

## Beacon: a Unified Communications Architecture

January 12, 2001

TE/Pat Duffin

# Background

- Our space communications architecture has evolved into distinct systems



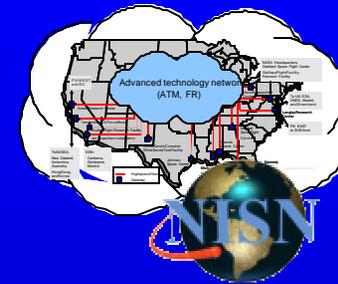
SN



GN



DSN



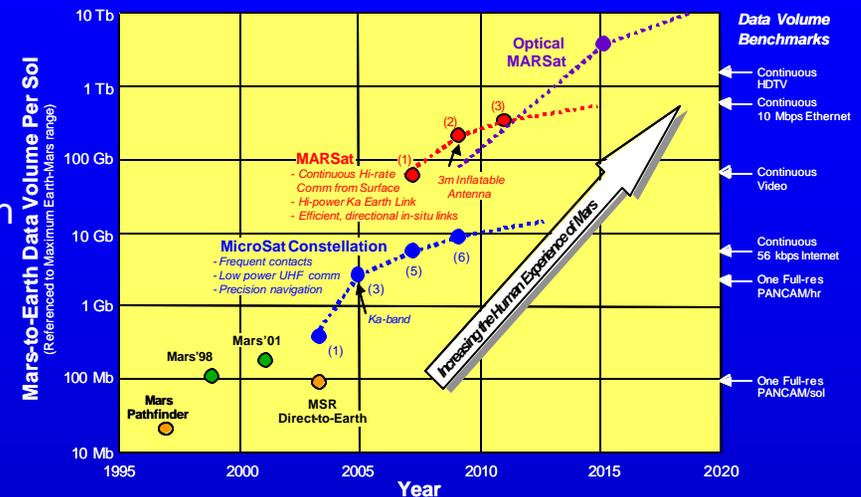
WAN

- **Currently, the agency's communication infrastructure is aging with no unified architecture direction**
  - 70 meter replacement study
  - Mars armada capacity needs (3 year aperture development life cycle)
  - TDRS Follow-on (7 to 9 year development life cycle)
  - GN Commercialization Integration
  - Multiple Ka-band initiatives
  - Lack of unified architecture
- **New strategies are emerging for near-Earth and deep space exploration**
  - Gradually build toward sustained robotic with eventual human presence, further and further distant from Earth
  - Concurrent expansion of space communication capability is required
  - Formation flying, constellations, and cooperative missions are requiring a more internet like approach

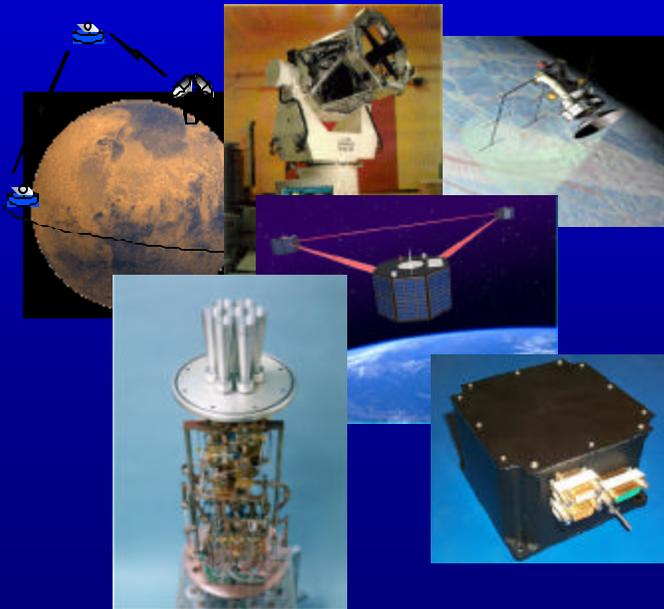
It is SOMO's role to provide NASA's future communications infrastructure

# Drivers For Communication Architecture Unification

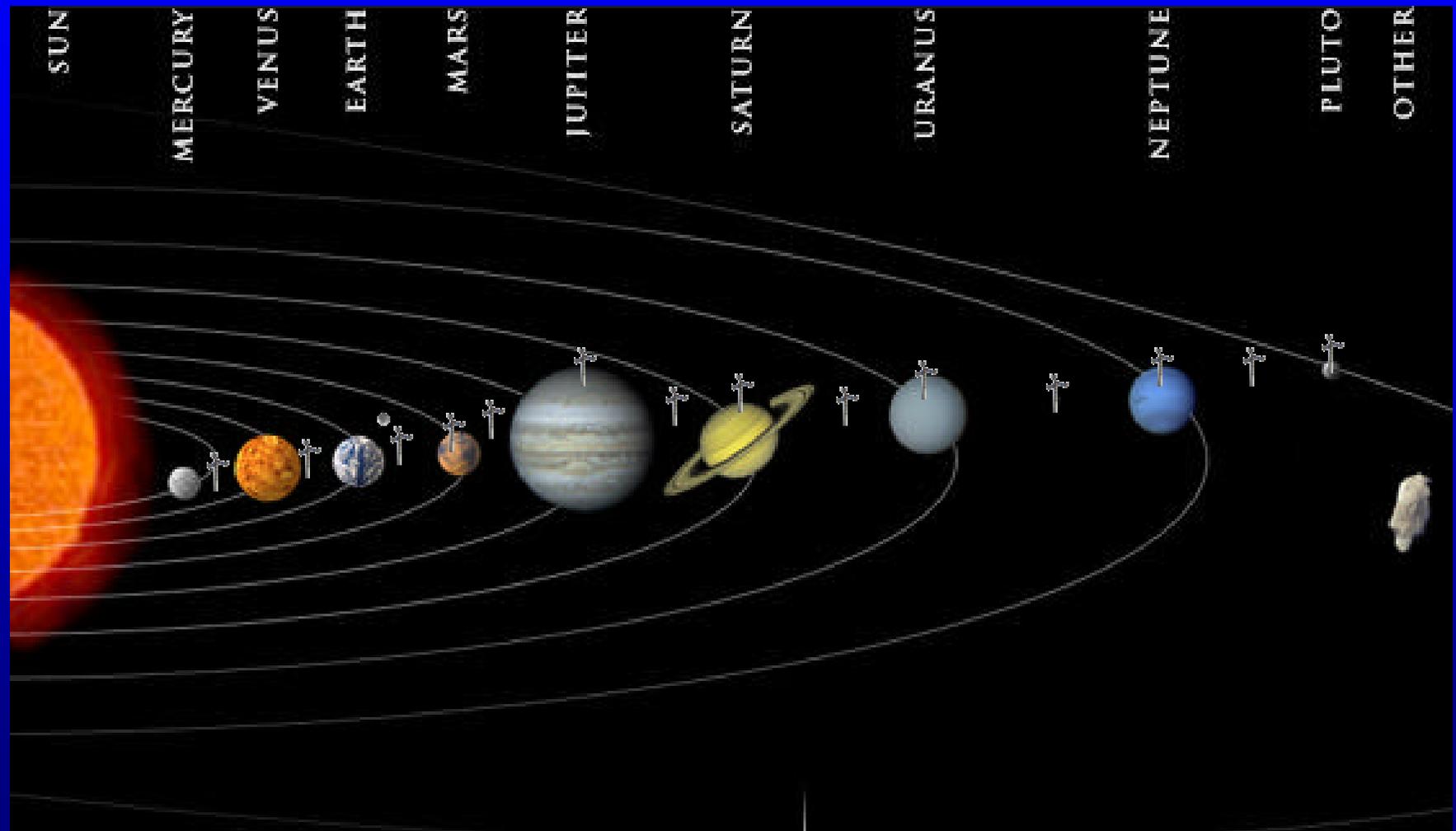
- **More communication capacity is needed**
  - Higher data rate
  - Contention for resources with ability to view high activity regions of space
  - Continuous connectivity for human presence
  - Continued support for legacy missions



- **New Technology for communication applications are under development**
  - Higher frequencies
  - Optical communication
  - Relay and navigation systems
  - Constellations and Formation Flying
- **Communication needs are currently a bi-product of mission design**
  - Space Science missions envision “tag-along” communication components (S and X-bands)
  - Human Exploration missions envision using communication components “left behind” by the Code S science missions (S and X-bands)
  - Earth Science mission focus on communications which are oriented towards earth orbit services and direct to earth relays



