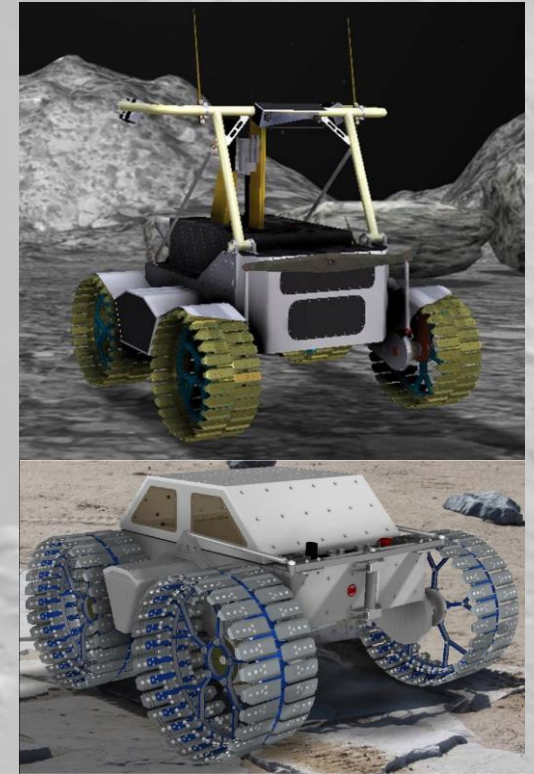


Canadian Lunar & Planetary Rover Development

Moon 2020-2030

December 14, 2015

Peter Visscher, P.Eng. – Argo/Ontario Drive & Gear Ltd.
Perry Edmundson, P.Eng. – Argo/Ontario Drive & Gear
Nadeem Ghafoor – Canadensys Aerospace Corp.
Howard Jones – Canadensys Aerospace Corp.



Ontario Drive & Gear (ODG) Space/Robotics

- **Amphibious vehicles**
- **Terrestrial UGV's**
 - Defense, research, industrial
- **Planetary rover design and manufacture**
 - Focus on mechanical, mobility, and integration
 - Six classes of planetary rover – ranging from 90 kg to 600 kg
- **Manufacturing**
 - In house gear, shaft, machining capability
- **Testing**
 - Lab testing
 - Analogue campaigns
 - Qualification testing
- **Deployment and support**
 - Multiple analogue field missions

Role on Current Rover Programs

- *Prime contractor*
- *Systems design and integration*
- *Manufacture, assembly, test*
- *Lunar wheel design*

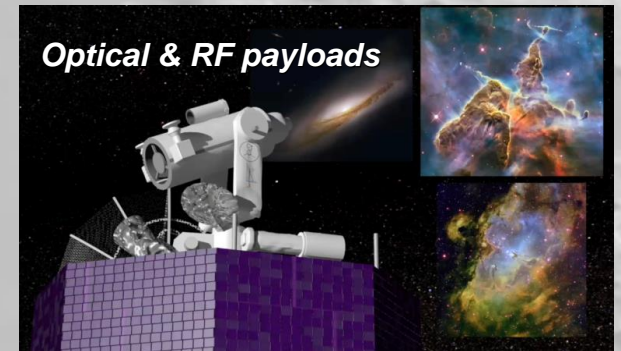


Canadensys Aerospace

- **Space systems company based in Toronto, Ontario, Canada**
 - Staff drawn from across Canadian space industry landscape with extensive flight heritage from big & small space
- **Focus on “Accessible Space”**
 - Small exploration systems & commercial space
 - Participative science & exploration
- **Enabling technologies for New Exploration**
 - Micro / Nano platforms
 - Lunar surface instruments
 - Lunar environment robustness
 - Lunar night survival
 - Thermal & Energy storage
 - Low temperature systems

Role on Current Rover Programs

- *Path-to-flight design*
- *Thermal design & analysis*
- *Lunar environmental qualification*



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Lunar Rover Development in Canada



Current Projects

- **Midsized Rover Development** (TRL-6 Drivetrain)
 - ODG-Argo (Canadensys, Bombardier Rec.)
- **Lunar Rover Night Survival**
 - Canadensys (ODG-Argo)
- **Lunar Rover GN&C**
 - MDA, NDG
- **Small Lunar Rover Development**
 - ODG-Argo (Canadensys, Bombardier Rec.)
- **Soil Hazard Detection**
 - Mission Control (ODG-Argo, Canadensys)
- **Lunar Rover Wheel**
 - ODG-Argo



