



# HUMAN LANDING SYSTEM

*Intro to HLS Propulsion Team*

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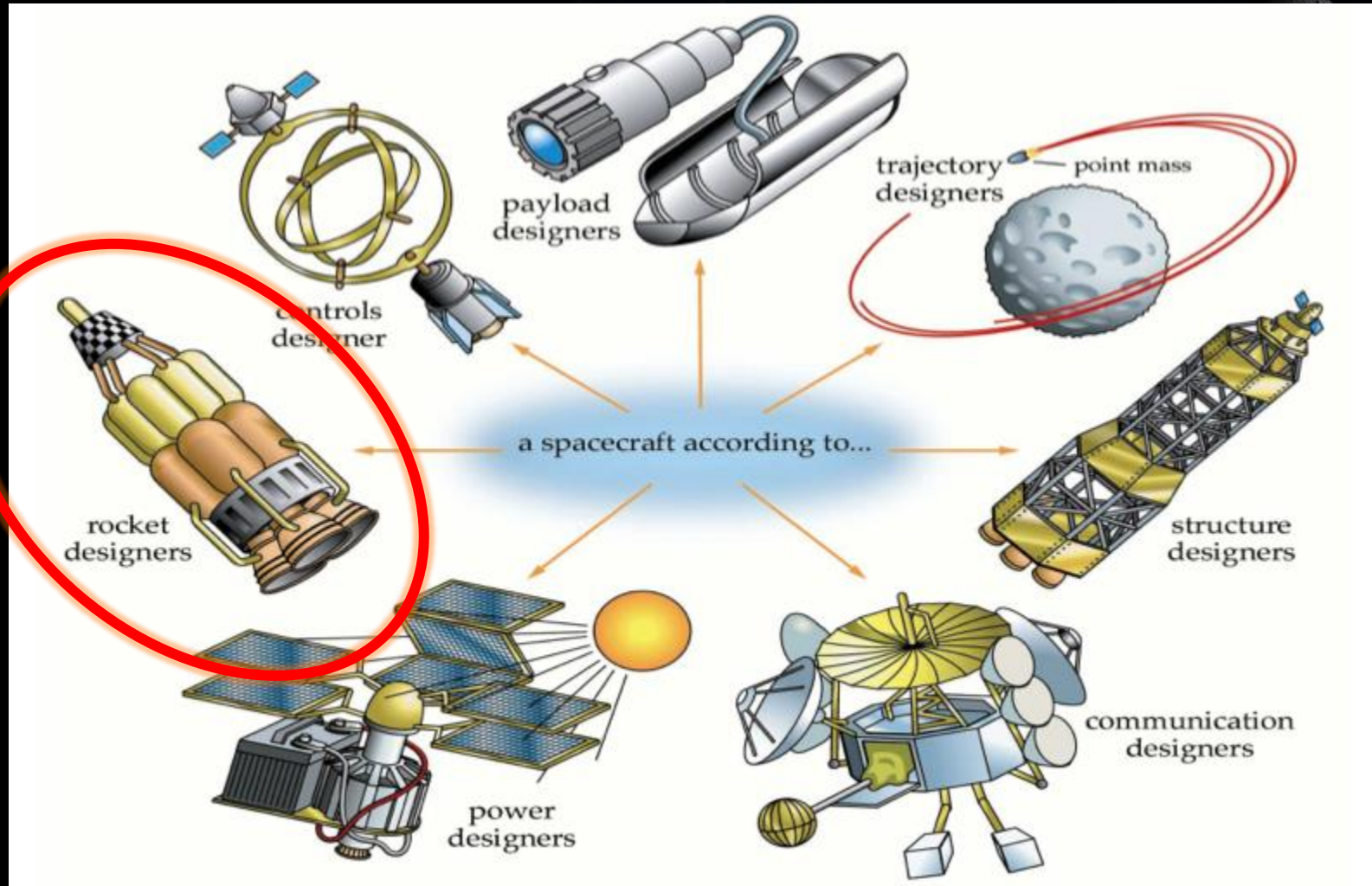
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*2025 Cryogenic Engineering Conference, Reno, NV, May 19 – 22, 2025*

# WARNING: Propulsion Biased Presentation



NASA HLS Propulsion  
Team Engineers





# **WARNING: Propulsion Biased Presentation**



Vacuum Raptor Cold Start Test – August 2023



Video Credit: SpaceX

BE-7 TCA Hotfire Test – March 2023



Video Credit: Blue Origin

**Needless to say... we have the best job in the world**

# **WARNING: Propulsion Biased Presentation**



## **However, best $\neq$ easiest — Propulsion includes...**

- Main engines (see previous slide)
  - And all the fun that goes with them (turbomachinery, combustion devices)
- Main Propulsion Systems / Cryogenic Fluid Management (CFM)
  - Including conditioning, storing, transferring, and gauging cryogenic propellants
- Reaction / Attitude Control Systems
- Gas Storage and Generation Systems
- +all the supporting lines, valves, tanks, small structures, analysis, etc.