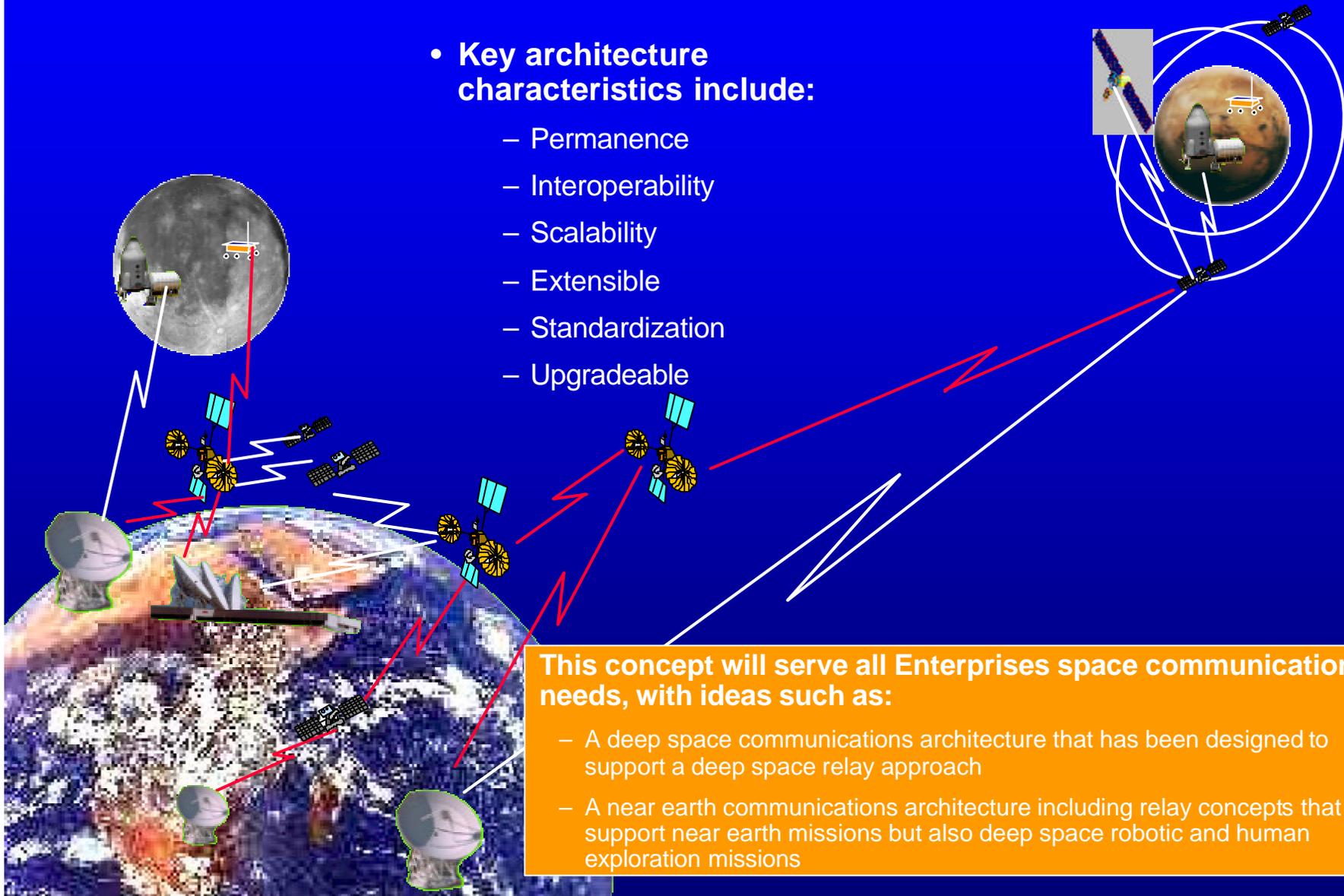
# Beacon Vision



# A Unified Communications Architecture Concept – Key Characteristics

- **Key architecture characteristics include:**

- Permanence
- Interoperability
- Scalability
- Extensible
- Standardization
- Upgradeable

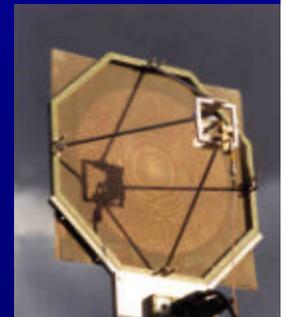
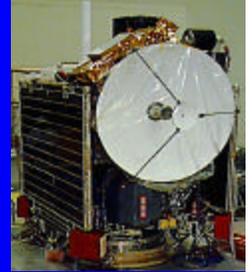
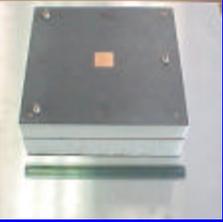


**This concept will serve all Enterprises space communications needs, with ideas such as:**

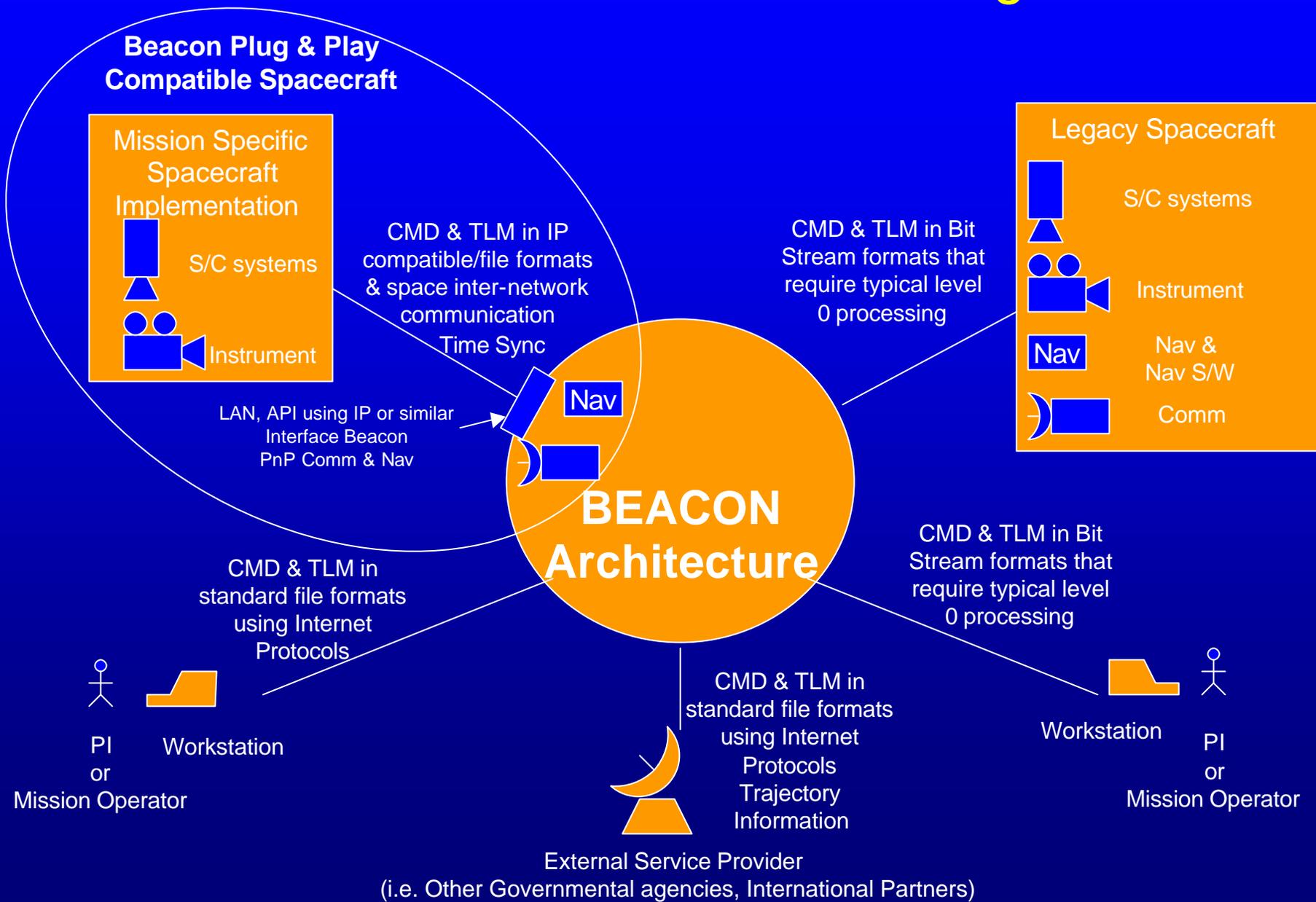
- A deep space communications architecture that has been designed to support a deep space relay approach
- A near earth communications architecture including relay concepts that can support near earth missions but also deep space robotic and human exploration missions

