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KEYNOTE: INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIVE GROUND STATIONS SUPPORT IN THE MOON-TO-MARS ERA

Abstract

The global lunar exploration will ramp up to include numerous flight assets that require simultaneous Direct-With-Earth communications, as outlined in several proposed system architectures. NASA's ground networks will not be sufficient to meet the demand for support especially when crewed missions also require redundancy for human safety. NASA has been exploring collaboration with many partner space agencies with current or planned ground stations towards providing a global network to achieve the common exploration and scientific objectives in the Moon-to-Mars era.