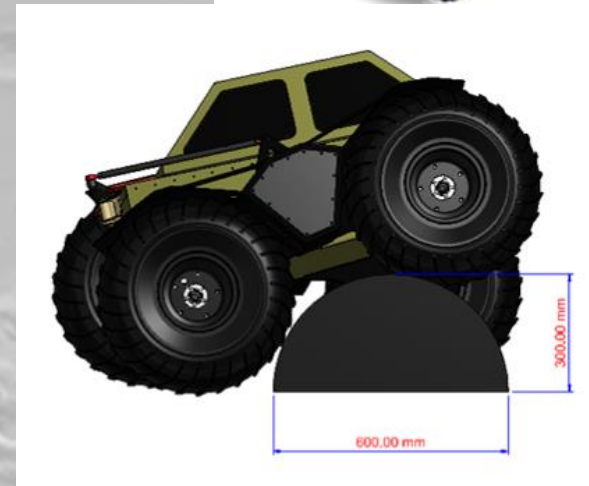
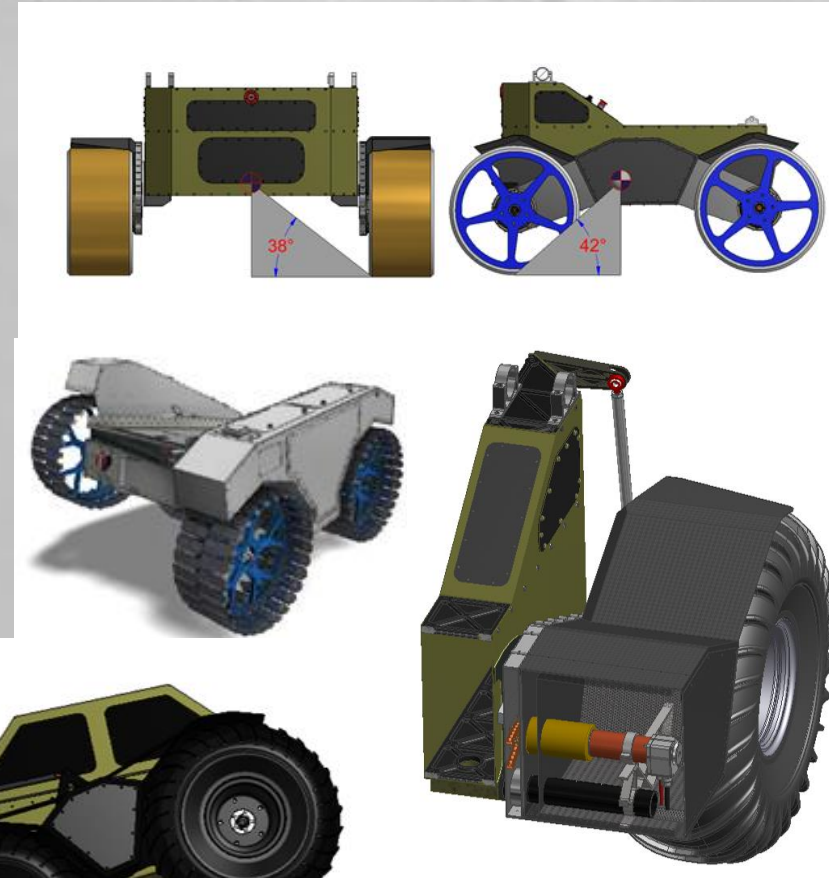
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ODG Rover Design Philosophy: K.I.S.S.

(Keep It Simple, Scientist)

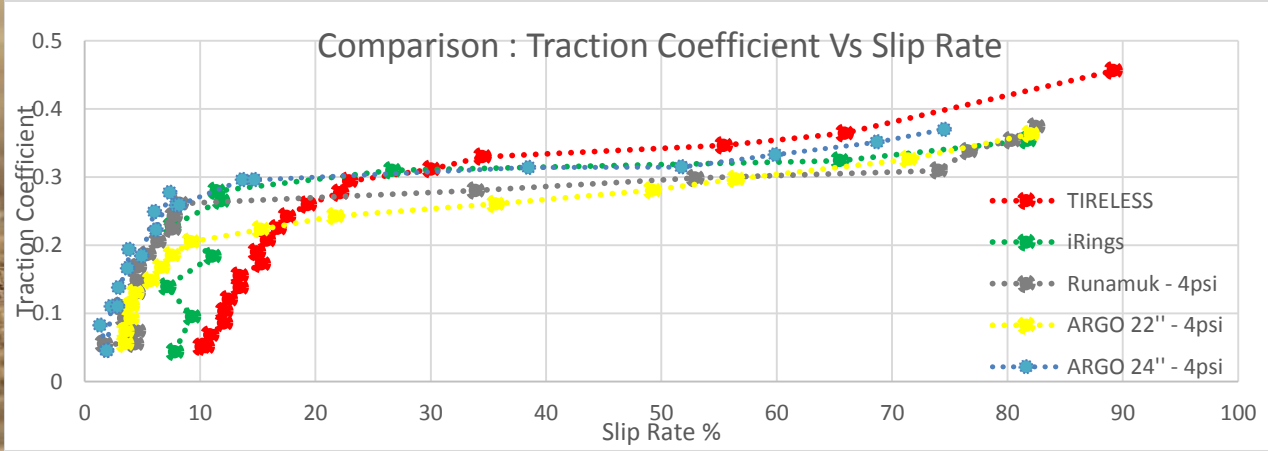
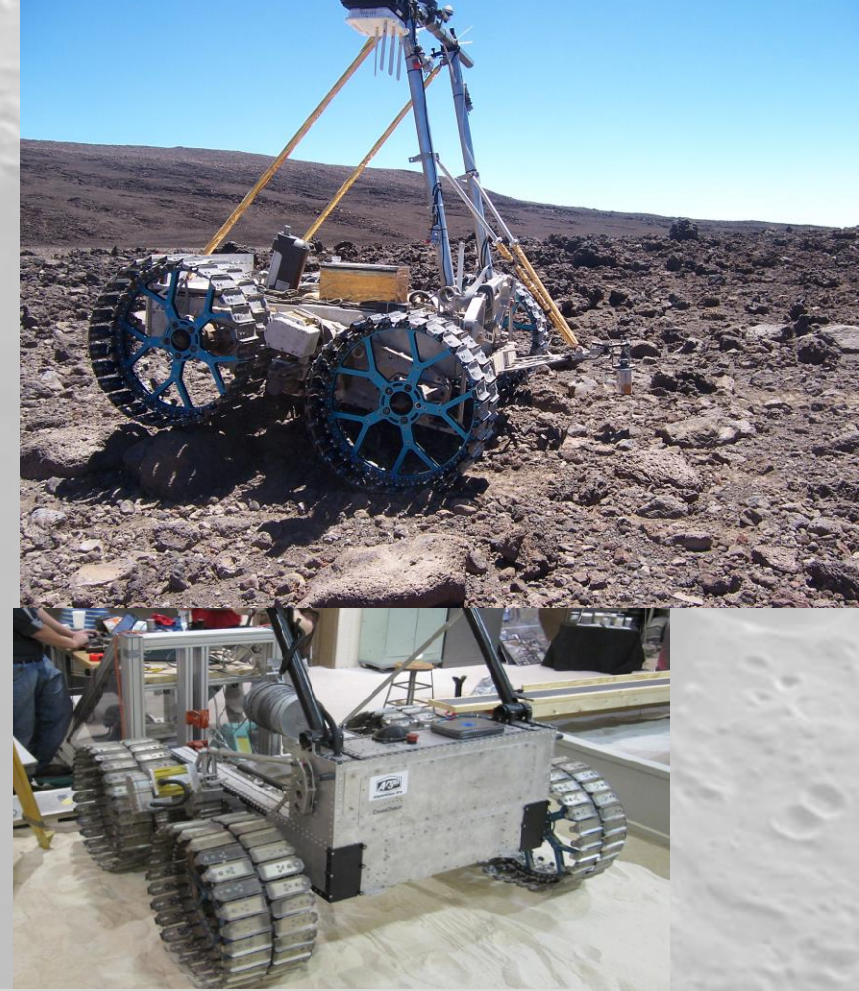
- Fewer parts
 - 2 inboard motors with chain drive vs. 12 outboard motors
 - Reduced mass, lower cost
 - Rugged, high payload ratio
- Skid steering
 - Typical for terrestrial vehicles operating with low ground pressure
 - Reduces envelope of vehicle, allows for bigger wheels
- Modular
 - Self-contained drive system
 - Accommodates multiple payloads
 - Multiple mission compatibility
- High Mobility
 - High terrainability reduces risk and reliance on navigation
 - Ability to enter PSR's



