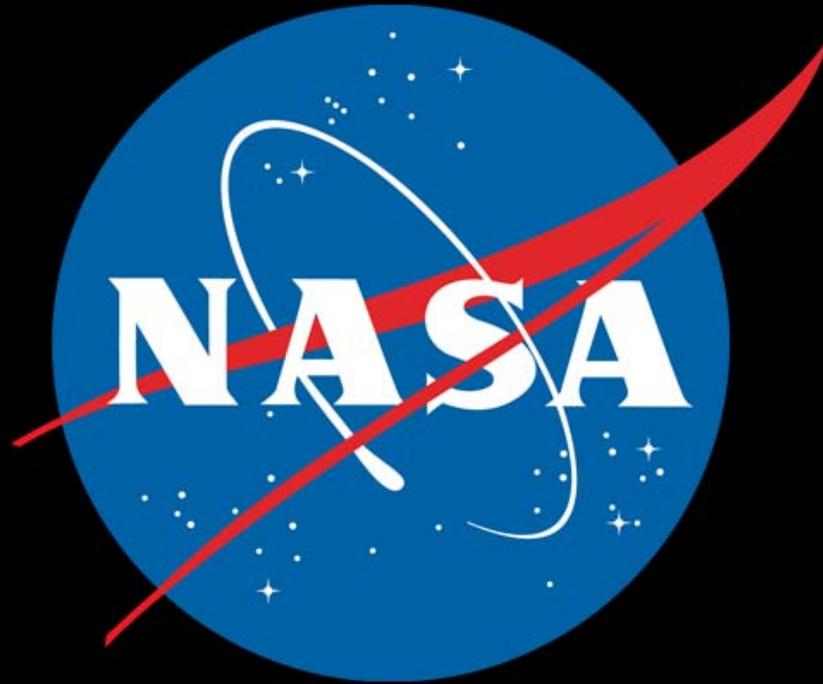


# Meeting Technology Needs through Innovative Partnerships at NASA



**Doug Comstock**

Director, Innovative Partnerships Program Office - NASA

Military and Aerospace Programmable Logic Device (MAPLD) Conference 2008

September 17, 2008 Annapolis, Maryland

# NASA Explores For Answers That Power Our Future

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**Inspire**



**Innovate**



**Discover**



**Inspiration + Innovation + Discovery = Future**

# Global Exploration Strategy

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Human Civilization



Global Partnerships



Scientific Knowledge



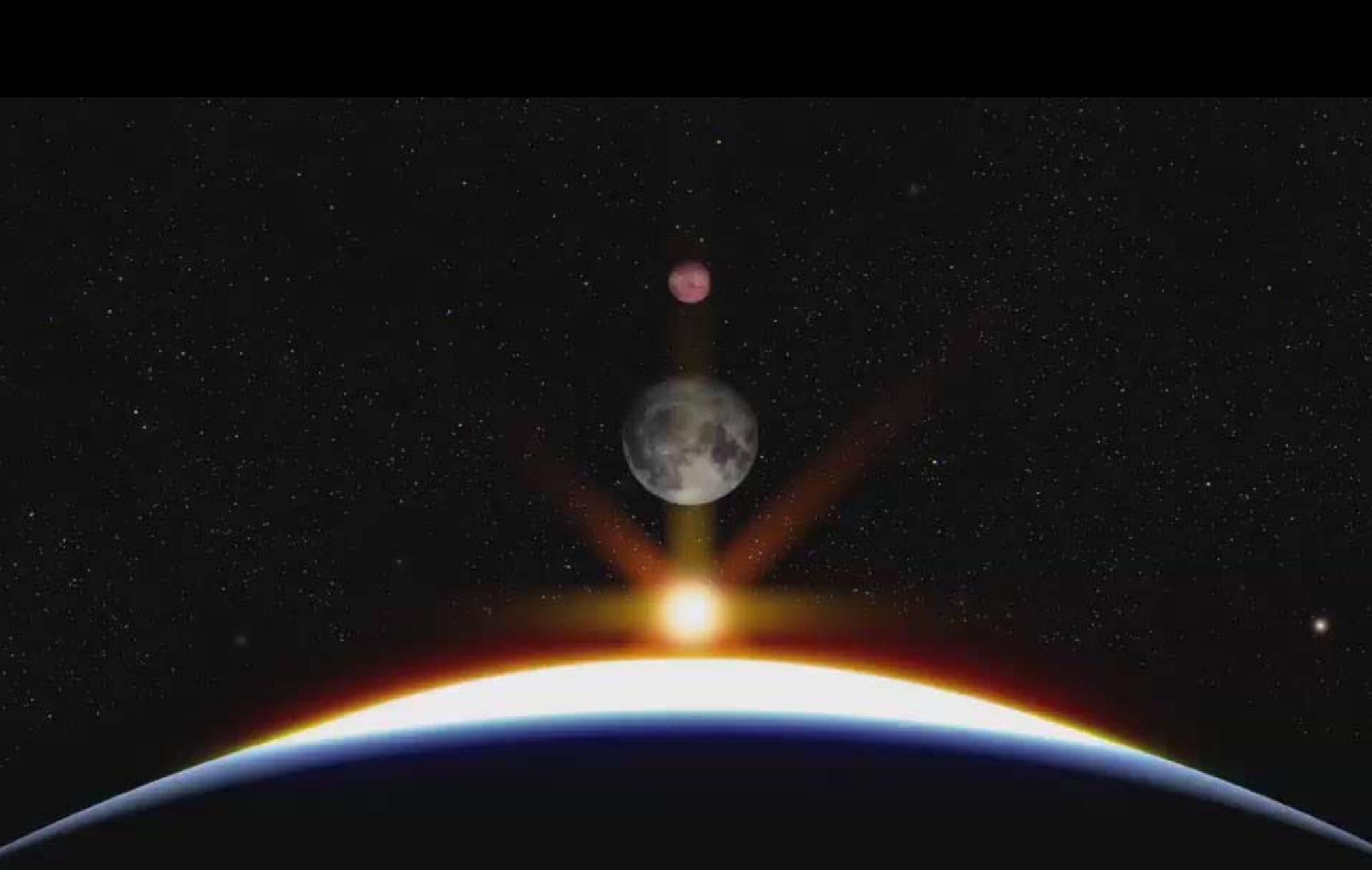
Economic Expansion



Exploration Preparation



Public Engagement



# Global Exploration Strategy

# NASA Organizational Structure

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Explorations Systems Mission Directorate



