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LUNAR SURFACE INNOVATION CONSORTIUM: TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT FOR THE LUNAR SURFACE

Abstract

The Lunar Surface Innovation Consortium (LSIC) is a global alliance of government agencies, industry, nonprofit organizations, and academia with a vested interest in establishing a sustained presence on the Moon. The LSIC is designed to harness the creativity, energy, and resources of the world to help NASA and keep the United States and our partners at the forefront of lunar exploration.

The Lunar Surface Innovation Consortium (LSIC) facilitates communication between commercial, academic, government, and nonprofit sectors to advance lunar technology development. Our mission is to identify lunar surface technology needs and assess the readiness of relative systems and components, make recommendations for a cohesive, executable strategy for development and deployment of the technologies required for successful lunar surface exploration, and provide a central resource for gathering information, analytical integration of lunar surface technology demonstration interfaces, and sharing of results.

The LSIC was organized in 2019, shortly after the establishment of NASA's Lunar Surface Innovation Initiative (LSII), an effort to catalyze the development of technology that will enable future robotic and human exploration of the Moon. LSIC provides a forum for NASA to communicate technological requirements, needs, and opportunities to the community, and for the community to share existing capabilities and identify critical gaps in need of investment.

LSIC includes participants from all 50 US states and territories and over 60 countries worldwide. Members can contribute and stay informed through focus groups and workshops, biannual LSIC meetings, NASA Space Technology challenges and technology development opportunities, LSIC's mailing list, and the LSIC newsletter.

This presentation will cover several recent LSIC efforts and upcoming opportunities for involvement, including thematic workshops enabling commercial on-ramps, discussion of coordination across stakeholders, educational materials for new entrants into the lunar ecosystem ("Lunar Engineering 101"), and opportunities for international participation in LSIC.