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Rover Traction Systems

- Canadian Space Agency contracts
 - Two generations of metallic tracks
 - Five generations of compliant metallic wheels
- Lab testing in GRC-1 simulant
- Over 100 km of real world testing in analogue terrain
- Scalable: ~25-100 cm

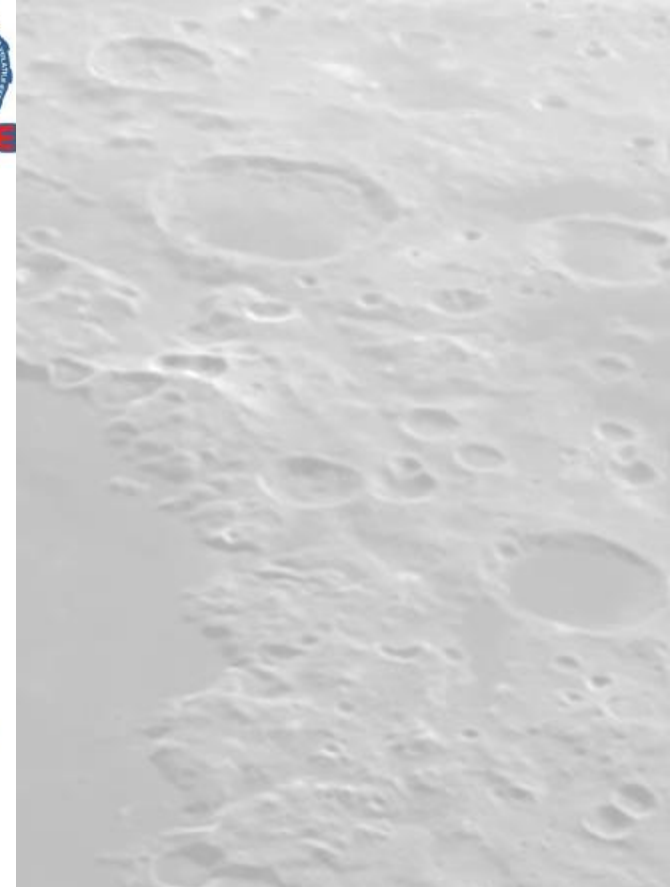


Apollo Valley Hawaii

MMAMA testing

- Juno II Rover
- Compliant wheel
- Rough terrain mobility
- Power system
- Payload integration





Nov. 2008

- RESOLVE Gen II on Scarab Rover
- Power, avionics, and ground support equipment on separate trailer



FEB. 2010

- RESOLVE Gen II+ on CSA Juno Rover
- Power, avionics, and ground support equipment on separate Juno



July 2012

- RESOLVE Gen IIIA on CSA Artemis Jr. Rover
- Everything on single rover platform