Space Operations Mission Directorate



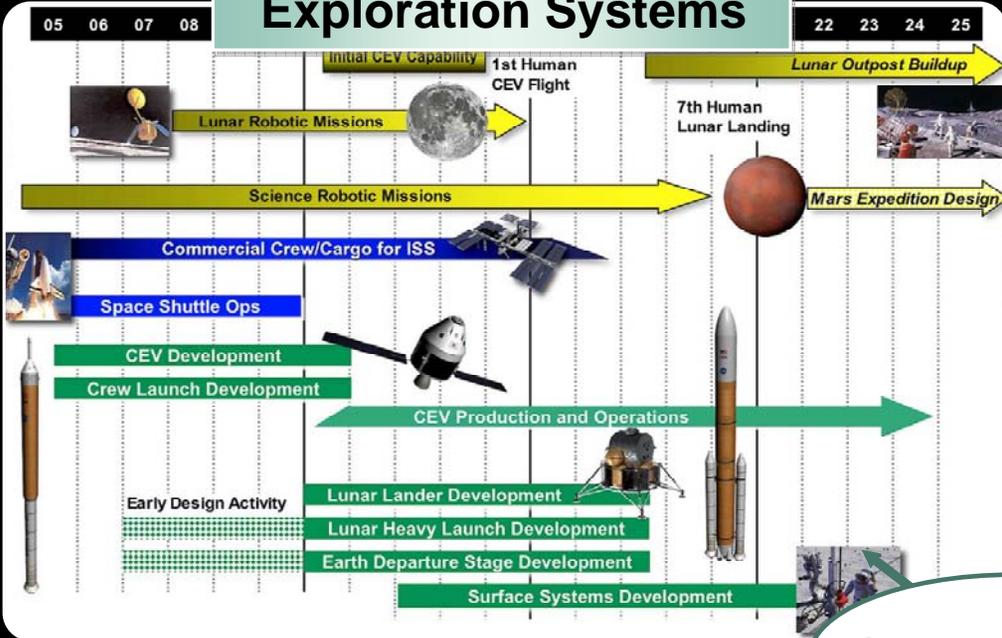
Science Mission Directorate



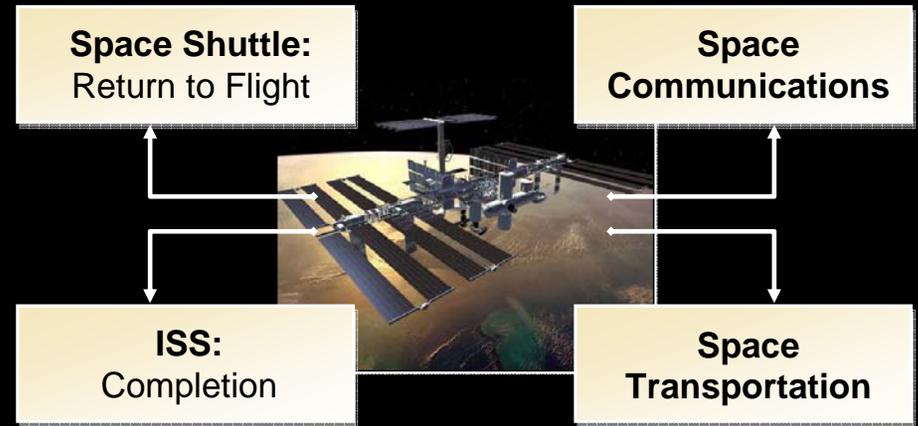
Aeronautics Mission Directorate

# Agency Capability Roadmap

## Exploration Systems

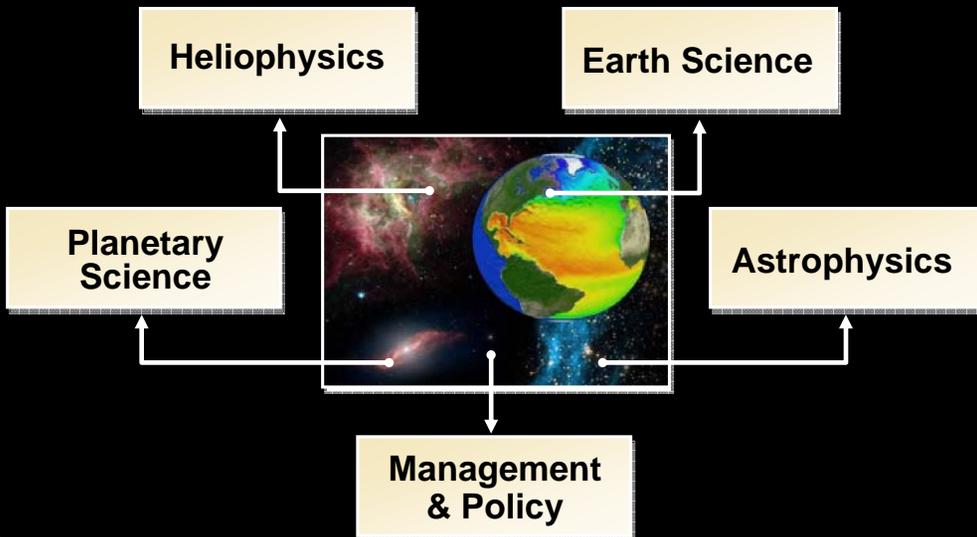


## Space Operations

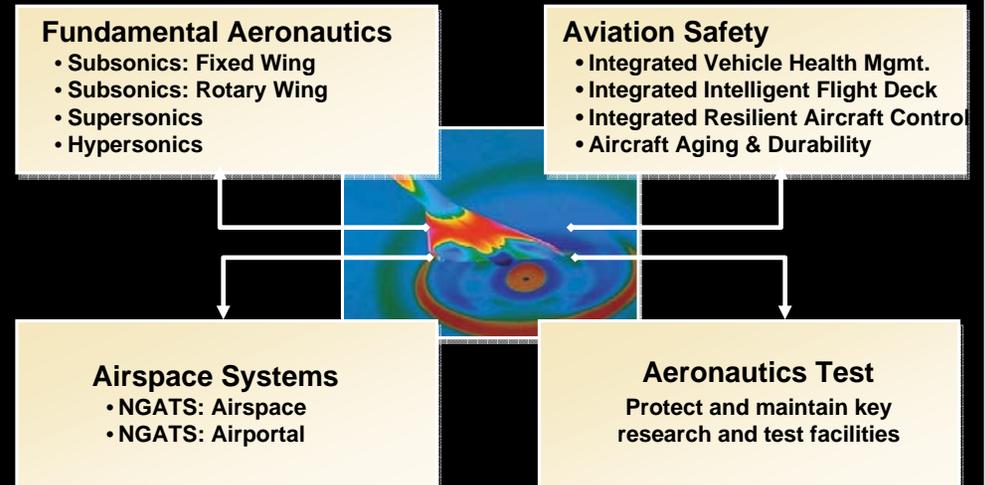


## Crosscutting

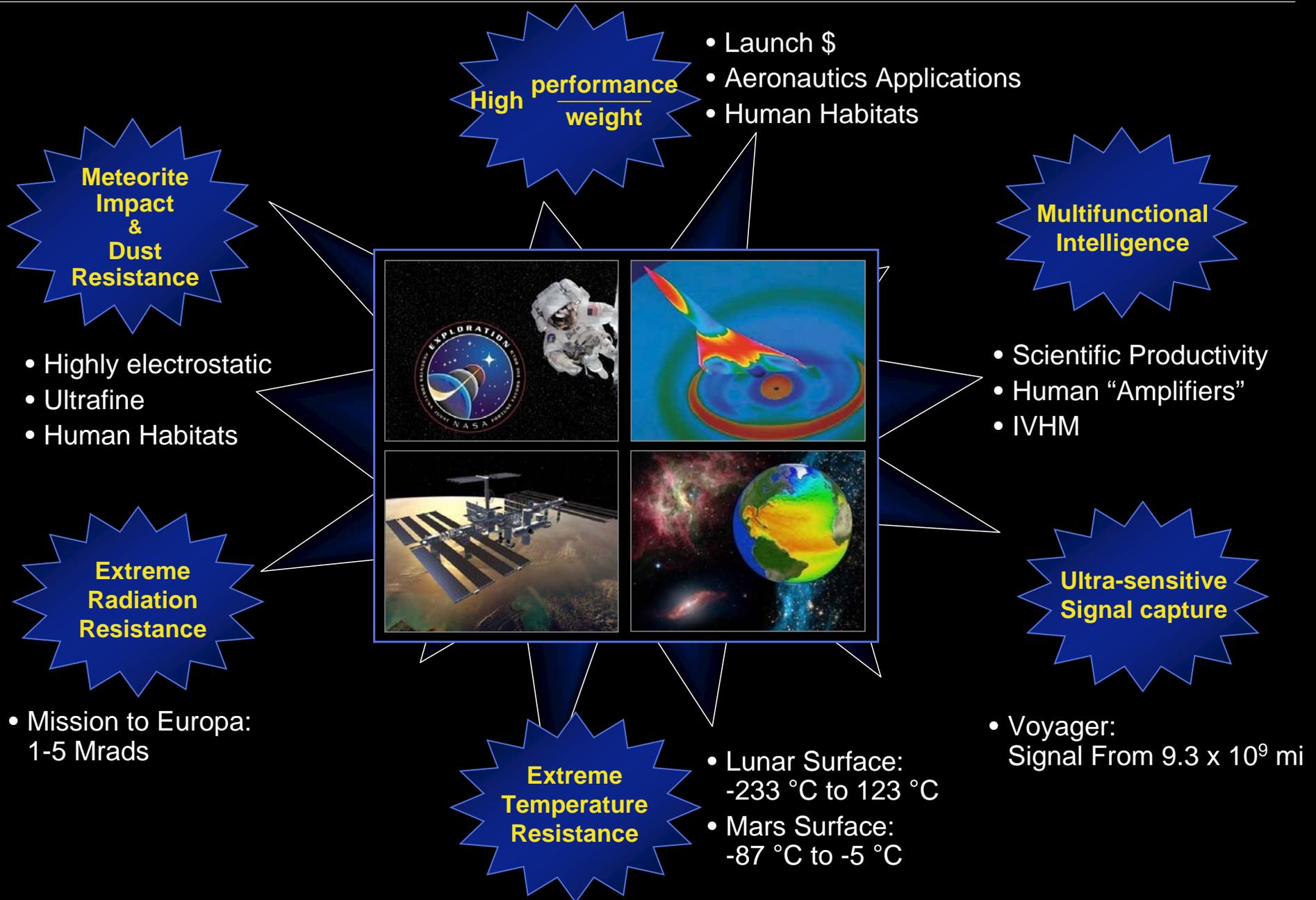
## Science



## Aeronautics Research



# Technology In Extreme Environments



# Innovative Partnerships Program



**Matching Technology Needs with Technology Capabilities**

# Innovative Partnerships Program Elements

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- Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)
- Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR)
- IPP Seed Fund



- Centennial Challenges
- FAST
- Innovation Transfusion
- New Business Models



- Intellectual Property Management
- Technology Transfer
- New Innovative Partnerships

# IPP Technology for Mission Directorates

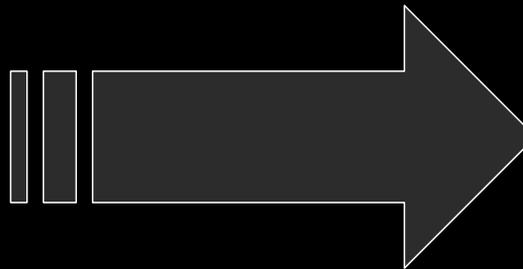
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## Innovative Partnerships Program

- SBIR/STTR
- Centennial Challenges
- Seed Fund
- Partnerships

Executed at the Field Centers



## Technology Infusion

- Bridging the “Valley of Death”
- Narrow the gap and reduce risk
- Begin building bridges early

## Mission Directorates

- Programs
- Projects

Executed at the Field Centers

# SBIR/STTR: 3-Phase Program

- **PHASE I**

- Feasibility study
- \$100K award
- 6 months duration (SBIR)
- 12 months duration (STTR)

- **PHASE II**

- Technology Development
- 2-Year Award
- Up to \$750K (SBIR/STTR)

<b>SBIR</b>	<b>FY03</b>	<b>FY04</b>	<b>FY05</b>	<b>FY06</b>	<b>FY07</b>	<b>FY08</b>
Millions of \$	107.3	107.5	110.0	105.6	99.8	103.7
Phase 1 Awards	267	312	291	267	259	TBD
Phase 2 Awards	155	139	142	186	130	TBD

<b>STTR</b>	<b>FY03</b>	<b>FY04</b>	<b>FY05</b>	<b>FY06</b>	<b>FY07</b>	<b>FY08</b>
Millions of \$	6.4	12.9	13.2	12.3	12.0	12.5
Phase 1 Awards	45	40	35	27	25	TBD
Phase 2 Awards	18	26	17	22	18	TBD

SBIR is 2.5% of extramural R&D, STTR is 0.3% of extramural R&D.

