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The Majorana Demonstrator Project

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The Demonstrator will comprise two cryostats containing a total of 70 p-type point-contact Ge detectors. The Collaboration is acquiring 45 kg of Ge enriched to more than 86% in Ge-76. The goal is to have at least 20-kg of enriched germanium in detectors. The remaining space in the cryostats will be occupied by at least 20-kg of natural abundance Ge detectors. The two detector arrays will be operated in a common bulk passive and active shield in the Sanford Laboratory in Lead, South Dakota, with 4000 meters water equivalent overburden. The operation of a prototype cryostat with only natural detectors is scheduled to operate in early 2013. It will be followed by the first ultra-clean module, which will begin operation later in 2013. The second module is scheduled to begin operation in 2014. An overview and status report of the project will be given.

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