March 2016

- TRL-6 Drivetrain
- 120 kg platform mass
- 280 kg launch mass







Mauna Kea Hawaii

RESOLVE test

- Wheel
- Drive system
- Power system
- De-landing



Current Activity

Leading two CSA contracts on development of rover technology

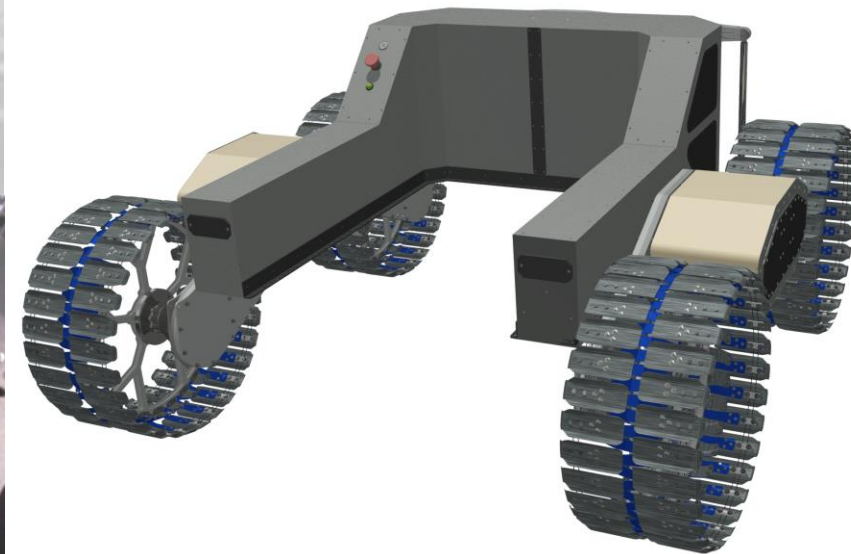
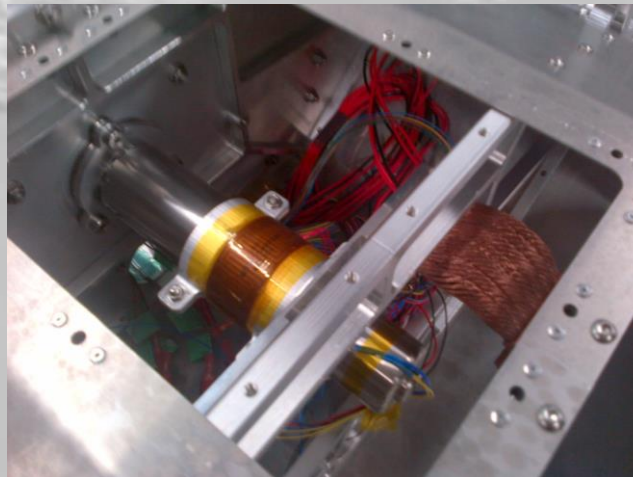
- Lunar Rover Platform and Drivetrain Prototype (LRPDP)
 - includes drivetrain to be qualified to TRL-6 in “dirty TVAC” test (simultaneous vacuum, temperature & regolith exposure) at NASA-GRC in Nov. 2015
- Next-Generation Lunar Wheel Development
- Small Planetary Rover Platform (SPRP)
- Key technologies for ISECG Roadmap



LRPDP (aka Lunar Rover Drivetrain – Vacuum And Dust Rated)

LRD-VADR

- Dimensions
 - 120 kg base mass
 - 1.6 X 1.6 meters
 - 55 cm wheels
- Modular payload interface
 - Large, central payload
 - Up to 160 kg
- High mobility
 - Enables operation in and around PSR's
 - 50 cm/s top speed
 - Obstacles up to 450mm high
 - Rocks, soft/deep regolith, slopes
- Central Motor
 - Thermally protected and controlled
 - Contamination protection
- Multi-stage non-contact dust seal
 - Minimal drag/wear
 - Eliminates dust issues at all ingress points
- Minimal complexity/mass
 - Reduced number of failure points