- **PHASE III**

- Technology Infusion/Commercialization Stage.
- Use of non-SBIR Funds.
- Ability to award sole-source contracts without JOFOC based on specific SBIR authority – NASA and NASA primes.

# SBIR/STTR Taxonomy

- Avionics and Astrionics
- Biotechnology
- Communications
- Cryogenics
- Education
- Electronics
- Extravehicular Activity
- Information
- Manufacturing
- Materials
- Microgravity
- Power and Energy
- Propulsion
- Robotics
- Sensors and Sources
- Structures
- Thermal
- Verification and Validation

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



2008 July 7 - Sept. 4

**Small Business Innovation Research**  
**Small Business Technology Transfer**



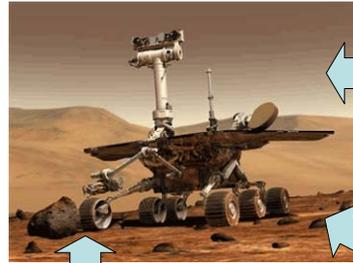
Y E A R S  
S B I R - S T T R

Stimulating technology innovation  
and small business partnerships.

program solicitations desk reference

# SBIR Technology Infusion Examples

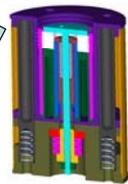
## Mars Exploration Rovers



ASCII chip for memory modules and analog-to-digital converters.



Lithium-ion batteries for battery packs.



Heat switches to control radiator for electronics package.

## Space Shuttle and ISS

Sensor Control and Acquisition Telecommunications (SCAT)  
Wireless Instrumentation Systems



SWIS – Launch to Activation Temps

IWIS Dynamics

MMA for JEM – Micro-G

EWIS – Dynamics

**Microgravity Instrumentation (And Structural Dynamics)**



Wing Leading Edge Impact Detection System

Automated Leak Detection & Location

Ultra-W

Launch & Activation Wireless Temperature Monitoring

Distributed Impact Detection

**IVHM Integrated Vehicle Health Monitoring**

## Stardust and Orion

ARC-invented heatshield technology Phenolic Impregnated Carbon Ablator (PICA)



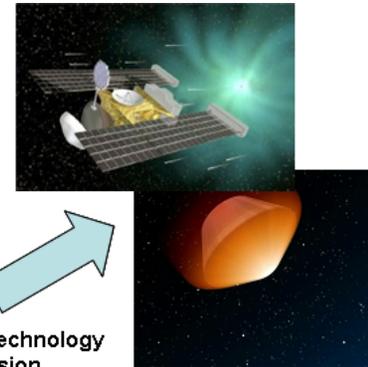
SBIR awards to FMI advance manufacturing scalability of the technology



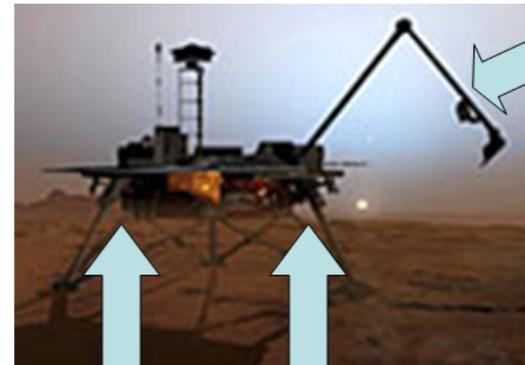
PICA selected as an enabling technology for successful STARDUST mission



STARDUST success leads to further application as heatshield on crewed reentry vehicles



## Mars Phoenix Lander



Icy Soil Acquisition Device supplied by Honeybee Robotics, Inc.