# Scope

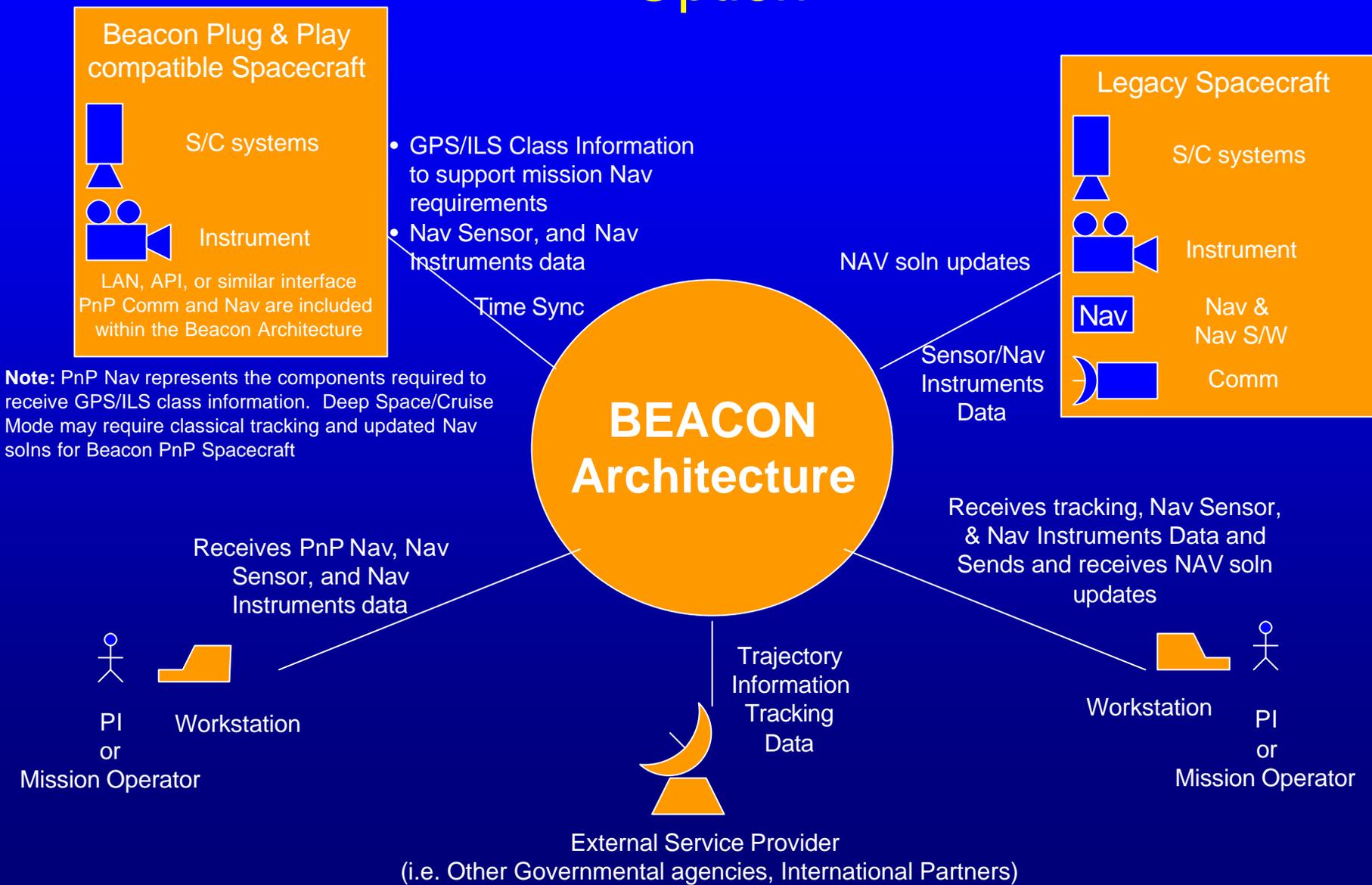
- Beacon will integrate the Enterprise communication requirements
  - Covers SN, GN, DSN evolution towards a unified space communications architecture that meets future enterprise needs
  - Integrates Space Architecture with evolving ground IT standards
  - Includes Upgrades, Technology, Standards, Commercialization, Spectrum, and Development activities to realize the unified architecture
  - Encompasses robotic and human programs
  - Addresses ELO/ETO, L1, L2, lunar, asteroid, and planetary destinations
  - Incorporates commercial modules as available
- Includes Spacecraft communications and navigation components along with Infrastructure
  - Plug and Play communication and navigation modules
  - Product Line approach for communication modules
    - Inflatable antennas
    - Reconfigurable radio technology
    - Low cost, power, and weight spacecraft communication components
    - Optical communications
    - etc
- Ultimately supports human presence on Moon/Mars



# Communications Context Diagram

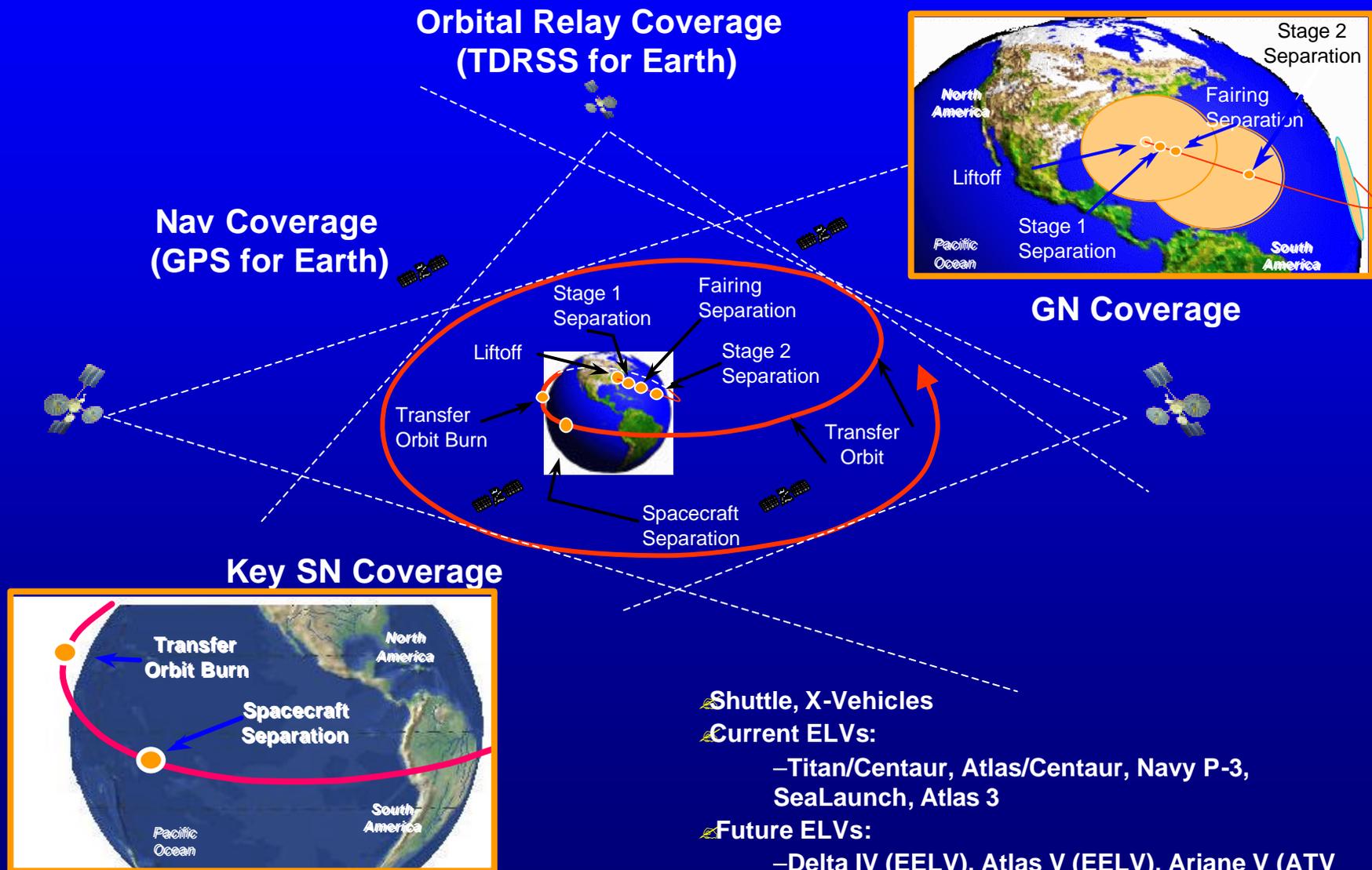


# Navigation Context Diagram – NAV Support Option



**Note:** PnP Nav represents the components required to receive GPS/ILS class information. Deep Space/Cruise Mode may require classical tracking and updated Nav solns for Beacon PnP Spacecraft

# Support to Launch Vehicles (Earth Architecture with Migration to Mars)



Shuttle, X-Vehicles

Current ELVs:

- Titan/Centaur, Atlas/Centaur, Navy P-3, SeaLaunch, Atlas 3

Future ELVs:

- Delta IV (EELV), Atlas V (EELV), Ariane V (ATV missions), H-IIA, Kistler Aerospace (Reusable)

# Beacon Products

- A unified data services communication and navigation architecture
  - Requirements
  - Architecture
  - Ops Concepts
  - Upgrades/Technology requirements
  - Obsolescence Replacement
  - Standards
  - Spectrum
  - Risk Management
- Roadmaps that contain the logical steps for the projects required to implement this vision
- Program Operating Plan and FY Ops Plan Products
  - FY02 Funding Levels are already set – Potential work plan changes
  - Decision Packages to start required near-term activities
  - Follow-on lower level architecture studies
  - Position SOMO to support capital investment proposals

## Beacon Status

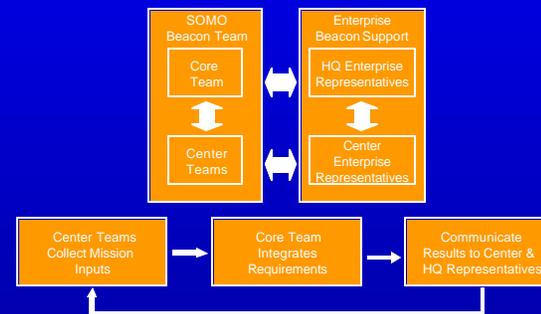
- A Kick-off meeting was conducted November 8 & 9 at the Johnson Space Center
  - Participation by GRC (5), GSFC (4), JPL (6), JSC(19), KSC (3), MSFC (3)
    - Included JSC Exploration Office and Engineering Directorate support
  - Kick-off meeting addressed the following:
    1. Beacon: A Unified Communications Architecture Vision
    2. Enterprise Future Needs
    3. Potential Architectural Components
    4. Process/Study Team Structure

