching Unit Replacement Tasks.

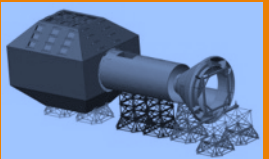
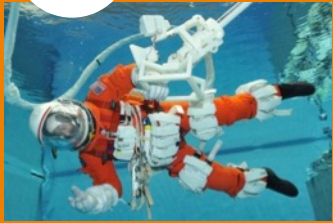




# Test Results – Capsule Ingress/Egress



- Ingress and egress from Orion mockup was demonstrated
- Crew was also able to manipulate translation boom that links Orion to ARV

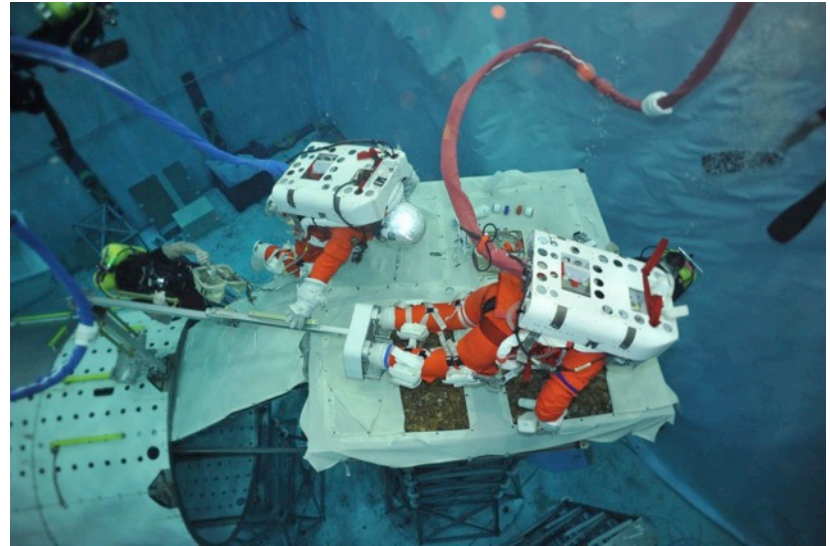




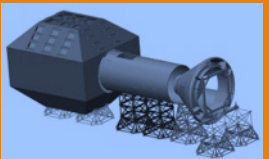
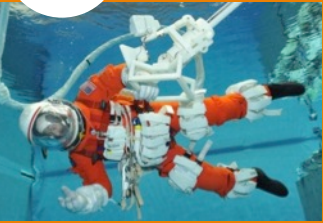
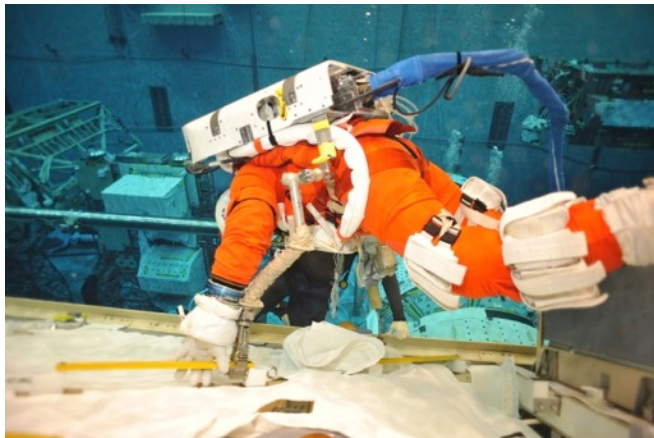


# NBL Test Results – Worksite Stabilization

- Adjustable Portable Foot Restraint operations were tested and execution is very similar to the ISS Extravehicular Mobility Unit.