Lithium ion batteries supplied by Yardney Technical Products, Inc.

SpaceDev (formerly Starsys) contributed to the design of the Microscopy Electrochemistry and Conductivity Analyzer (MECA)



# Technologies and Firms are Searchable

**NASA SBIR/STTR Funded Technology Search - Microsoft Internet Explorer**

Address: <https://sbir.gsfc.nasa.gov/sbir/search/fundedTechSearch.jsp>

**NASA SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH SMALL BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER**

**Putting Innovative Technologies to Work Pilot Version 1.1**

**NASA TechSource**

Main About TechSource Data Rights Technology Matches Contacts Guest Book

NASA TechSource provides information on current and recently completed SBIR/STTR Phase 2 projects funded by NASA. The purpose of this site is to facilitate the transition of resulting technologies into further development, investment and utilization for NASA mission programs and commercial applications.

**Text:**  **Technology:**

**Center:**  **Year:**  **Firm Type:**  **Sort:**

Browsing 1 - 4 of 4 matches [Delimited](#) | [Excel](#)

Proposal Info.	Abstract
<b>X4.02-8340</b> (SBIR 05-2) Automated Design and Analysis Tool for CLV/CEV Composite and Metallic Structural Components <b>Collier Research &amp; Development Corporation</b>  <b>HubZone:</b> No <b>Women Owned:</b> No <b>Minority Owned:</b> No  <b>Center:</b> LaRC	The innovation of the proposed effort is a unique automated process for the analysis, design, and sizing of CLV/CEV composite and metallic structures. This developed process will permit hundreds of conceptual and preliminary design trade studies to be performed in a matter of only a few days rather than several months. This shorter time is made possible by replacing or reducing currently required experienced analyst interaction (man in the loop) with predefined knowledge based sizing templates for laminate strength and producibility optimization. Innovative virtual structural component definitions that 'float' between automatic HyperSizer to FEA iteration cycles redefine acreage surfaces areas while simultaneously including connecting bonded/bolted joints. The resulting capability will be an open architecture built within the HyperSizer<SUP>REG</SUP> commercial software suitable for internally integrating NASA or industry developed specialty discipline analysis codes and externally integrating HyperSizer with NASA larger design systems. This new capability will be unique in that no other commercial or non-commercial tool will have the same level of depth, breadth, accuracy, speed, verification & validation, and software robustness for performing weight prediction and reduction, structural integrity margins-of-safety reporting, and reliability prediction and improvement.

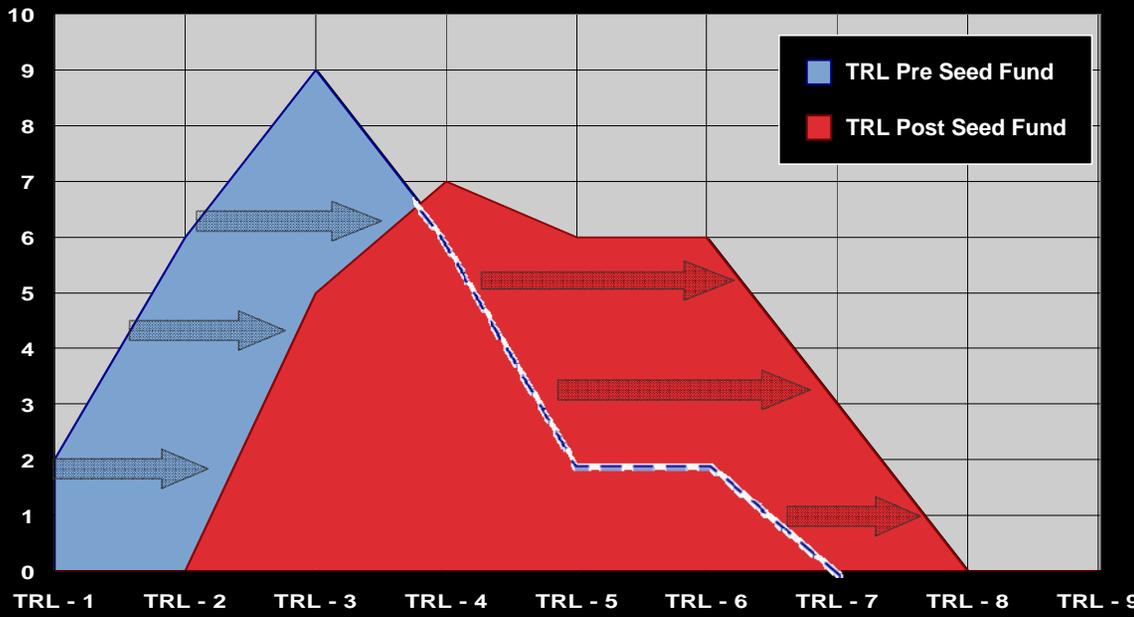
<https://sbir.gsfc.nasa.gov/sbir/search/fundedTechSearch.jsp>

# IPP Seed Fund

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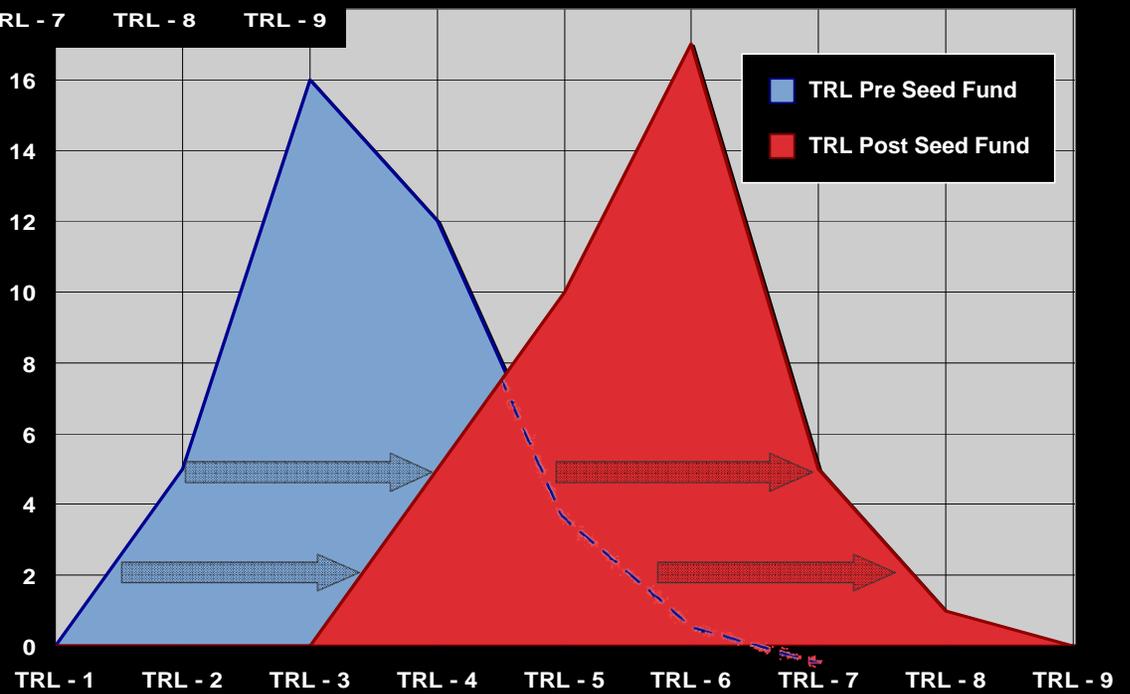
- **An annual process for selecting innovative partnerships to address technology barriers via cost-shared, joint-development projects.**
- **Enhances NASA's ability to meet the priority technology gaps of all four of NASA's Mission Directorates.**
- **The IPP Office at NASA HQ issues an annual Seed Fund call to all NASA Centers – they downselect and send to HQ for final selections.**
- **The Seed Fund operates through a collaboration of Center IPP Offices, NASA co-PI, and external co-PI.**
- **Proposals are evaluated against the following criteria:**
  - **Relevance/Value to NASA Mission Directorates.**
  - **Scientific/Technical merit and feasibility.**
  - **Leveraging of resources.**
- **In the last two years, an investment of \$19 million by IPP facilitated the generation of 81 partnerships and was leveraged by nearly a factor of four, providing a total of \$73 million for the advancement of critical technologies and capabilities for the Agency.**