The kick-off meeting established a unified Agency-Wide Team that is dedicated and contains the skills and experience to develop the Beacon Architecture

# Beacon Status/Results

- Enterprise participation and support is key to Beacon success (requested in Joe Rothenberg letter)
  - Code S and M representatives have been provided
- The Beacon Team, with working level Enterprise representatives, developed the Time Phased Agency Communication and Navigation Needs

- December Team meeting held to review draft needs document
- Included JSC Exploration Office and Engineering Directorate support



- The Beacon Team progress at the 1/9/01 – 1/12/01 meeting
  - Identified a set of architecture options
  - Established the approach to evaluate the options
  - Carnegie Mellon University supported the effort with their Architecture Analysis expertise (support will continue)
  - Time Phased Agency Needs document ready for Enterprise review
- POP 2001 guidelines will include trade study proposals with industry and academia

## Beacon Core Team

- ARC
  - Ken Freeman
- GRC
  - Sina Javidi
  - Richard Kunath
- GSFC
  - Badri Younes
  - Al Levine
- JPL
  - Jay Breidenthal
  - Peter Shames
- JSC
  - Bill Teasdale
  - Keith Williams
- KSC
  - Chuck Brown
- MSFC
  - Bessie H. Whitaker

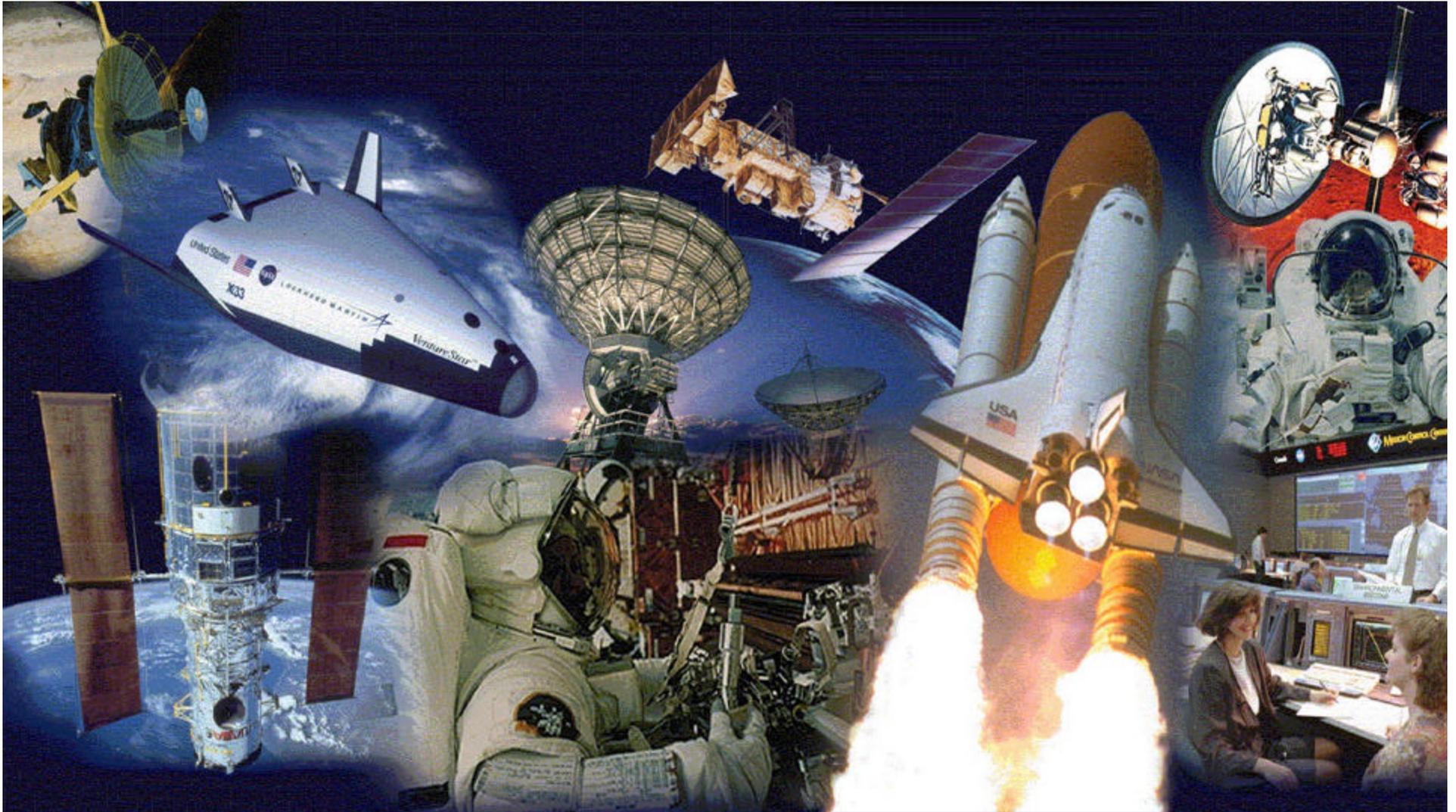
# Scope of the Beacon Mission Model

Target Location	Number of Missions/Vehicles				
	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
LEO		14/24	12/32	12/31	10/27
Human LEO	2/2	2/2	2/2	2/2	2/2
HEO	10	2/9	4/63	5/110	4/140
L1	2	1	1	1	1
L2	0	0	4/7	2/5	7
Lunar			1/3		
ETO	0	3/6	3/5	3/9	2/6
Mars	2	6	6	6 2/3HEDs	6 2/3 HEDS
Comets & Asteroids	3	5	1	1	1
Near-Sun	0	0	2	2/5	1/4
Inner Planets	0	1	6	0	0
Outer Planets	3	1	1	3	3
Outer Heliosphere	2	2	2	3	3

Note: Interagency information is not included and will be added at a later date.

# Schedule

Task Name	November	December	January	February	March	April	Ma
<b>Beacon Architecture</b>							
Beacon Kickoff	8 11/09						
Space Operations Council		◆ 11/21					
Time Phased Agency Communication and Navig			◆ 12/15				
Beacon Architecture Proposal					◇ 03/02		
Red Team Review Complete						◇ 03/16	
Final Beacon Architecture Recommendation							◇ 04/20



## Beacon: a Unified Communications Architecture

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# Space Internet Beacon Scope

The SOMO Beacon Architecture plans to provide Internet-like functionality in space.

The Beacon architecture team, as a multi-center team with responsibility for establishing this space communications and navigation architecture, will take responsibility for

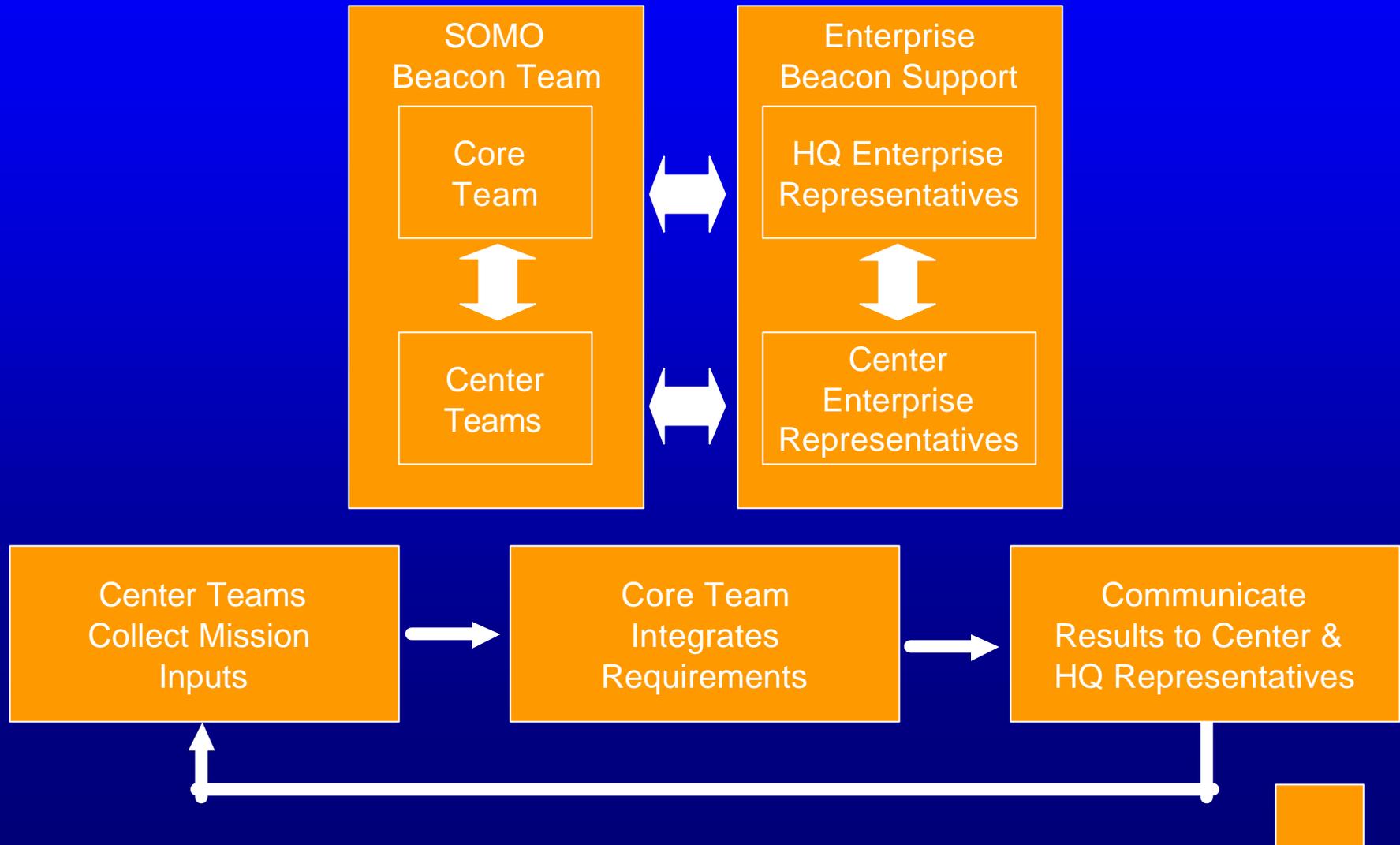
- coordinating with the relevant parties working to define an integrated approach to providing Internet in space functionality.