- Body Restraint Tether allowed the crew to perform two handed tasks

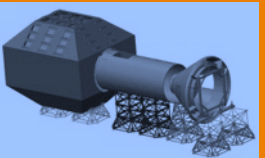
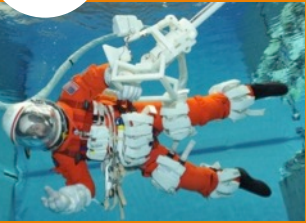
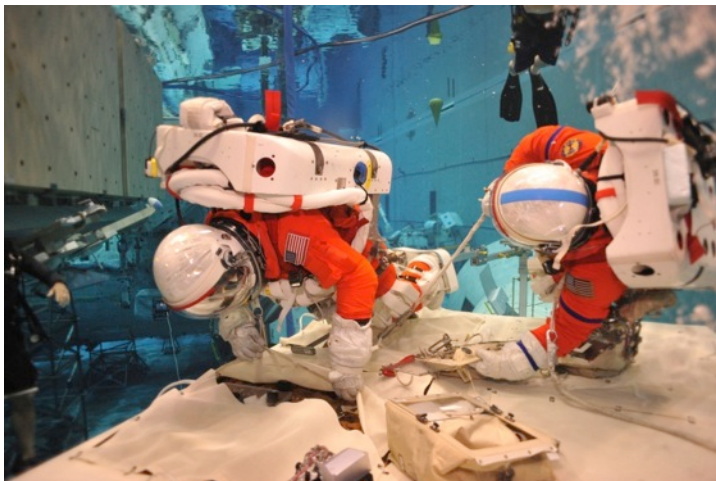
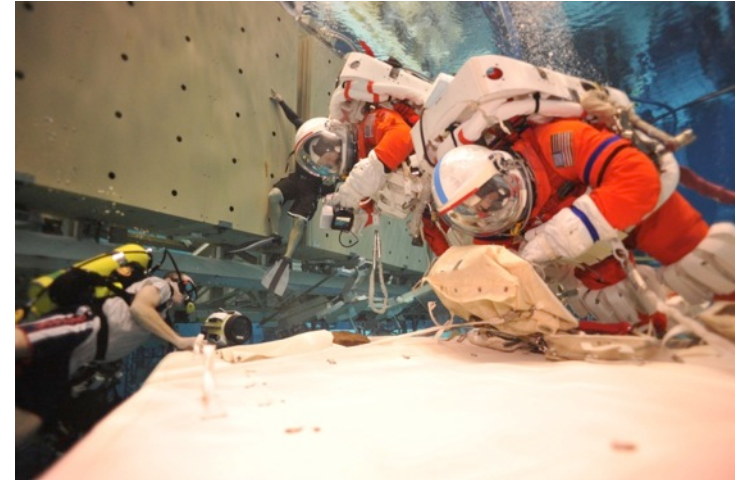




# Test Results – Sampling Tasks



- Crew was able to perform several sampling tasks including worksite imaging, float sample collection, hammer chiseling and pneumatic chiseling.