***If it's really hot, really cold, really high pressure, spins really fast, or shoots flames out the back... it's probably Propulsion™***

# Human Landing System (HLS)



**Objective** – Return U.S. astronauts to the lunar surface for a sustained campaign of exploration and utilization

## Goals (HLS-PLAN-001)

- Create a sustainable path to rapidly and safely get humans back to the moon
- U.S. Industry-led design, development, manufacture, and operation of lunar human landing systems
- Strengthen and utilize subject matter expertise of the NASA workforce critical to developing human-rated lander capabilities



***Bottom Line: Get the moon and stay there with U.S. Industry***



# STARSHIP

## Human Landing System (HLS)

NASA is working with SpaceX to develop its Starship Human Landing System for use on:

- Artemis III - the mission that will put the next two Americans on the surface of the Moon
- Artemis IV - which meets an extended set of requirements such as docking with Gateway for crew transfer, more mass to the surface, and longer mission durations

SpaceX will perform an uncrewed demonstration mission prior to the crewed Artemis III mission.



# BLUE MOON



## Human Landing System (HLS)

NASA is working with Blue Origin to develop a human landing system for use on:

- Artemis V – meets NASA's extended set of requirements such as docking with Gateway for crew transfer, more mass to the surface, and longer mission durations

Blue Origin will perform an uncrewed demonstration mission prior to the crewed Artemis V mission.

The team's approach consists of: **Blue Origin's** Blue Moon lander and **Lockheed Martin's** Cislunar Transporter along with partners:

- **Draper**
- **Astrobotic**
- **Boeing**
- **Honeybee Robotics**







**How do we get from today...**



**... to here?**



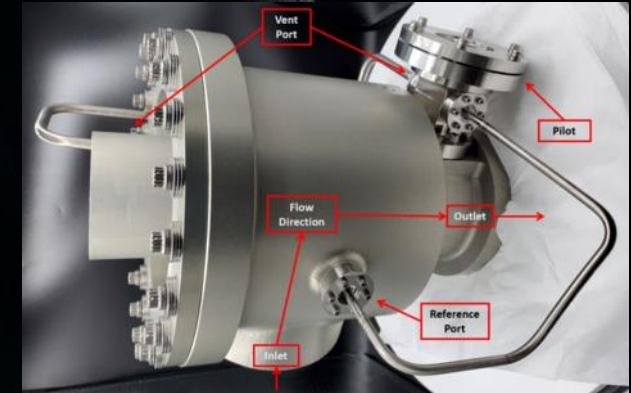
# Propulsion Industry Collaboration



*Working together to develop key technologies and analyze difficult technical challenges to ensure successful lunar exploration missions*

## Engine Systems and RCS

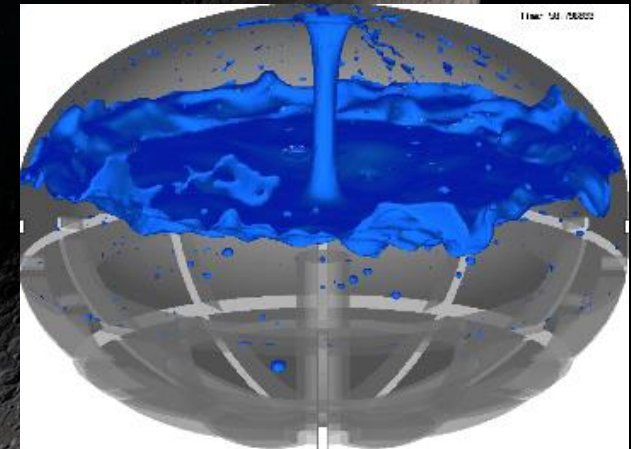
- Turbomachinery and Combustion Devices expertise sharing
- Transient and steady state engine performance modeling
- Plume Surface Interaction (PSI) lessons learned and modeling assistance
- Thrust Vector Control (TVC) verification and certification lessons learned
- Reaction Control Systems (RCS) design, development, and test lessons learned