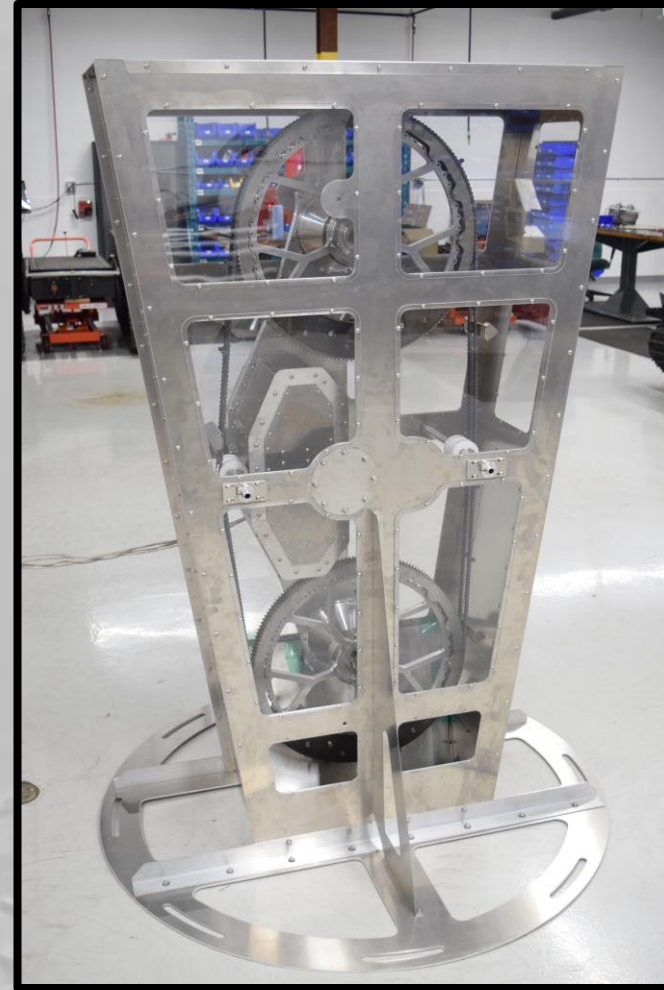


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TRL-6 Drivetrain

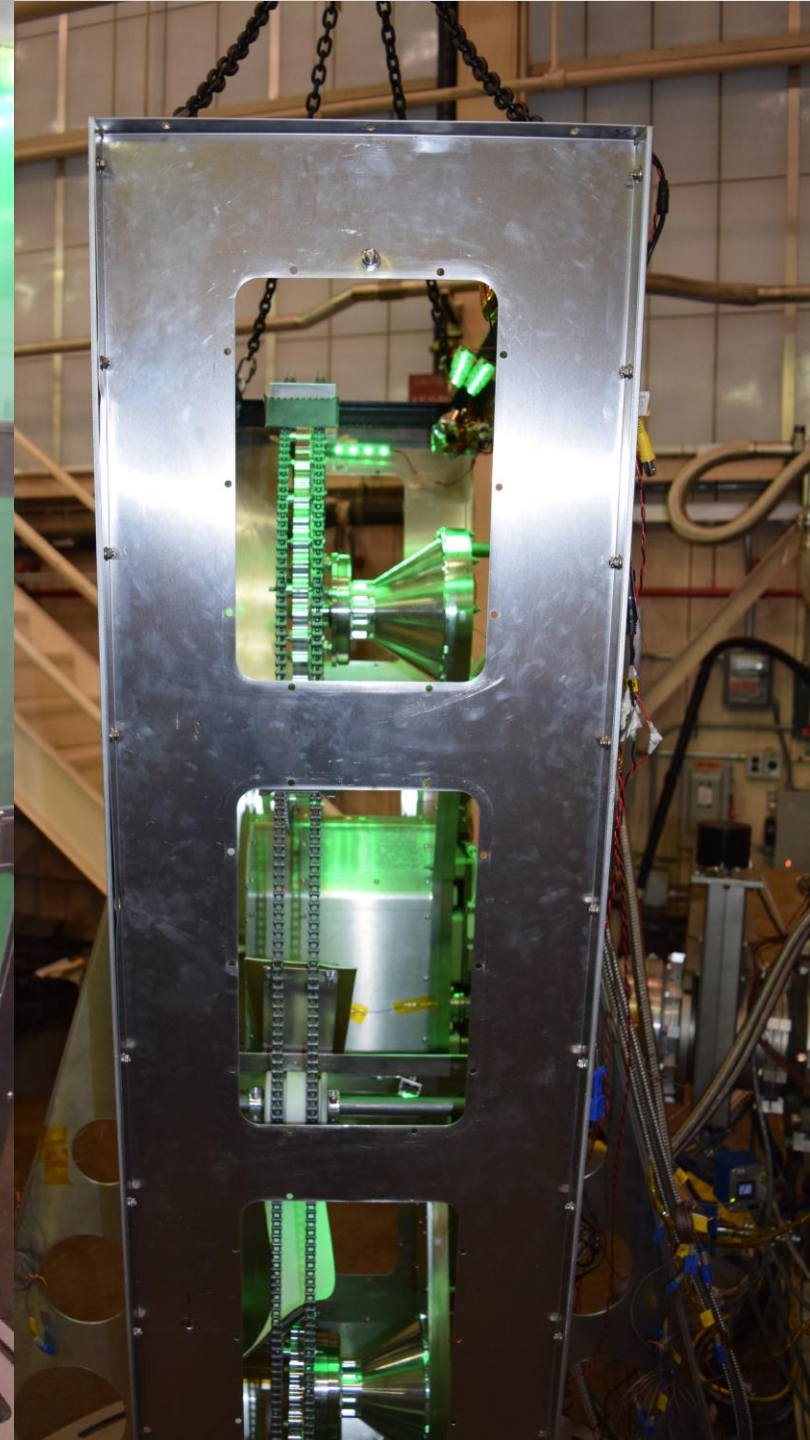
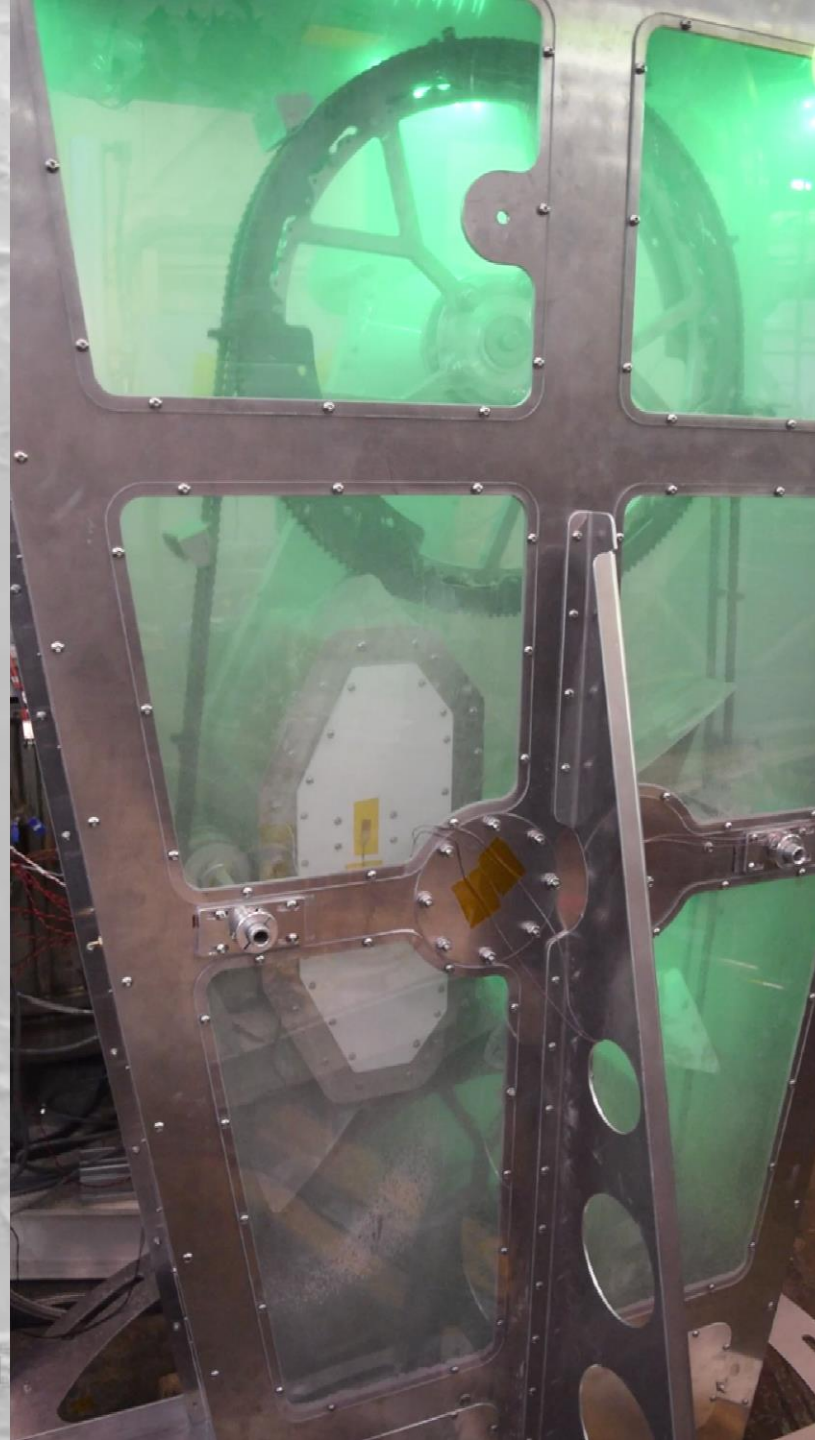
Environmental Design & Test