These parties include:

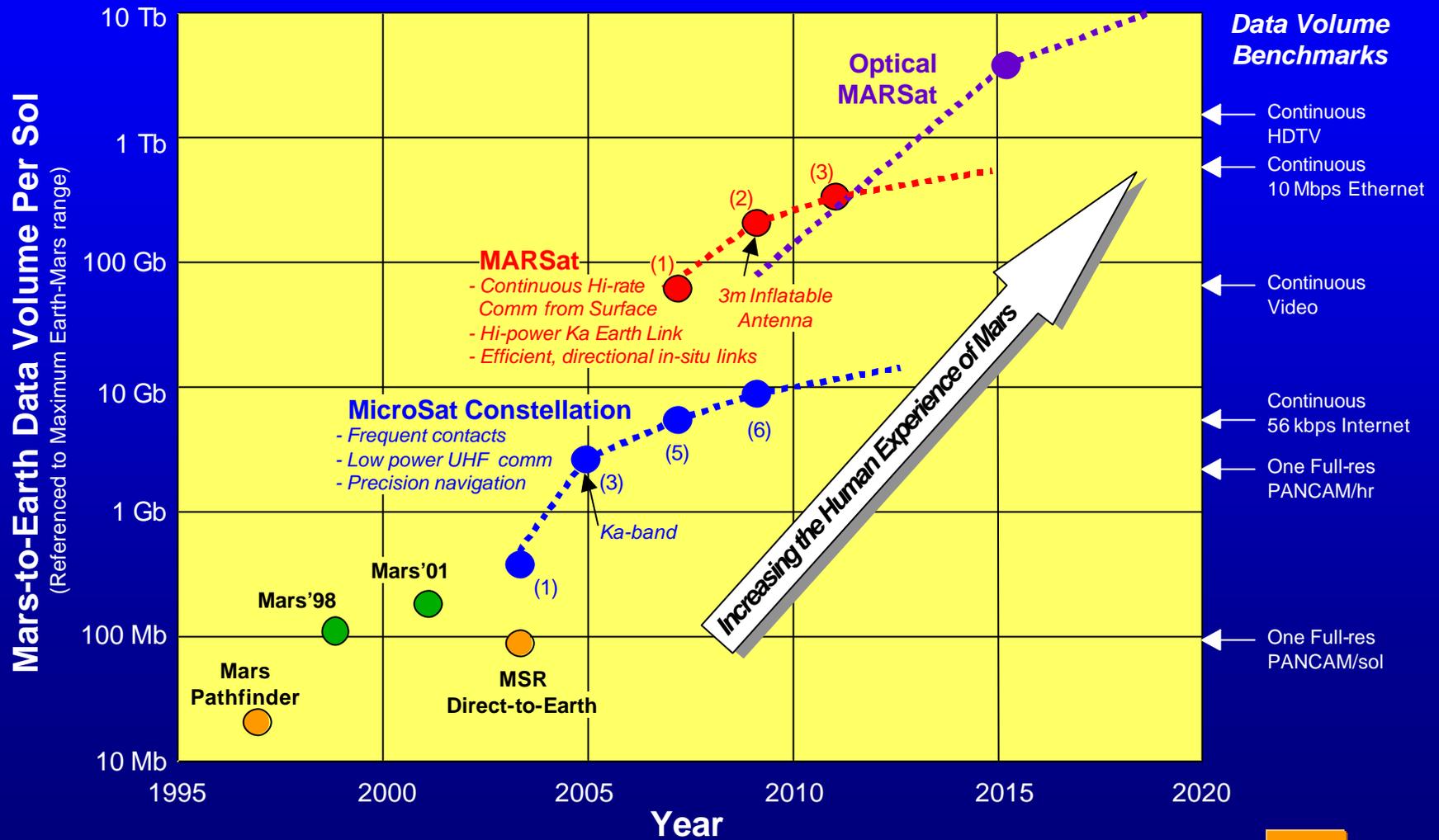
- the Internet Research Task Force (IRTF) research group for Interplanetary Networking (IPNRG),
- groups within the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), and
- with research and technology groups at the NASA centers.

The resulting architectural specification is expected to guide future SOMO investments in research, standards, and technology.

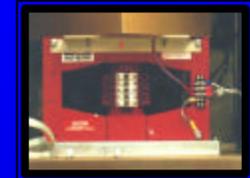
# Time Phased Agency Communication and Navigation Needs Development - Organizational Relationships & Process



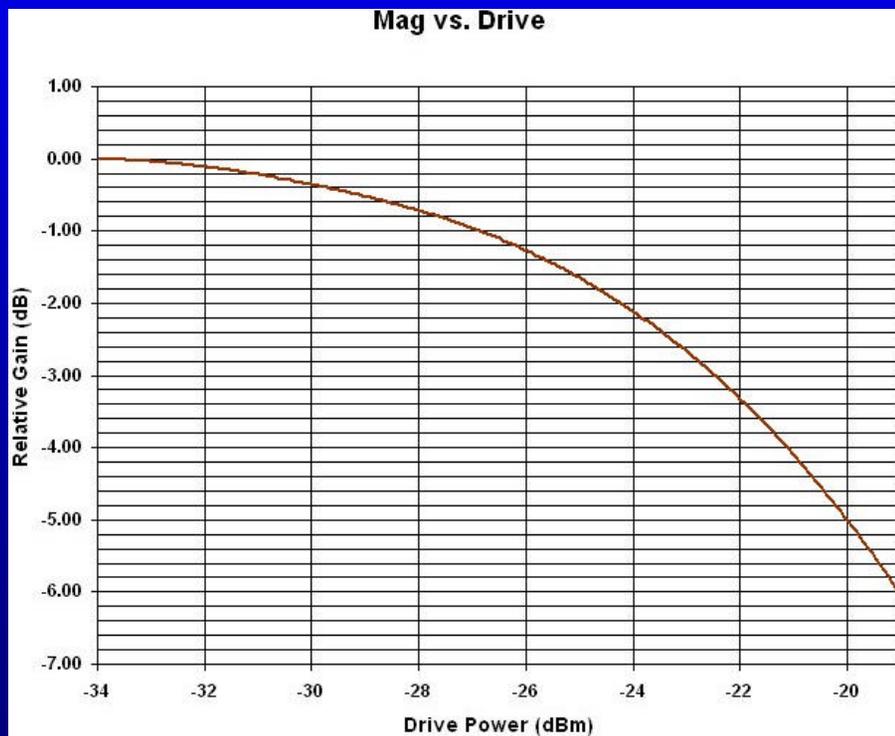
# Mars Network Evolving Capability



# Single Aperture Uplink Transmitter Studies



- Characterized non-linearity of DSN 20 kW X-Band Transmitter.
  - Data can be applied to any 5 cavity Klystron Amplifier.
  - Data is being used to develop an input linearizer (procured linearizer)

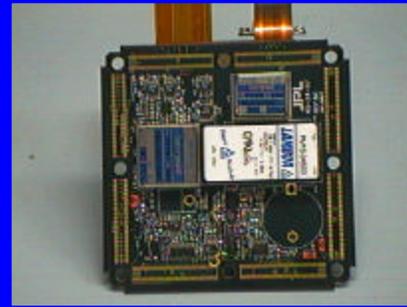


# Navigation Technology Overview

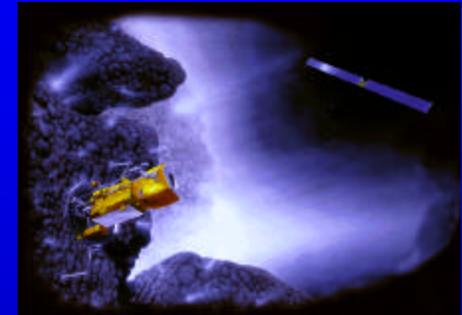
- **This Work Area develops and demonstrates new tracking and navigation technologies needed for planetary exploration.**