# Seed Fund TRL Advancement



**FY06 Seed Fund Portfolio**

**FY07 Seed Fund Portfolio**



**FY07 Seed Fund Portfolio**

# Demonstration Highlights

**Cryostable  
Low-cost Mirror**  
(Deep Space Missions)

**Inflatable  
Human Habitat**  
(Human Lunar)



**4D Flight  
Mgmt**  
(NGATS)

**Li-Ion Battery  
for PLSS**  
(Human EVA)

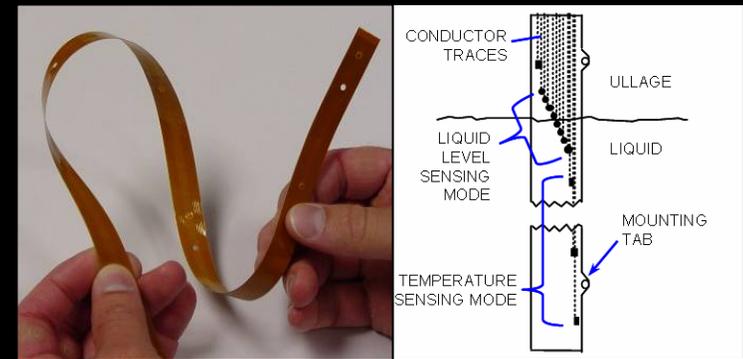
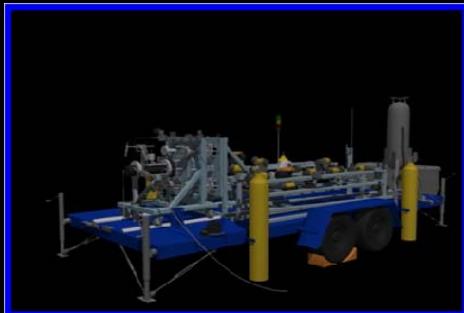


**Technology  
Demos**

**Inflatable  
Decelerator**  
(AFL MARS and COTS)

**Cryo-tracker  
Flight  
Qualification**  
(Atlas/Centaur Launches)

**ISHM - Test  
Stand and J2X  
Engine**  
(Aries 1 Upper Stage)



# Antarctic Habitat Demonstrator

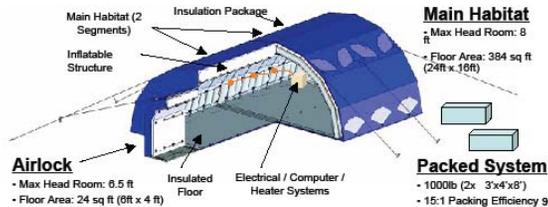
## Antarctic Habitat Demonstrator

- NASA / NSF / ILC Dover Innovative Partnership Program (IPP)
- Test of expandable structures in Antarctic Analog to advance NASA knowledge base for lunar application
- Test of expandable structures to advance NSF knowledge and assess applicability to polar missions



### System Requirements (NASA & NSF Combined) - Annotated

- Reconfigurable components
- Erected by 4 people in 4 hours
- Can withstand 100 mph winds
- High Packing Efficiency
- Can deploy on uneven ground
- Withstand the Antarctic winter
- Multiple cycle use
- Lighting/power/data acquisition
- Meet NSF building codes



## Antarctic Habitat Demonstrator Study Goals

### Large Expandable Structures:

- ✓ - Packing efficiency & shipping/handling survival
- ✓ - Deployment operability in a gravitational environment and in polar gear (representing space suits)
- ✓ - Adaptability to uneven and rugged surfaces representing the lunar surface
- ✓ - Reconfigurability
- 🟡 - Performance in a harsh environment
- 🟡 - Deployment with integrated electronics (power, lighting, sensors, etc.)
- ✓ - Remote structural health monitoring over long periods of time
- ✓ - Use of in-situ materials for shielding from radiation
- ✓ - Lunar dust mitigation practices



## Reconfigurability Studies

Connections between sections were simple in ECWG + demonstrated reconfigurability



The system adapted well to the uneven ground due to compliant interfaces and structures

Packed & deployed system dozens of times

12

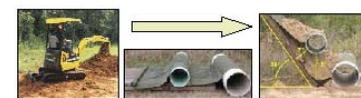
## Radiation Protection Studies

Researching ways to apply regolith to the walls of a structure for radiation shielding



### Blankets

Flexible PE blankets applied where required



Push regolith on deflated structure, inflate structure, capture regolith on walls

