

NASA

#### TA-01 Launch Propulsion Roadmap Priorities

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DRAFT LAUNCH PROPULSION SYSTEMS ROADMAP Technology Area 01



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#### The Questions Inside the Question

## • What should Our Nation (NASA) invest in to make biggest impact and why?

• Caveat – What have We invested in, What do We build off of to keep launch to LEO and Beyond affordable

- We (the USA) should not throw this away
- How do We do this and make the biggest impact
  - Increase capability for NASA space missions?
  - Lower the cost to do Missions?
  - Tangible benefits 20 years? past 20 years?

## What We Know ?

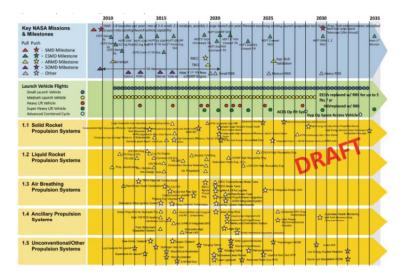


- US has been global leader in propulsion Affordability Is New Focus
- Other countries are Investing in propulsion to close the gap
- US needs to focus investments in propulsion development
  - Currently non-existent
- User desire to use off-the-shelf propulsion limits development
  - Need to create balance look for ways to create new value
- All liquid LV's provide best value and flexibility
  - Liquid boost, upper stages, and orbital stages are proven

### **Roadmap Review**

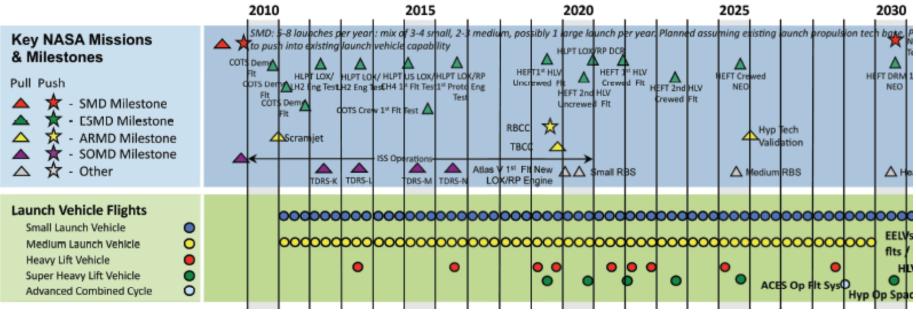


- An extensive list Introduced but limited funds available
- Considering nation's budget challenges
  - Demands prioritization based on contribution of the technologies towards a challenge goal – such as a human mission to Mars
  - Need to categorize: have-to-haves, nice-to-haves...and interesting science
- NASA (We) must define a driving mission
  - Create synergy with DoD and Commercial
- For this prioritization process, PWR evaluated the roadmaps relative to a Mars mission challenge



### **Missions Drive Technology Need**

 Need to prioritize based on what is absolutely needed to execute a the mission



- Can We do missions in 20 years more affordably with new technology investment or a mix ...
  - Some new and build off what has been invested

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#### United States Leads in Cryogenic LOX/LH2 Space Launch Capability





- US has performed 133 successful launches on LOX/LH2, even more with current expendables
  - Delta IV (all cryogenic) >10, Atlas V > 12 (U/S)
  - Proven technology for HLV per Saturn V & Shuttle
  - Reusability technology via Shuttle and DC-X
- PWR has performed the only entirely commercial development of a large booster engine (RS-68)
- We (US) have capability now leverage technology investment to create affordability
- Why do we think we want to give up leadership
- Focus technology investment on enhancing affordability

#### United States Has Demonstrated LOX/RP Engine Technologies



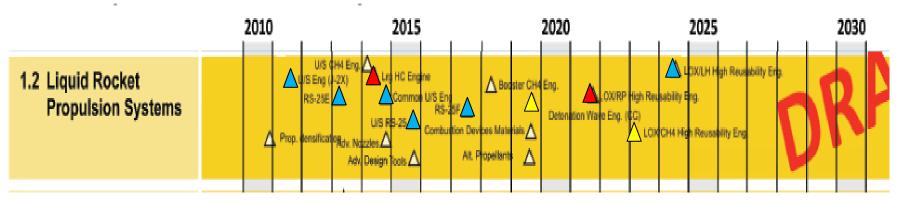


#### • USA LOX/RP technology is demonstrated

- PWR has the best experience with LOX/RP Propulsion in United States; F-1, RS-27, MA-5, RD-180
  - > 1,300 launches, > 2,700 Engines
- USA/PWR Has already demonstrated production of key technologies for large RP boosters
  - Best early USA entry is co-produced RD-180
  - Cost effective, low risk path restart/upgrade F-1A
- Affordable low technical risk priority of large LOX/RP booster engines
- Prioritize technology investment in this area on cross-cutting Items
  - Low-cost materials and processes
  - System-level configurations
    - Integrated modules to Eliminate redundant systems