- **Products**

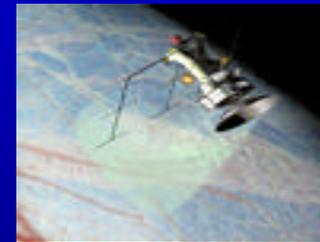
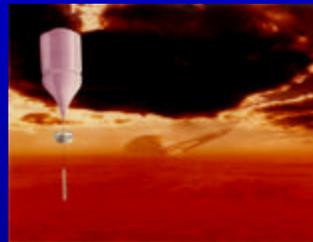
- New concepts, roadmaps, architectures for tracking/navigation technology development
- Prototype software and algorithms
- New tracking sensors, prototypes, and technology testbeds
- Proof of concept for new navigation approaches in new mission environments
- System-level feasibility demonstrations
- Customers/users
  - Projects: ST-3, TPF, ST-5, Mars, Europa, Lisa, comet and asteroid missions
  - Navigation System Services; Next Generation Navigation Software Implementation; MDS



*Tracking and Navigation Sensors*



*Small-Body Navigation*



*Autonomous, Integrated GN&C: Cruise, Aerocapture, Proximity Link, Precision Landing, In Situ Mission Phases*

# Wind Effects on Array Feed Compensation System (AFCS) Combining/Tracking Performance

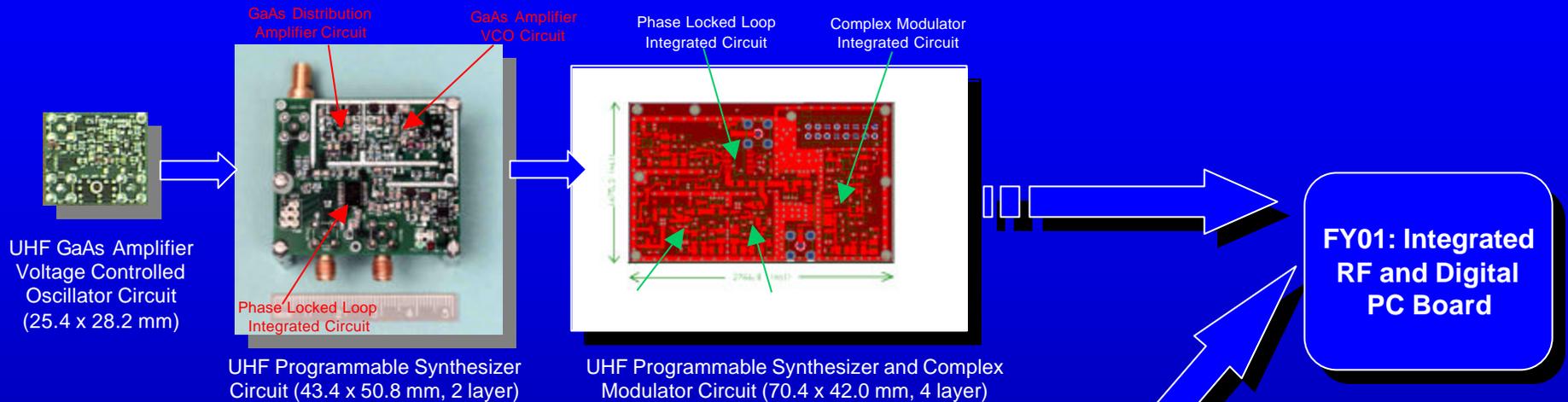
- Re-examined the AFCS data taken in Jan-Feb, 1999 at DSS-14, and devised techniques for locating regions of wind-induced antenna defocusing and mispointing in the recorded data
- Selected “good” Deep Space1 Ka-band tracks for detailed analysis & obtained archived weather data for DSS-14 and incorporated it into AFCS data-base
- Three candidate power-measurement techniques were examined:
  - Spectral analysis of signal power in each AFCS channel
  - Cross-correlation of signal power between central and outer channels
  - Expansion of array signal power into “physically meaningful” coefficients
- The “Coefficients” technique was selected as the most promising rapid-analysis tool.



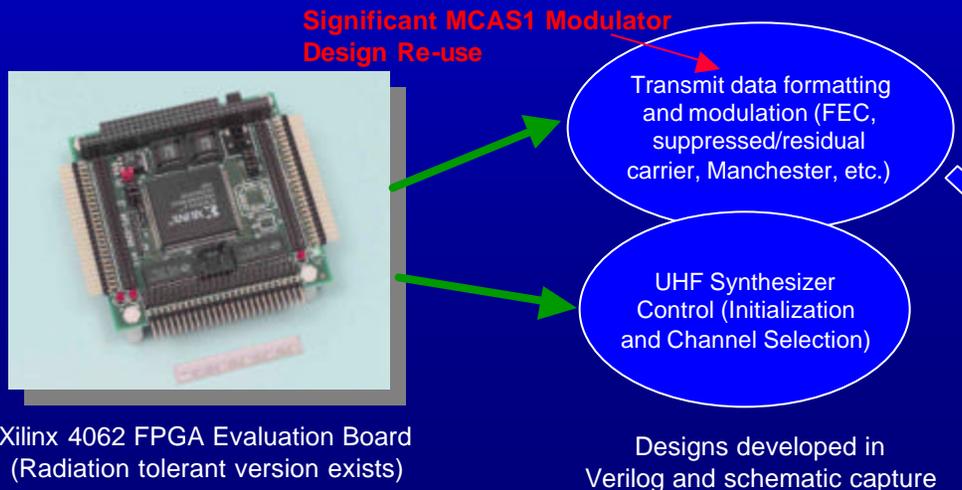
**7 Element Array Feed  
with 7 Ka-band Low Noise  
HEMT Amplifiers**

# Micropower Transceiver

## Transmitter Prototype Development: Evolution towards Microtransceiver design goals



### FY00 RF Subsystem Development



- #### Hardware Design Methodology
- RF and analog components selected for radiation tolerance (GaAs process and screened parts)
  - Utilize re-programmable digital electronics to allow future tailoring of hardware to specific mission needs
  - Develop RF and digital subsystems in parallel during FY00 and merge in FY01

### FY00 Digital Circuit Design Development

# Autonomous Spacecraft Navigation Receiver

- **Upgraded orbit determination models and estimation capabilities of RTG (Real-Time GIPSY) to better support in-orbit operation**
  - Previous uses had been primarily in near-Earth applications (ground and airborne tests)
- **Implemented RTG on PowerPC (used in GPS receivers and in future transceivers)**
- **Implemented onboard maneuver software under ROGUE/GPS operating system**
- **Worked with NASA HQ to plan for GPS flight demos in 2001/2002 with low-Earth constellation consisting of SAC-C, Terra, Landsat-7, and EO-1**

## STRV-1C microGPS Experiment

- **Completed integration and test at STRV-1C spacecraft**
  - Collaborative effort with U.S. BMDO and U.K. Defence Evaluation and Research Agency (DERA)
  - Goal is to demonstrate in space flight dual-frequency microGPS technology needed for nano-satellites
  - Currently awaiting Oct 31 2000 STRV-1C launch
- **Ported observable extraction code and RTG to operational platform (G4 Linux)**
- **Verified that original SNOE microGPS instrument is still tracking and functioning properly after 2-1/2 years in space**



# Optical Communication

## Work Area Overview of Current Activities

### Ground station development for optical channel



1-m telescope system for Optical Communications Telescope Laboratory (OCTL)

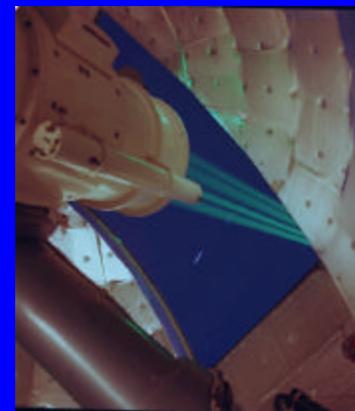


Atmospheric Visibility Monitoring (AVM)

### System level demos for technology validation



Optical Comm Demonstrator (OCD) performance validation



Multi-beam beacon development

### Systems Analysis & Development

#### - Optoelectronic detector receiver development

- Develop optical detectors and low noise electronics for receiving weak communications signals transmitted from space

#### - Large Aperture Studies

- Determine requirements, and cost of photon bucket required for collecting faint optical signals transmitted from space

#### - Optical Channel Capacity Studies

- Establish optical channel capacity, its parametric sensitivity

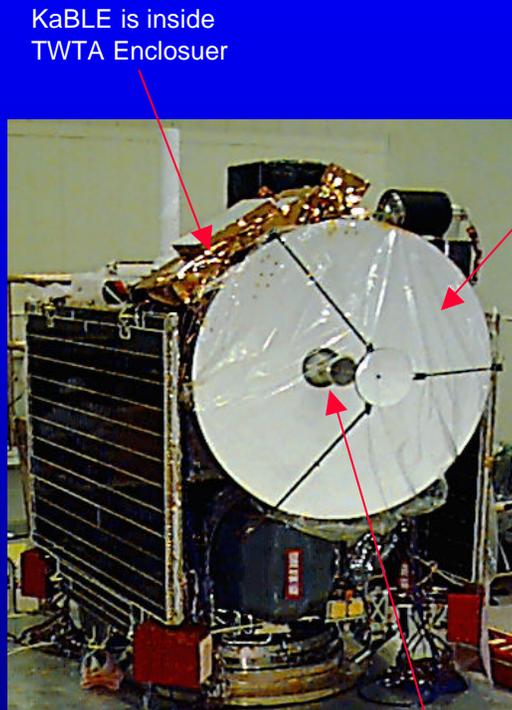
#### - Advanced Concept Studies

- explore concepts which allow the achievement of shot noise limited performance for optical signal reception