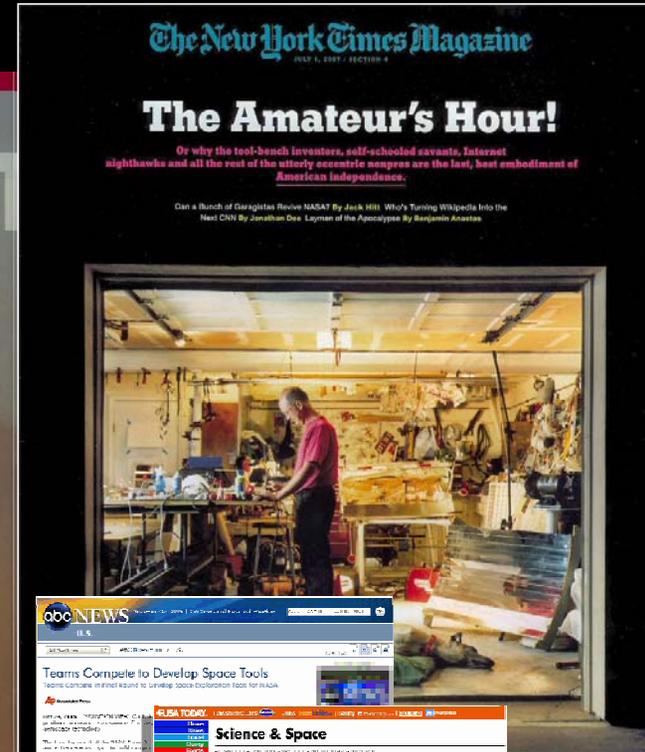
### Regolith Lifter



13

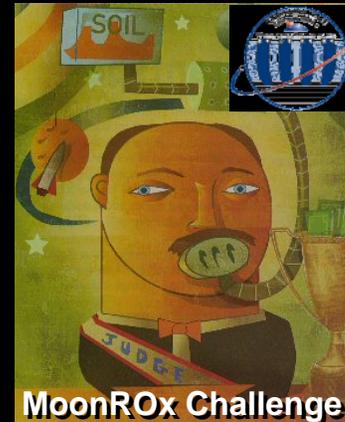
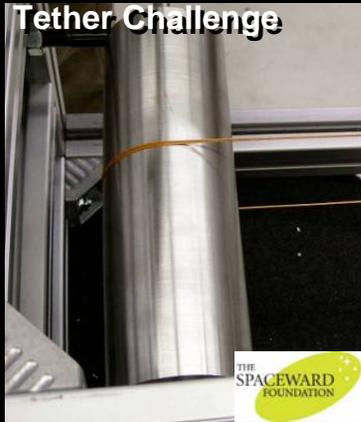
# How Do Prizes Benefit NASA?

- Increased Participation by New Sources of Innovation
- Leveraging of Tax-Payers' Dollars
- Innovative Technology Development to Meet NASA's Needs
- Increased Awareness of Science and Technology
- Hands-on Training for Future Workforce



# Funded Centennial Challenge Competitions

Competition	Total	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Astronaut Glove	\$1M		250	350	400		
Regolith Excavation	\$750 K		250	500			
Personal Air Vehicle	\$2M		250	300	400	500	550
Beam Power	\$2M	200	300	400	500	600	
Tether	\$2M	200	300	400	500	600	
Lunar Lander	\$2M	2,000					
MoonROx	\$1M	250	750				



# And The Winner Is...



...Peter Homer

# Centennial Challenges - NASA Technology Prizes

## RECENT COMPETITIONS

### **Regolith Excavation**      **August 2-3, 2008**

Robotic devices to excavate simulated lunar soil.

Location: California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA

2008 Purse: \$750K.

Managed by: California Space Education & Workforce Institute.

***25 teams registered from 15 different states.***

NASA Technologies/Center Interest: ISRU & Robotics - JSC, GRC, KSC, CxPO



### **General Aviation Technology**      **August 2-10, 2008**

Safer, quieter & more efficient aircraft.

Location: Sonoma County Airport, Santa Rosa, CA.

2008 Purse: \$300K.

Managed by: Comparative Aircraft Flight Efficiency Foundation.

***The event will provide a forum for discussions on creation of a future Green Aviation Prize - intended to lead to a zero-emission airplane.***

NASA Technologies/Center Interest: Aeronautics, energy systems, structures - LaRC, DFRC, GRC, ARC



# Centennial Challenges - NASA Technology Prizes

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## UPCOMING COMPETITIONS

### **Lunar Lander**      **October 24-25, 2008**

Reusable rocket vehicles simulating lunar takeoff and landing.

Location: Holloman Air Force Base, NM.

2008 Purse: \$2M.

Managed by: X PRIZE Foundation.

*Near-winner from 2007 will return and other challengers are expected.*

NASA Technologies/Center Interest: Propulsion, GN&C - CxPO-Altair, MSFC, JSC, GRC, SSC

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### **Power Beaming & Tether**      **Fall 2008**

Wireless power transmission and super-strength materials.

Location: Western US.

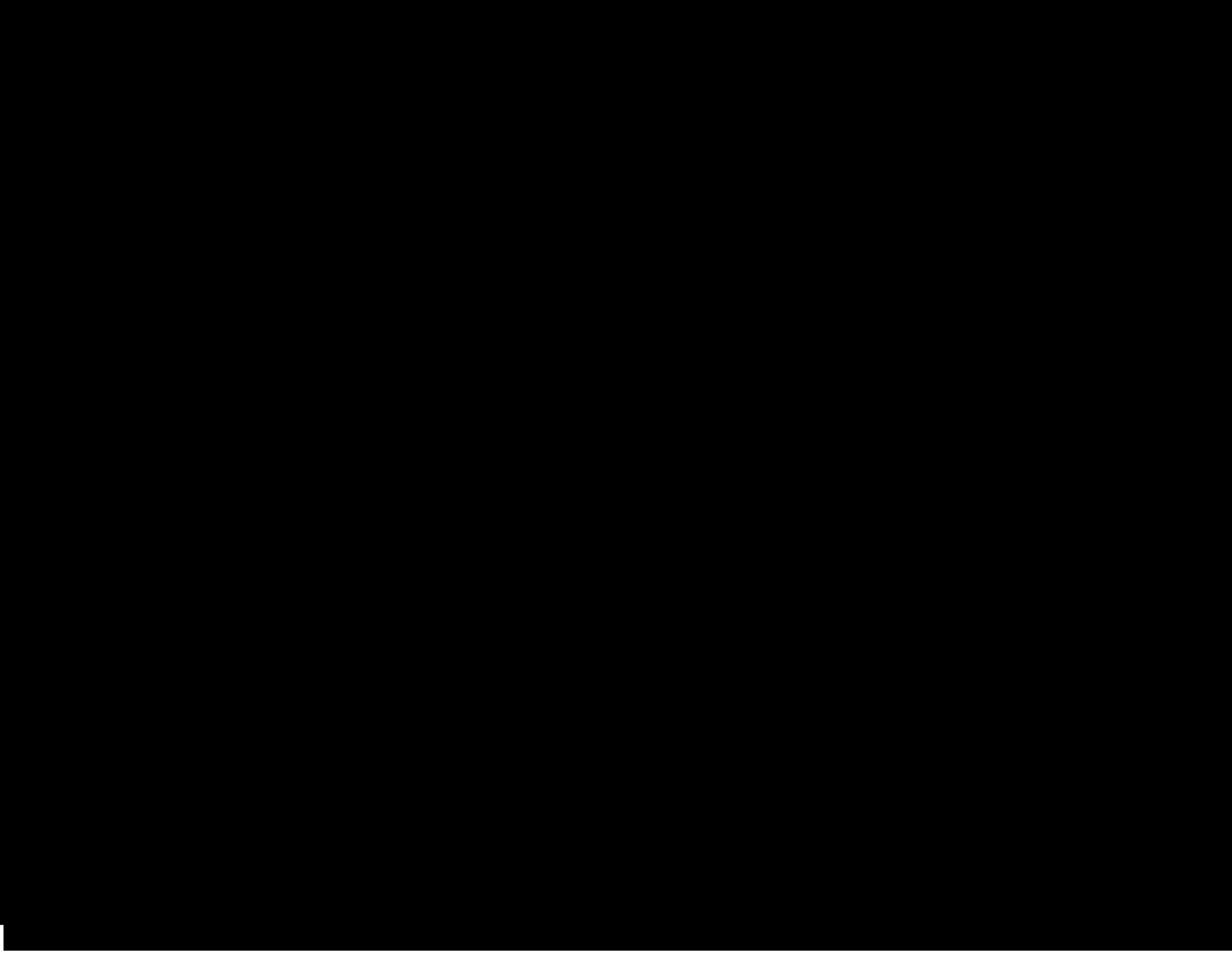
2008 Purse: \$2M for each.

Managed by: Spaceward Foundation.