NASA Internal Low Leakage Relief Valve (LLRV) Development Article

## Cryogenic Fluid Management and Prop Transfer

- Cryogenic valve leakage analysis and testing, and low leakage valve design
- Thermal analysis of cryogenic propulsion systems
- Lessons learned from previous CFM projects at MSFC, GRC, and KSC
- CFM modeling leveraging extensive NASA experience and expertise
- Models of propellant transfer operations
- STMD CFM Portfolio Projects – Tipping Point flight tests & cryocooler development



NASA MSFC ER42 CFD Simulation of Tank Slosh

# HLS Propulsion Insight



*Leveraging the best of NASA's propulsion and fluids technical community to understand Commercial Provider designs and processes and inform Program stakeholders*

## Starts with a great team—led by MSFC with support across NASA centers

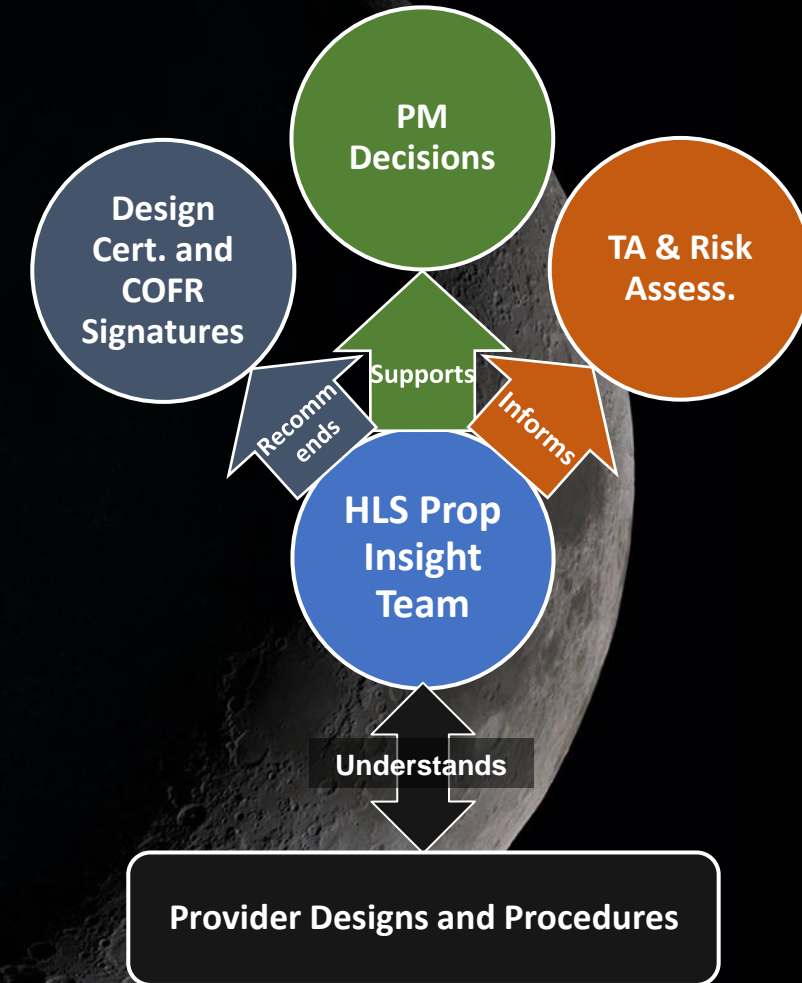
- Deeply technical and disciplined team of engineers committed to the lunar mission

## Focused insight justified by risk to understand provider designs

- Use risk-based analysis to justify deeper insight in targeted areas
- e.g., Engines, CFM

## Use the understanding to inform the Program by:

- Providing expert propulsion insight and analysis to support Program Management (PM) and Technical Authority (TA) risk assessments and real-time mission support
- Providing expert propulsion design, certification, and flight hardware reviews to support Design Certification and Certification of Flight Readiness (COFR)





## To summarize, NASA has:

- **Goals** – land on the Moon and stay
- **Partners** – U.S. industry designing and building vehicles
- **Methods** – insight and collaboration with partner operation
- **People** – deep technical bench committed to the lunar mission
- **Capabilities** – extensive manufacturing, test, and analysis