- TRL6 Design
 - Lunar Thermal
 - Lunar Dust
 - Radiation; Vacuum
- Drivetrain unit
 - 1 motor, 2 chains, sprockets, bearings, housing
 - Exposed to vacuum & Chenobi regolith simulant in NASA Glenn VF-13 “dirty TVAC” chamber
- Operated over temp range of -70°C to +130°C
- Exposed to cold survival temp of -180°C
- Total test time 20 days



TRL-6 Drivetrain Environmental Testing

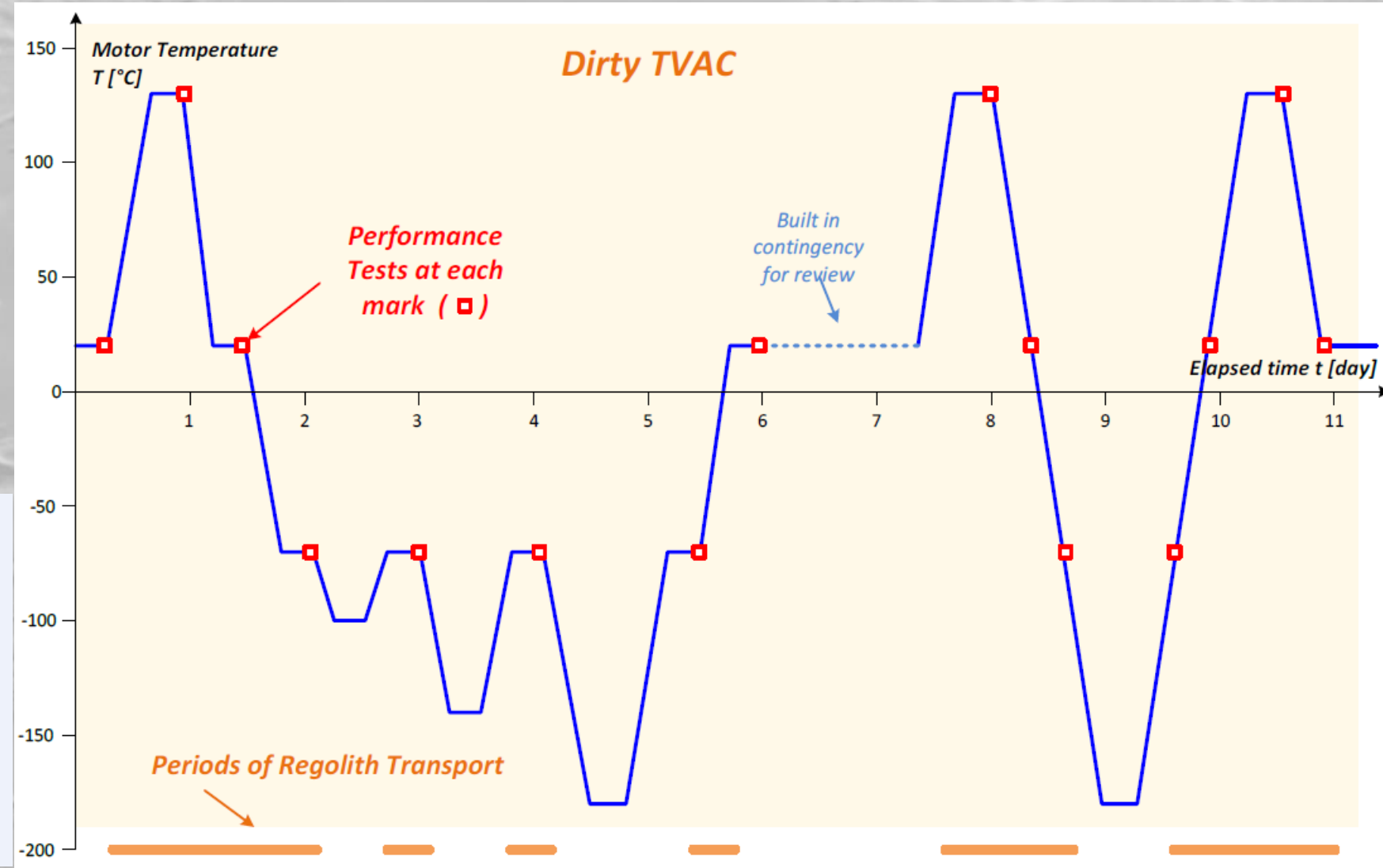
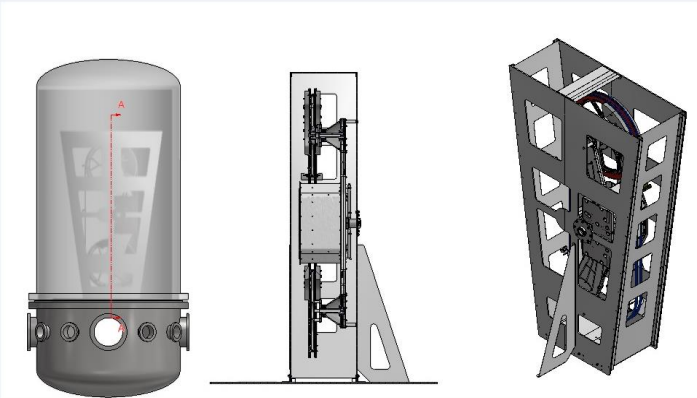
- Test rig for VF13 “dirty TVAC” test
- Based filled with Chenobi regolith simulant
- Conveyor system (external sprockets, chains and scoops) used to distribute simulant over drivetrain unit continuously