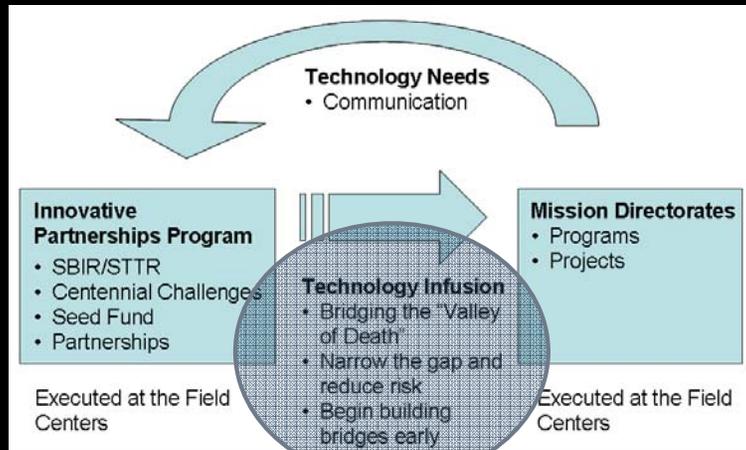
*2008 Power Beaming event will require devices to climb one kilometer  
11 teams have entered.*

NASA Technologies/Center Interest: Power systems, lasers, mechanisms, advanced materials - GRC, LaRC, CxPO

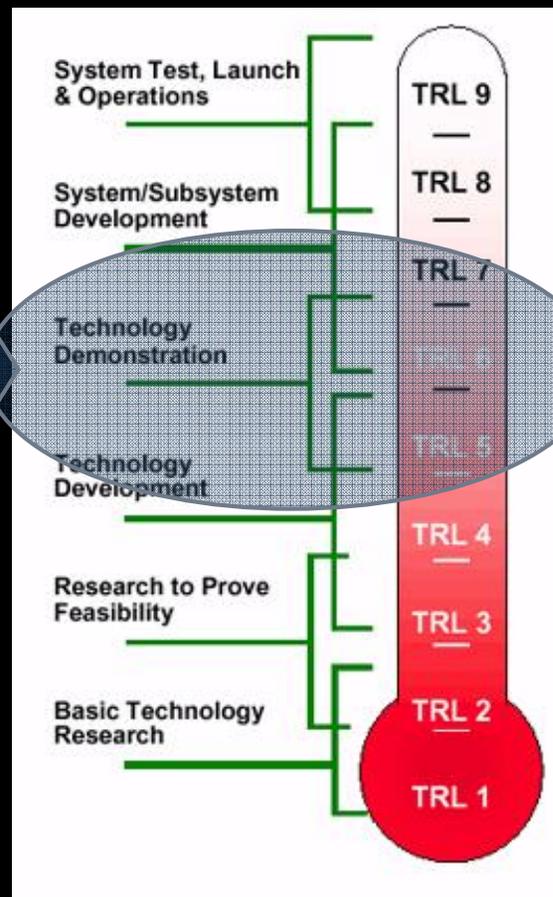




# Technology Demonstration is critical to Infusion



- As a rule of thumb, projects like technology to be TRL-6 by PDR
- Technology Demonstration in relevant environments is critical



- TRL 9 Actual system "flight proven" through successful mission operations.
- TRL 8 Actual system completed and "flight qualified" through test and demonstration (ground or space).
- TRL 7 System prototype demonstration in a **space environment**.
- TRL 6 System/subsystem model or prototype demonstration in a **relevant environment** (ground or space).
- TRL 5 Component and/or breadboard validation in **relevant environment**.
- TRL 4 Component and/or breadboard validation in laboratory environment.
- TRL 3 Analytical and experimental critical function and/or characteristic proof-of concept.
- TRL 2 Technology concept and/or application formulated.
- TRL 1 Basic principles observed and reported.

# FAST

## Facilitated Access to the Space Environment for Technology Development and Training

---

### Objectives:

- 1) Enable testing of emerging technologies in the space-environment such as zero and reduced-gravity conditions on parabolic aircraft flights.
- 2) Promote NASA use of commercial space-related services such as a commercially-operated parabolic aircraft.



- Modifications to the commercial aircraft to meet NASA requirements have been completed.
- Initial flight-weeks occurred August 25 and September 8.
- A broad call for proposals for flight weeks in FY09 will be issued in September for flights to occur in 2008 and 2009.

# FAST

## Facilitated Access to the Space Environment for Technology Development and Training

SBIR firms tested five new technologies Sept. 9-10:

- Pneumatic mining under lunar gravity conditions (Honeybee Robotics of New York)
- Aircraft sensor-logger operations (Metis Design Corporation of Cambridge, Mass.)
- Microgravity flight testing of self-deploying shells (Mevicon Inc. of Sunnyvale, Calif.)
- Virtual sensor test instrumentation operations (Mobitrum Corporation of Silver Spring, Md.)
- Nanofluid coolant testing (nanoComposix, Inc. of San Diego, Calif.)

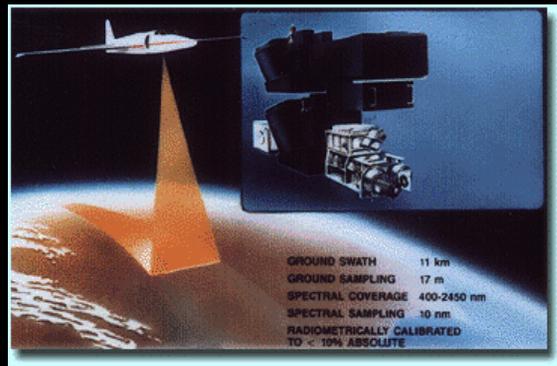
Four days of flights were scheduled in September, but the approach of Hurricane Ike caused those scheduled Sept. 11-12 to be suspended. An effort will be made to reschedule the flights in the future.



FASTRACK experiment module.

# Spectral Imaging Partnerships

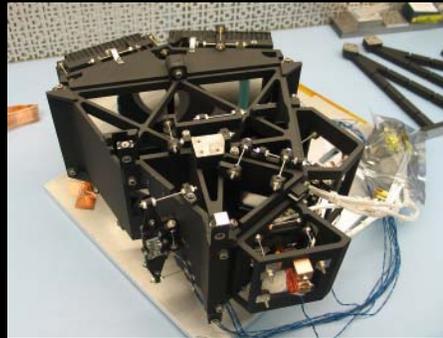
## NASA Investment



## Airborne AVIRIS Imager

- NASA funded airborne whisk broom spectrometer
- Built in 1989 and operated through present

## Tech Transfer/Partnerships



## Airborne Compact Imager

- Partnership with another agency to develop a new airborne spectrometer (MaRS)
- MaRS uses Offner and push broom design for improved performance metrics (radiometric precision, uniformity, simplicity, reliability)
- Partner provides \$10M in funding to increase technology from TRL 3 to 7
- 24 month build
- Demonstrated in 2006

## Benefits to NASA



## Airborne Compact Imager

- NASA selects advanced push broom, compact spectrometer (Moon Mineralogy Mapper) for joint NASA/ISRO experiment
- Based on MaRS design
- 24 month build
- Launch in 2008

