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Author: Dr. Sandra Haeuplik-Meusburger
Vienna University of Technology, Austria, haeuplik@hb2.tuwien.ac.at

Prof. Olga Bannova
University of Houston, United States, obannova@central.uh.edu

EARLY LUNAR BASE DESIGN – FROM SKETCH TO THE FIRST MOON LANDING

Abstract

This paper will trace the early ideas of lunar architecture prepared by the US and Russian program. Starting with an historical overview of achievements, it will highlight specific engineering, architectural and design elements, illustrated with images and drawings. Some of them will be described in more detail, showing the design and decision making process from the first sketch to its implementation. One example of the great engineering and management capabilities is the development and inclusion of the deployable lunar roving vehicle (LRV). In addition the paper will include personal statements from astronauts and other people involved along the process.