#### Need to Focus Liquid Rocket Technologies on Capability at Lower Cost

- Focus on Space Launch (SLS) capabilities that will be evolving
  - Affordable high launch rate and heavy lift
- Core SLS tech need is low cost cryogenic LOX/LH2
  - Affordability focused technology enhancements building off investments made: SSME (RS-25), J-2X
- LOX/HC (high-density/thrust, low lsp) focus technologies on what the physics show – sea level boost for larger payloads
  - Strap-on boost for growth as NASA missions evolve
  - Detonation engine immature for affordability focus
  - LOX/CH4 technology for boost needs to show payoff

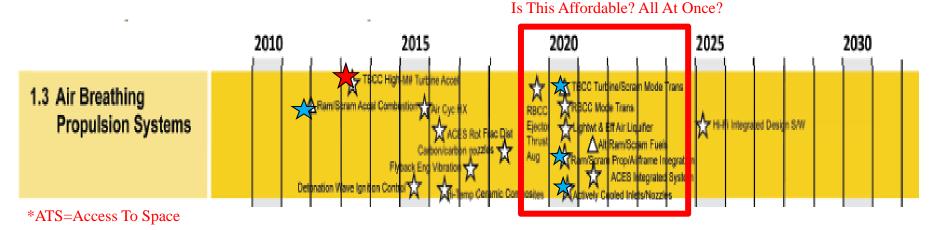


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#### Need to Focus Airbreathing ATS\* Technology Investment On Demonstration of Robustness



- Prove "vision" of robust operability for air breathing ATS
- Focus on benefit of combined cycles with off-the-shelf elements to create affordable demonstrators for architectures
  - Architectures require cost like commercial systems with military-type robustness
    - Build off military/space technology using off-the-shelf for low-speed (<M3)
    - Focus on technologies for Ram/Scram for mode transition for TBCC and RBCC
- RBCC technology can build off TBCC (e.g. Ram/Scram) & TA-01 liquid rocket (share technology)

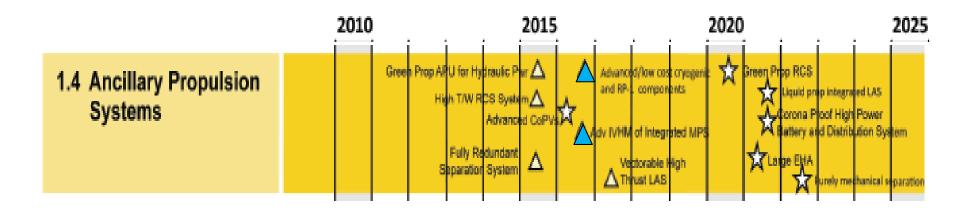


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#### Need to Focus Technology Investment On Mission-Necessary Capabilities



- "Advanced / low cost cryogenic and RP components" is a good start (can expand beyond individual component work)
- "Advanced IVHM" likely required for complex systems / large-scale / long duration missions



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# Mostly Low TRL items

- Focus efforts on a select few high-pay-off, revolutionary items
- Items should be selected based on a risk-based benefitsassessment approach
  - Quantified benefits
  - Projected development cost (to completion) & risk
- Too many high risk concepts to "peanut-butter" the funding would prohibit meaning progress on many vs. fully evaluating best candidates



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# Summary



- NASA Roadmap Is Comprehensive, Now We Need to Extract the Technologies that Provide More Affordable Capability for Science and Human missions
- Considering NASA's (and the Nation's) budget challenges prioritization must be based on the contribution of the technologies towards accomplishing a significant goal – such as a Human Mission to Mars – A "Visionary Goal" – Not A Waypoint
  - NASA has to define this type of mission
- Focus should be on leveraging historical NASA investments to enable a reliable SLS and In-space Systems – with low development risk (and hence low cost risk)
- Focus on affordability enhancement technologies
  - Work Cross-cutting Affordability Technologies NOW
- Provide a focus level of funding for longer-term capabilities
  - Prioritize towards some future mission