





Space Exploration Plan

- Retire the Shuttle after Space Station assembly is completed, planned for the end of this decade
 Focus U.S. research on the Station on understanding the effects of the space environment on astronaut health
- Develop a new crew exploration vehicle to provide crew transportation for missions beyond low Earth orbit
 Return humans to the Moon as early as 2015 to enable sustained exploration of Mars and more distant destinations
- Continue robotic exploration of Mars to search for evidence of life and prepare for future human exploration
- Conduct robotic exploration across the solar system for scientific purposes and to support human exploration



A Sustained Commitment

- A long-term plan for exploration throughout the solar system
 Paced by experience, available resources, and scientific discovery

The vision I outline today is a journey, not a race, and I call on other nations to join us on this journey, in a spirit of cooperation and friendship.

-- President George W. Bush January 14, 2004













NASA

- Use the Moon to prepare for future human and robotic missions to Mars and other destinations
- Pursue scientific activities to address fundamental questions about the solar system, the universe, and our place in them
- Extend sustained human presence to the moon to enable eventual settlement
- Expand Earth's economic sphere to encompass the Moon and pursue lunar activities with direct benefits to life on Earth
- Strengthen existing and create new global partnerships
- Engage, inspire, and educate the public





- Robotic missions will be used to:
 Characterize critical environmental parameters and lunar resources
 Test technical capabilities as needed
- The ability to fly robotic missions from the outpost or from Earth will be a possible augmentation



















Scientific Context for Exploration of the Moon: Highest Priority Science Objectives NASA Test the cataclysm hypothesis by de ng ti 6 ng the urve by de l, isotopic, mineralogic) pth) of the <u>volatile</u> on of the feldspathic crust, er and lower) lobal scales. re of th ve 500-km di e the global density, composition, and time variability of the nar atmosphere before it is perturbed by ... human activity osition, and state (solid/liquid) of the <u>e</u> tory the variety, age, distribution, and origin of <u>lunar rock tyr</u> mine the size, charge, and spatial distribution of <u>rostatically transported dust grains</u> and assess their likely is on lunar exploration and lunar-based astronomy.



NASA

- Science was an integral part of LAT 2 discussions
- The Lunar Architecture provides many opportunities for science
- Future studies will continue to our productive work with NASA's architecture process and the science community:
- Refine reference payload designs, deployment and power strategies in particular -- also look more seriously at deployment of small orbiters
- Evaluate alternate sortie locations/science strategies
- Work with surface and mobility teams on mobility options with and without crew
- Help plan future workshops, e.g., Optimizing the human-robotic partnership in (1) traverses, (2) near-outpost environment and (3) when humans aren't there
- NASA HQ is forming a joint SMD-ESMD Outpost Science and Exploration Working Group (OSEWG) that will consider these and other science issues within the evolving architecture