TRL-6 Drivetrain Environmental Testing

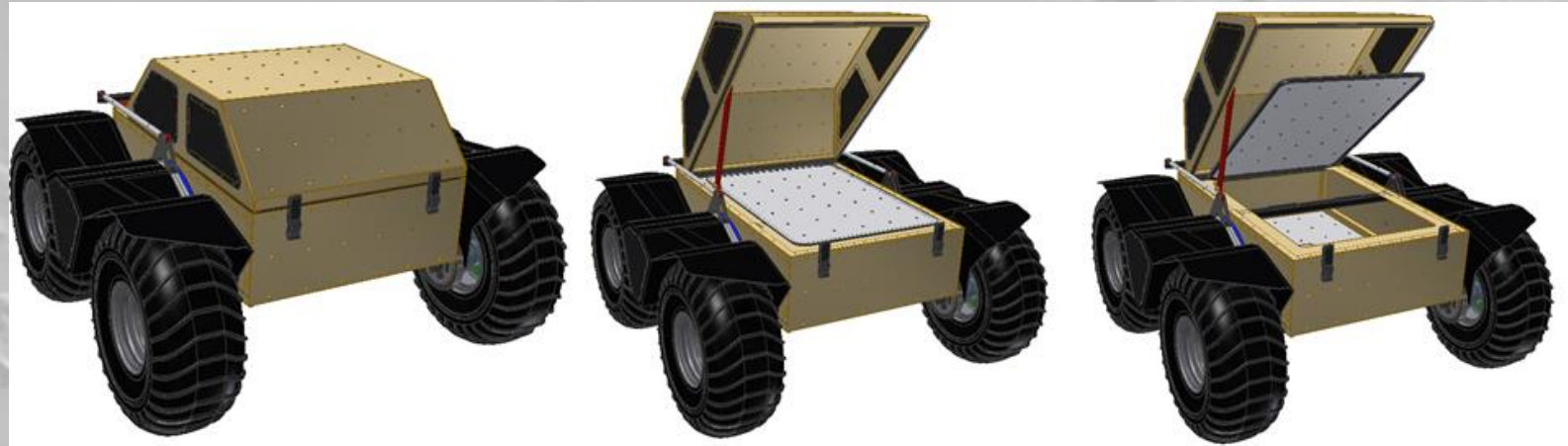
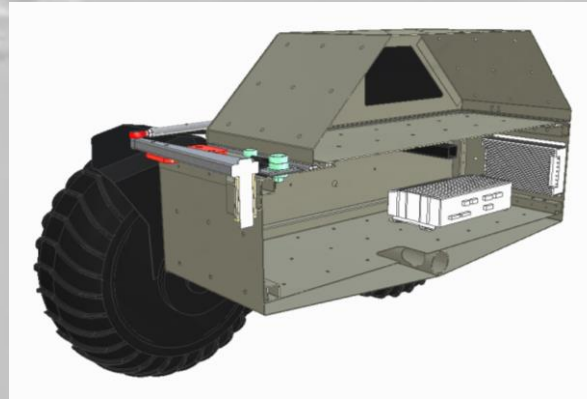
Test profile

- Reversing load using 20 kg offset masses
 - 25 degree slope equivalent
 - Severe test, overload
- Vehicle speed
 - 2.5, 5.0, 10, 40, and 50 cm/s
 - Start/stop
 - Incremental motor current recorded