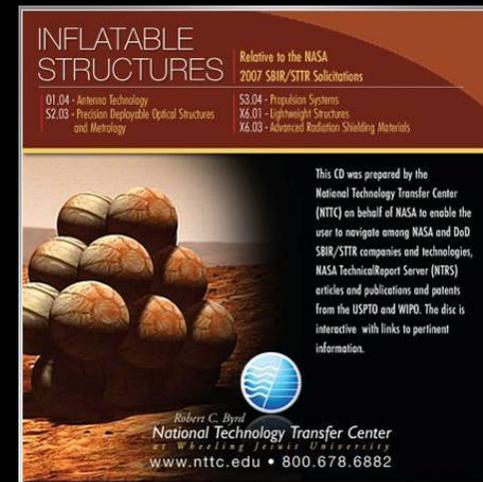
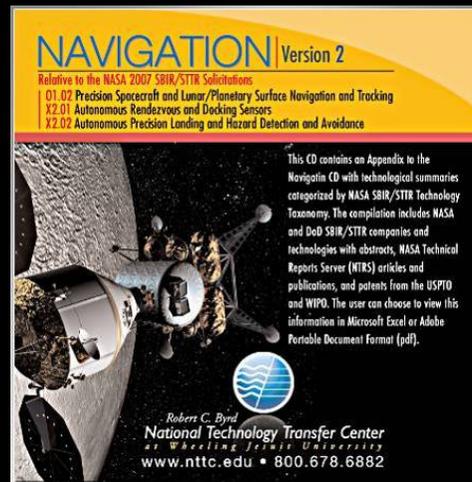
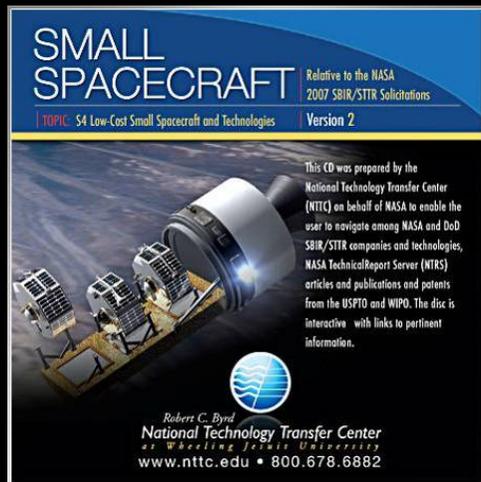
# Finding Technologies

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- **There are many technologies potentially available to address needs, and one of the challenges for connecting technologies with potential applications is the difficulty in navigating and filtering all the available data.**
  - Helping to make these connections is one of the key functions of the Technology Infusion Managers that IPP has at all ten field centers.
  - They are a great resource, and can be reached via [http://www.ipp.nasa.gov/field\\_centers.htm](http://www.ipp.nasa.gov/field_centers.htm).
- **There are also many searchable databases available to help identify technologies of interest. Some of these are summarized below:**
  - NASA TechFinder: <http://technology.nasa.gov/>
  - NASA TechBriefs: <http://www.techbriefs.com/>
  - NASA TechSource: <https://sbir.gsfc.nasa.gov/sbir/search/fundedTechSearch.jsp>
  - NASA SBIR/STTR Abstract Search : <http://sbir.gsfc.nasa.gov/SBIR/sbirabssearch.html>
  - Other databases: <http://www.ipp.nasa.gov/databases.htm>

# Finding Technologies

- IPP is working with the National Technology Transfer Center (NTTC) to develop a series of technology-specific resources for identifying available technology.
- These include relevant SBIR/STTR technology that has been funded by NASA or other agencies including DoD, and other sources of patented technology in the particular area of interest.



- The NTTC has developed several of these CDs for NASA, which IPP is making available to Mission Directorates, program/project staff at the field centers, prime contractors supporting NASA research and development activities, and other interested parties.

# Outreach & Publications

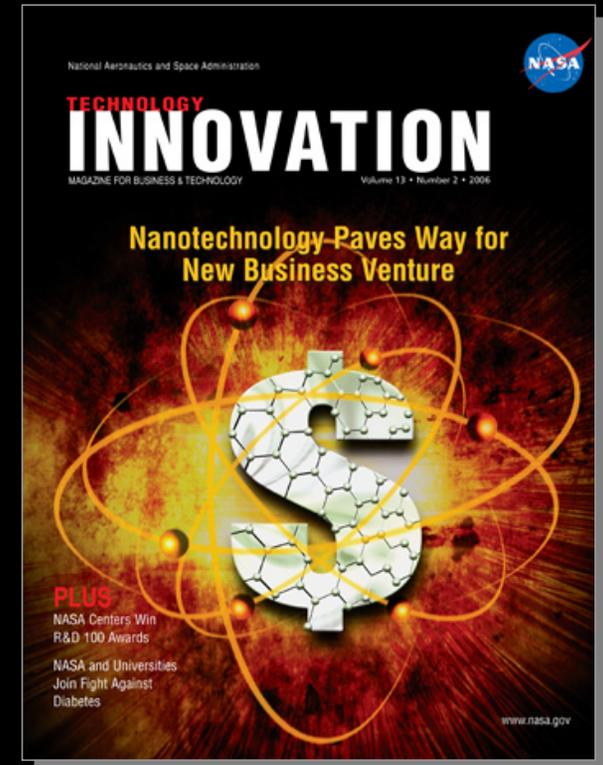


<http://www.techbriefs.com/>

Electronics & Computers  
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Materials Software  
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<http://www.sti.nasa.gov/tto/>  
[http://www.sti.nasa.gov/spinoff/  
searchrecord](http://www.sti.nasa.gov/spinoff/searchrecord)



[http://ipp.nasa.gov/innovation/  
index.html](http://ipp.nasa.gov/innovation/index.html)



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<http://www.nasa.gov/city>

**Visit us at**  
**[ipp.nasa.gov](http://ipp.nasa.gov)**

# What Can IPP Provide?

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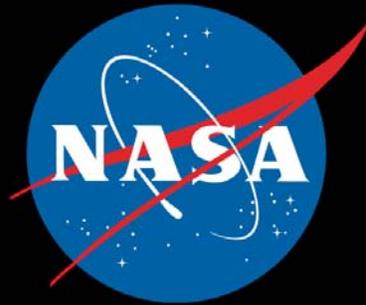
- **Funding or Leveraged Resources**
  - NASA SBIR/STTR funds several hundred small businesses
  - IPP Seed Fund seeks partnerships to leverage resources with the private sector and other Federal labs
  - Centennial Challenges offers millions in purses
- **Technology and Software**
  - Access through licensing or other partnerships
- **Access to Facilities and Test Capabilities**
  - Access to NASA's facilities through partnerships
  - Technology demonstration opportunities through FAST
- **Expertise**
  - Access to NASA's technical expertise through partnerships
- **Facilitation to enable partnerships**
- **Advocacy as a change agent to try new things**

# Interested in partnering with NASA?

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**Contact the relevant IPP Center Chief(s):**

<u>Center</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Phone</u>
ARC	Lisa Lockyer	<a href="mailto:Lisa.L.Lockyer@nasa.gov">Lisa.L.Lockyer@nasa.gov</a>	(650) 604-0149
DFRC	Gregory Poteat	<a href="mailto:Gregory.A.Poteat@nasa.gov">Gregory.A.Poteat@nasa.gov</a>	(661) 276-3872
GRC	Kathy Needham	<a href="mailto:Kathleen.K.Needham@nasa.gov">Kathleen.K.Needham@nasa.gov</a>	(216) 433-2802
GSFC	Nona Cheeks	<a href="mailto:Nona.K.Cheeks@nasa.gov">Nona.K.Cheeks@nasa.gov</a>	(301) 286-8504
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