#### - Link Analysis tool development

- Helps mission and systems designers evaluate link characteristics
-

# Mars Global Surveyor Ka-Band Example Technology Overview (con't)

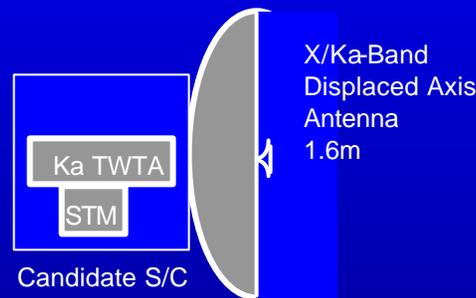


KaBLE is inside TWTA Enclosuer

High Gain Antenna 1.5m

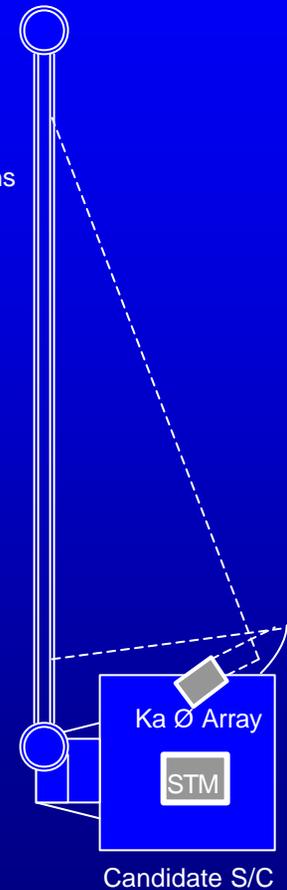
Dual Frequency X/Ka-Band Feed

Mars Global Surveyor Example



System #1

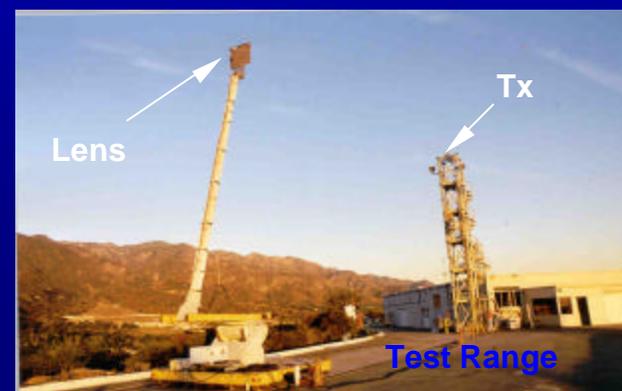
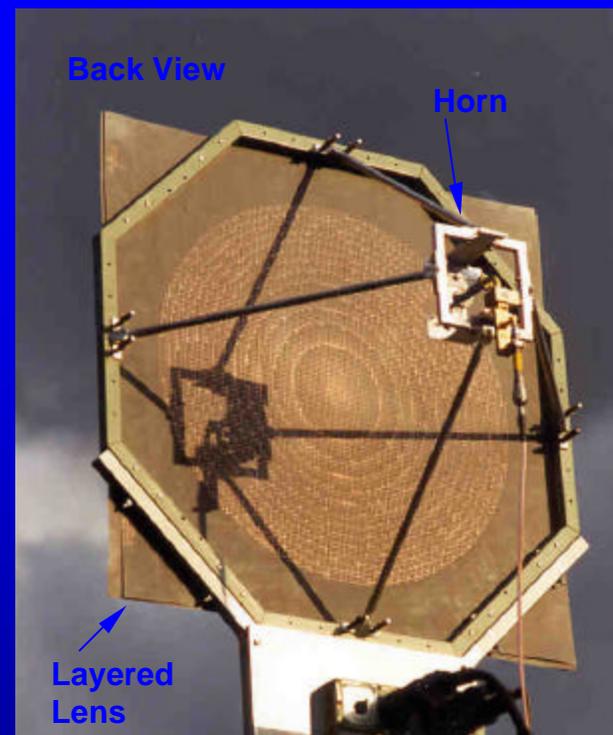
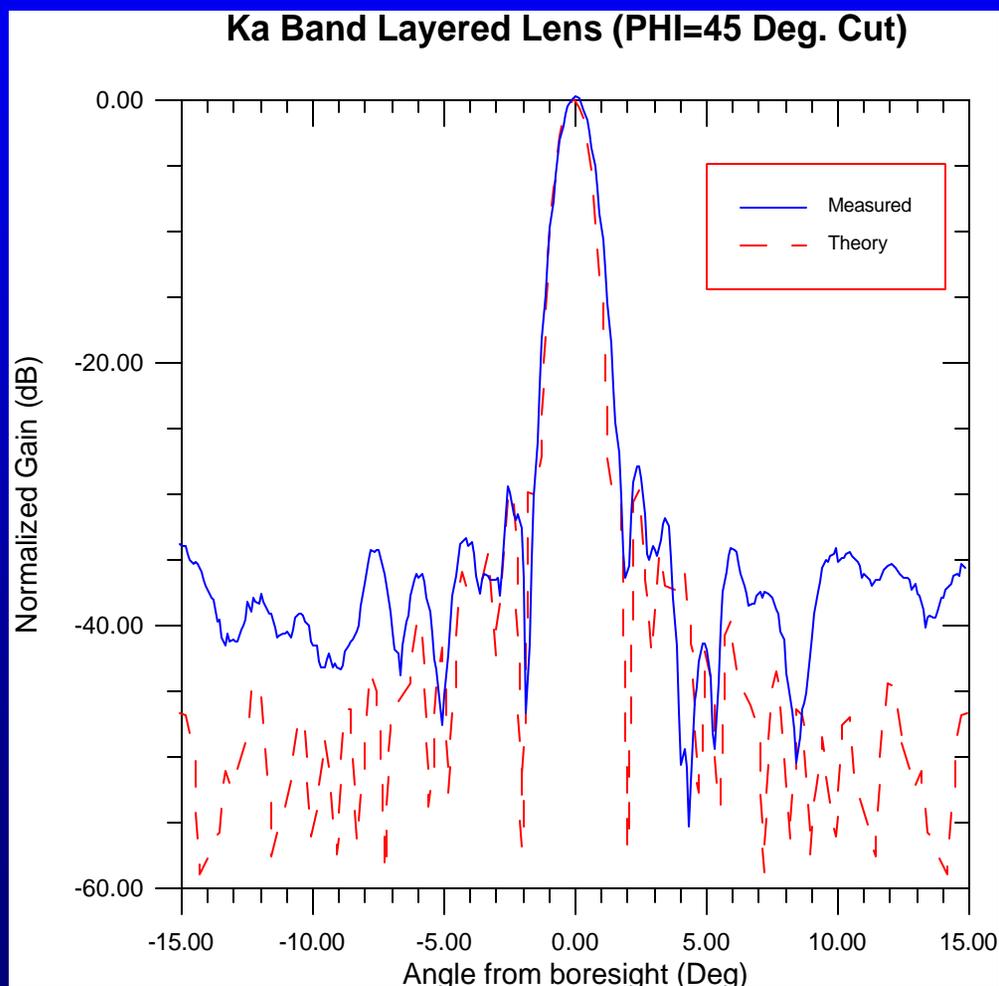
X/Ka-Band Inflatable Lens Antenna 3m



System #2

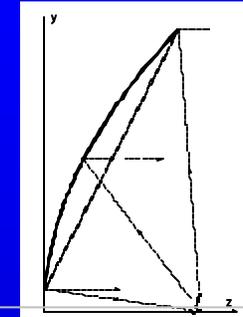
# Ka-Band Inflatable Lens Antenna

- Ka-Band Inflatable Lens Antenna (con't)
  - Measured performance at 32.050 GHz, 610mm Dia (F/D = 0.5), Gain = 41.5dBi, Efficiency = 34%

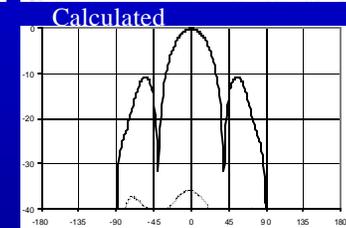
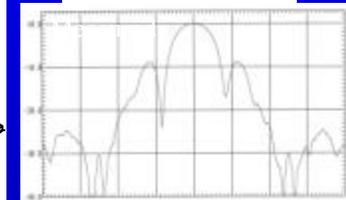
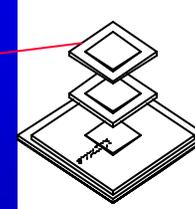
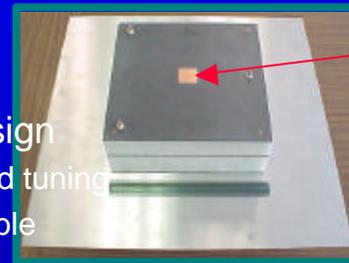