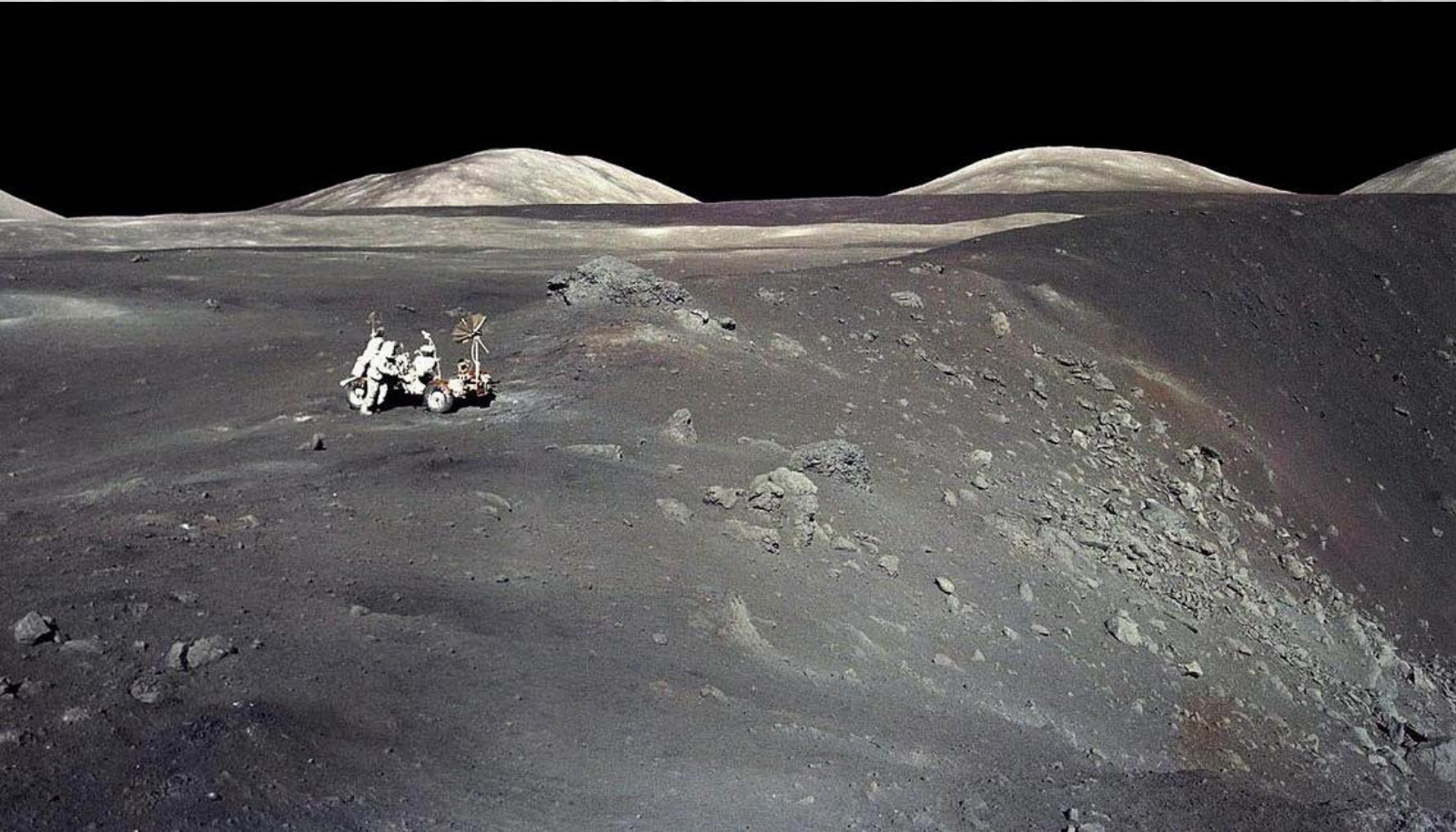


Small Lunar Rover (SPRP – Small Planetary Rover Platform)

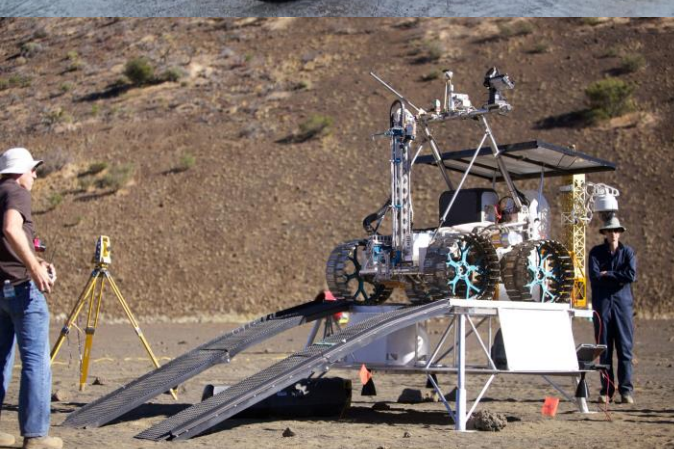
- 1.2 X 1.2 meter
- High mobility
- TRL-6 compatible drivetrain
- 90 kg base mass
- Traction options
 - 50 cm compliant metallic wheels
 - 55 cm pneumatic rubber tires
- Q1 2016 delivery
- Scaled technology from LRPDP



Future Work



- Lunar night survival – up to 14 days in shadow (less in polar regions)
 - Long-duration survival of electronics in extreme cold temps (down to -233°C)
- Design for longer mission duration (> 14 days)
- Design for greater endurance
 - total distance travelled > 25 km
 - Longer-duration wear effects of lunar regolith
- Increased mobility
 - Take your rover, and put it where the sun don't shine.



Thank You

Questions?



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