## What's next?



## Artemis I

*Uncrewed flight test*

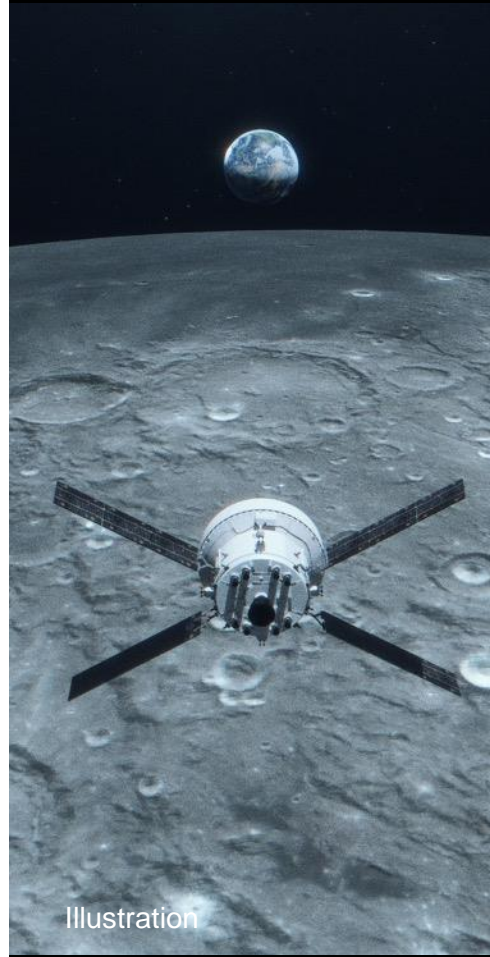
**COMPLETE**



SLS, Orion, EGS

## Artemis II

*Crewed flight test*



Illustration

SLS, Orion, EGS

## Artemis III

*Crewed surface expedition*

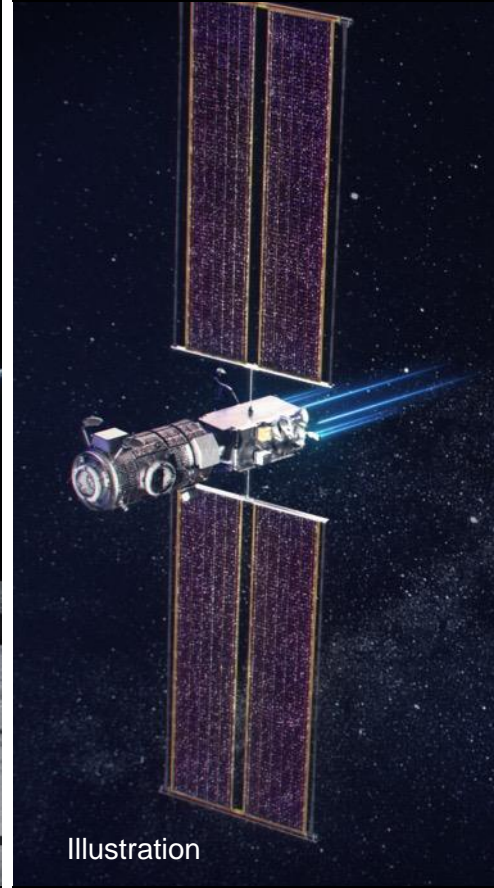


Illustration

SLS, Orion, EGS, HLS,  
EHP

## Artemis IV

*Gateway assembly,  
crewed sustaining  
lander expedition*

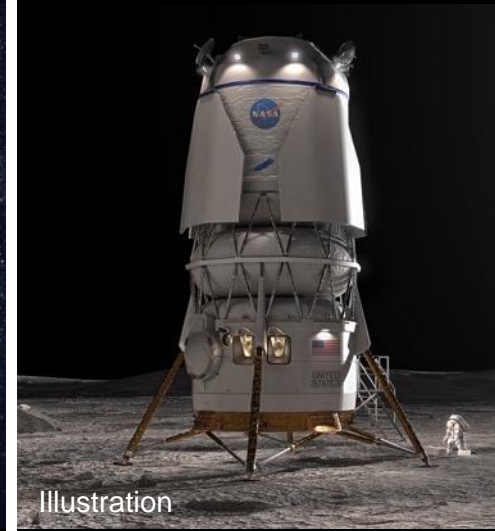


Illustration

SLS, Orion, EGS,  
HLS, EHP, Gateway  
(PPE/HALO, I-HAB)