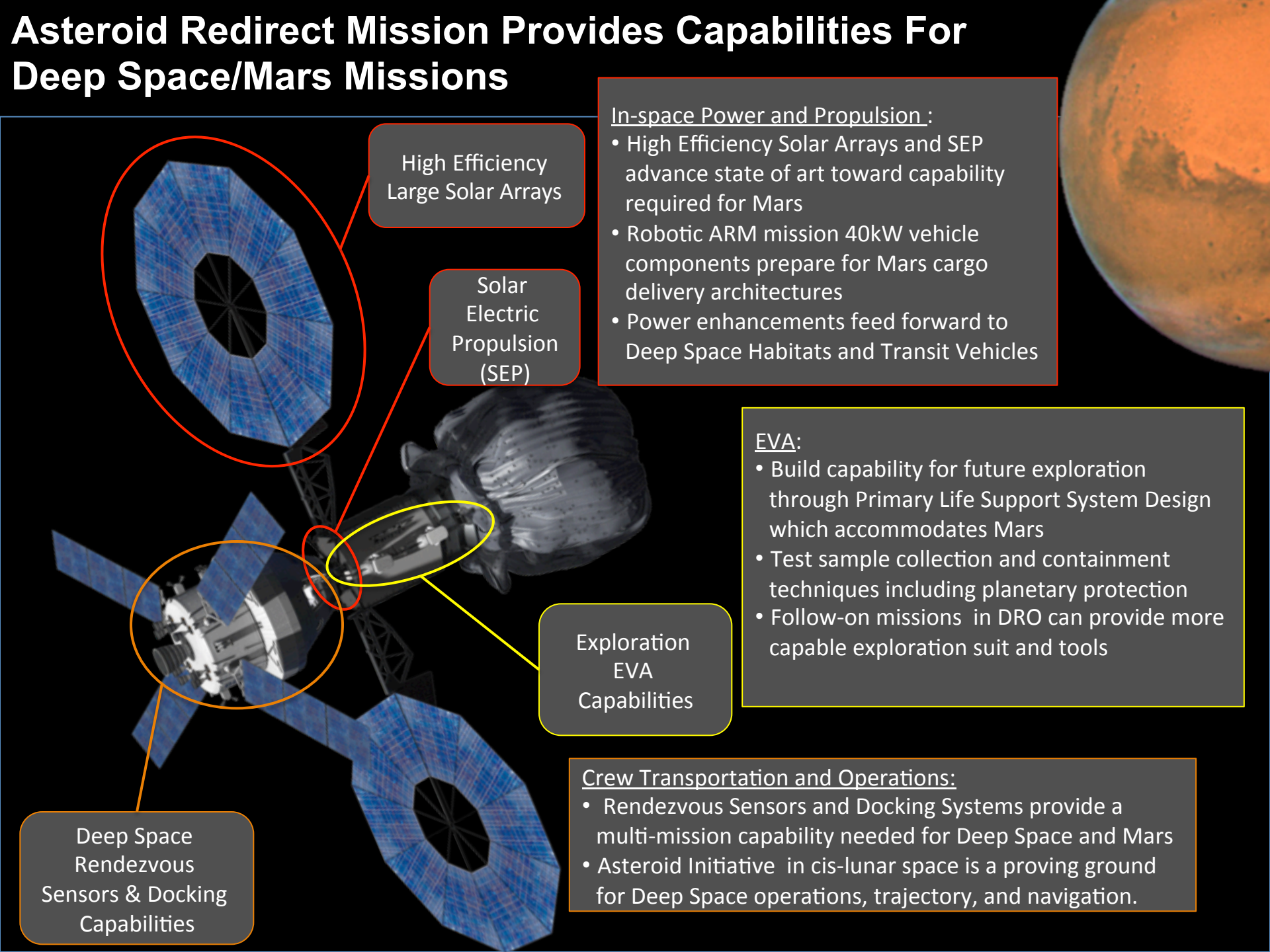


# Continued Work with Curation and Planning Team for Extraterrestrial Materials (CAPTEM)



- CAPTEM recommendations were provided for :
  - Activities that would be conducted during EVAs that are relevant for characterization, selection, collection, stowage, and transport of multiple samples to Earth.
  - Protocols for tools and instruments relevant for sample collection/characterization.
  - High level objectives that would be required to maximize the scientific usefulness of the EVAs and ensure the scientific integrity of the returned samples.
- Crewed Mission Team Looks Forward to Increased Dialogue for the Ten CAPTEM Recommendations in preparation for MCR :
  1. Asteroid needs to be multi-spectrally imaged prior to crew flight for site selection.
  2. Communication with ground-based Science Team is critically important.
  3. Photo-documentation of the samples before and after collection is vital
  4. Contamination Control of both the samples and the crew areas is vitally important.
  5. At least two diverse sites with 1000 g of material from each.
  6. At least one 5-cm diameter, 4 cm deep (100 cm depth desirable) core sample of regolith from each of the two sites.
  7. Preservation of volatiles is desirable, particularly if sampled asteroid is of type C, P, or D.
  8. A measurement of porosity and internal structure of body using an acoustic survey is desirable.
  9. A placement of instruments (e.g., retroreflectors) to measure deformation of the body during the mission is desirable.
  10. Optical albedo measurements and measurements of Yarkovsky effect are not of high priority.

# Asteroid Redirect Mission Provides Capabilities For Deep Space/Mars Missions



High Efficiency  
Large Solar Arrays

Solar  
Electric  
Propulsion  
(SEP)

## In-space Power and Propulsion :

- High Efficiency Solar Arrays and SEP advance state of art toward capability required for Mars
- Robotic ARM mission 40kW vehicle components prepare for Mars cargo delivery architectures
- Power enhancements feed forward to Deep Space Habitats and Transit Vehicles

## EVA:

- Build capability for future exploration through Primary Life Support System Design which accommodates Mars
- Test sample collection and containment techniques including planetary protection
- Follow-on missions in DRO can provide more capable exploration suit and tools

Exploration  
EVA  
Capabilities

Deep Space  
Rendezvous  
Sensors & Docking  
Capabilities

## Crew Transportation and Operations:

- Rendezvous Sensors and Docking Systems provide a multi-mission capability needed for Deep Space and Mars
- Asteroid Initiative in cis-lunar space is a proving ground for Deep Space operations, trajectory, and navigation.

# Back-Up





# EVA Concept Enables Mars Surface Missions



- EVA assumptions:
  - Long duration (up to 8 hours)
  - Complex tasks that require significant lower torso mobility
  - 100 EVA system life
  - Low pressure CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere
- Mars mission through technology development and testing
  - Thermal Micrometeoroid Dust Garment (TMDG) which requires new technology, as well as walking boots and dust resistant visor
  - Specific mission needs will be TMDG with a specialized Aerogel insulation
- Current PLSS schematic is Mars forward. Some modifications will be required to the baseline for partial atmosphere use
  - CO<sub>2</sub> scrubbing modifications
  - Heat rejection modifications

Aerogel  
TMG glove  
for use in  
Martian  
environment



Spacesuit  
Evaporator  
Absorber  
Radiator  
(SEAR) for  
Martian  
atmospheric  
operation of PLSS



Suit Water Membrane  
Evaporator (SWME)  
being tested at Mars  
atmospheric pressure