## Artemis V

*Crewed mobile  
surface exploration,  
Gateway expansion*

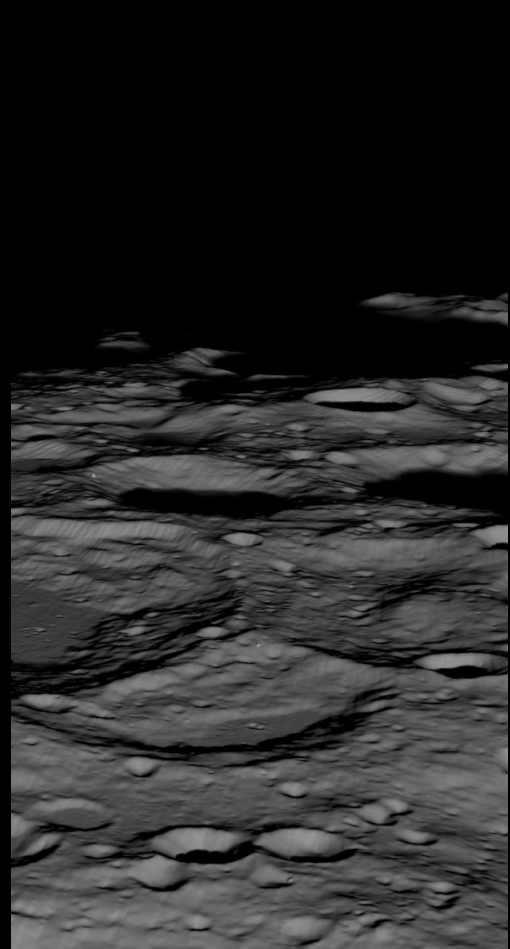


Illustration

SLS, Orion, EGS,  
HLS, EHP, LTV, Gateway  
(ESPRIT, Canadarm3)

## HLS Uncrewed Demo

*SpaceX Starship*



## Artemis III

*SpaceX Starship*



Illustration

## Artemis IV

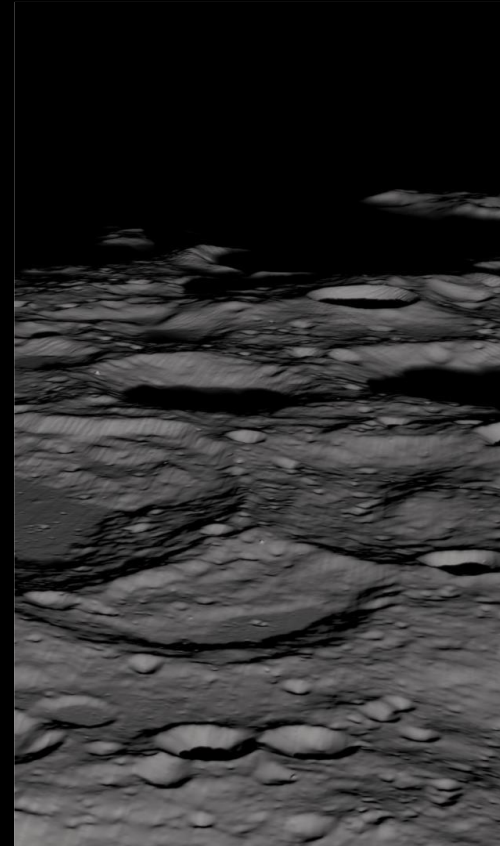
*SpaceX Starship*



Illustration

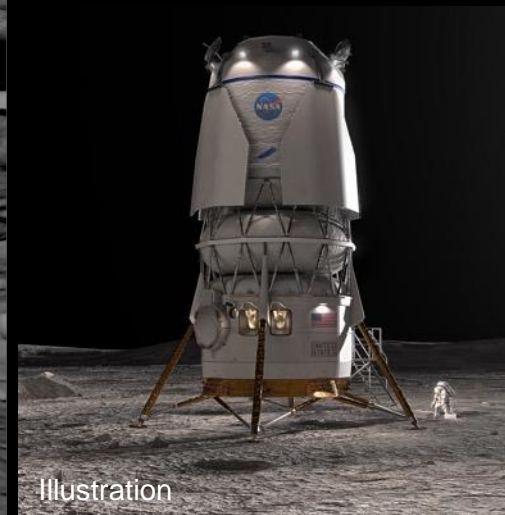
## HLS Uncrewed Demo

*Blue Origin  
Blue Moon*



## Artemis V

*Blue Origin  
Blue Moon*



Illustration



Follow the missions

@NASAARTEMIS



Questions?

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