# Phased Array Power Amplifier Feed

- Phased Array Power Amplifier Feed (con't)
  - Determined offset dual reflector best for inflatable antennas
    - Completed one case of analysis for Cassegrain configuration
    - Adapted software to flat membrane analysis
    - Initiated evaluation of Gregorian system as alternative

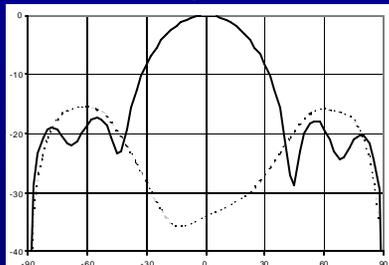


- S-Band Radiating Patch
  - Completed triple-stacked patch design
    - S-Band used to simplify handling and tuning
    - Completed initial tests with predictable results

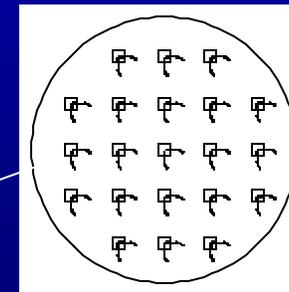
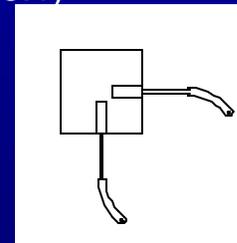


Bandwidth = 1.2%  
Gain = 9dBil  
Cross-pol < -25dB

- Ka-Band Radiating Patch
  - Calculated Ka performance, scaled from S-Band (12.5:1)



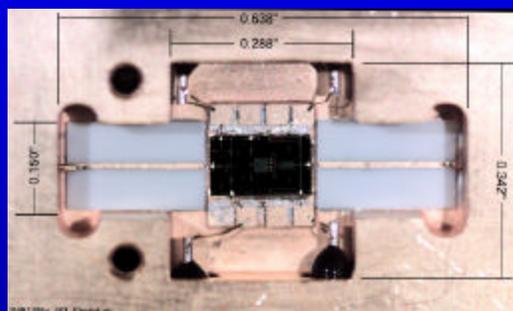
Calculations  
Bandwidth = 1.2%  
Gain = 12dBc  
Cross-pol = -20dB (avg)



21-element array

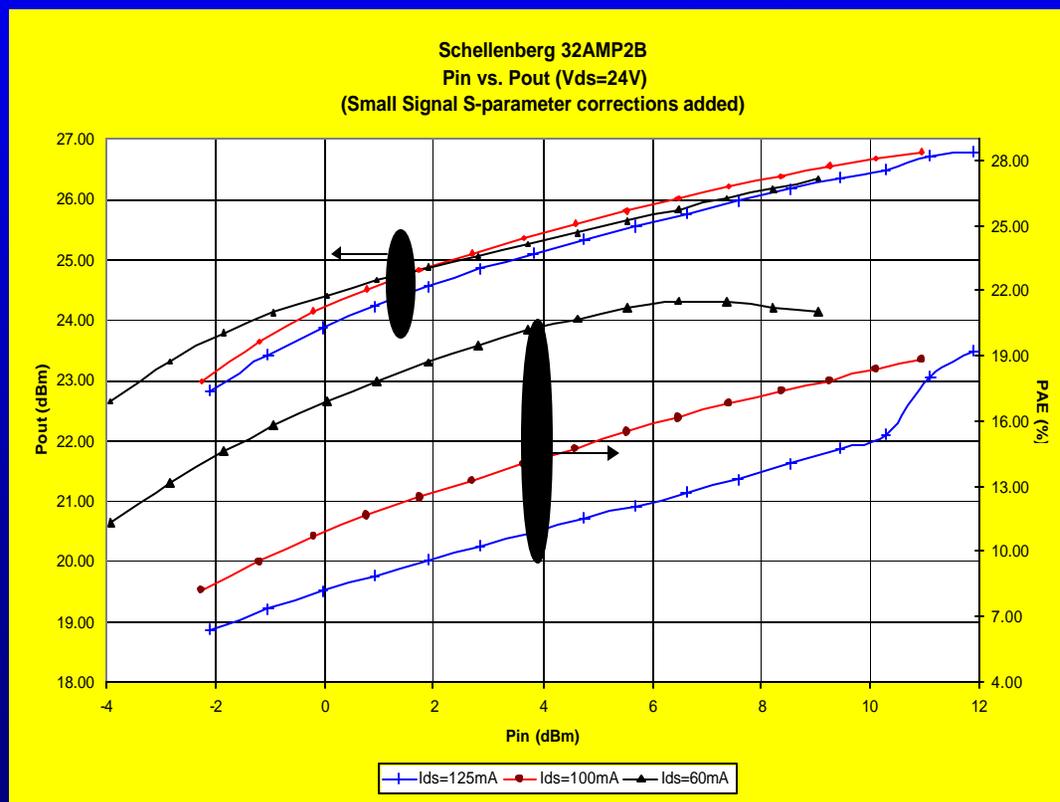
# Phased Array Power Amplifier Feed MMIC

- Ka-Band Phased Array Power Amplifier Feed (con't)
  - Selected Schellenberg Associates 32AMP2 Ka-Band Driver MMIC as the output power amplifier
    - Completed testing and electrical characterization of competing devices



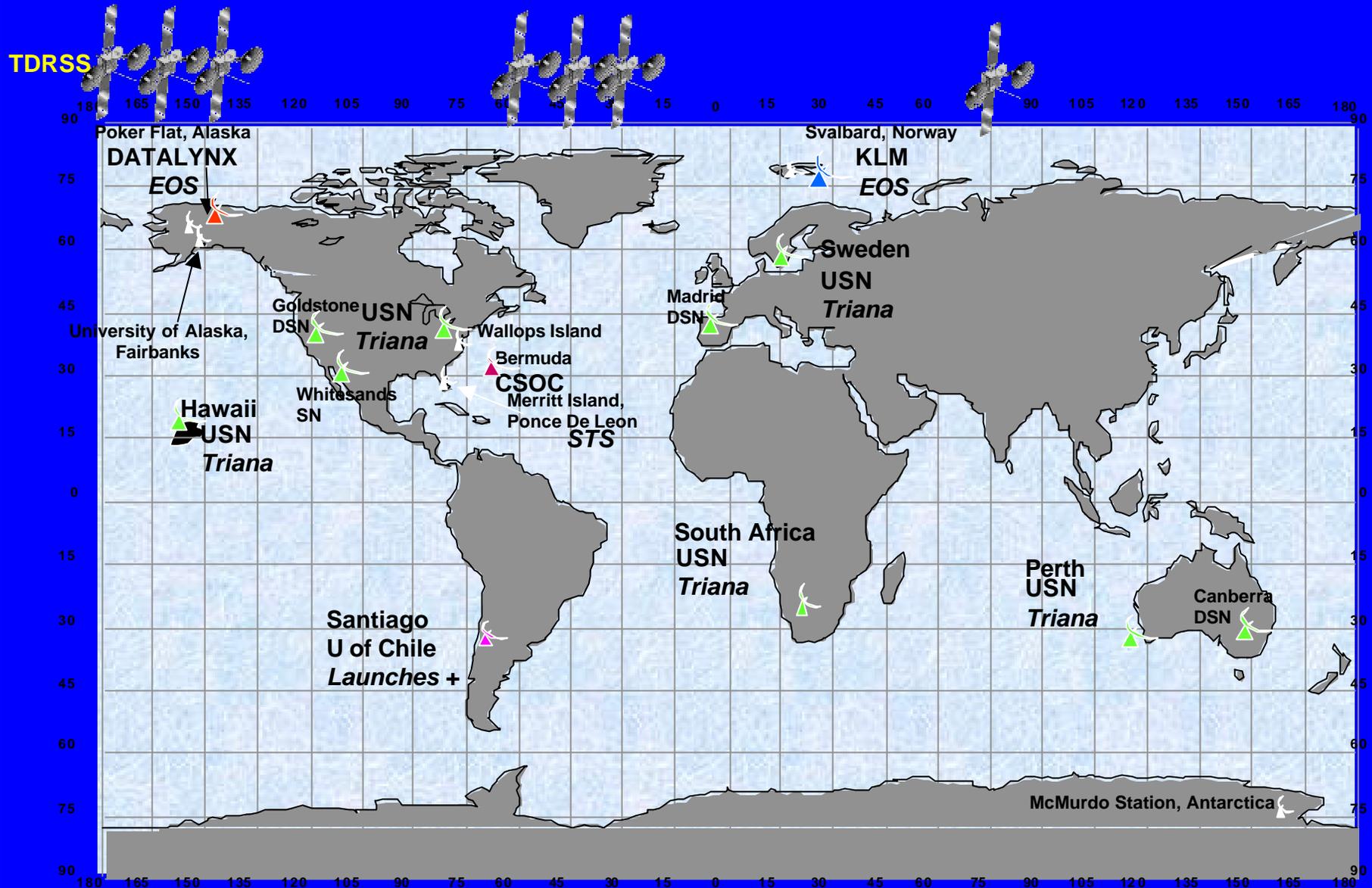
Manufacturer's PN/Data Sheet Specs	Power (dBm)	Gain (dB)	Efficiency (%)
Sanders SGPA07016-CC	32.5	10	15
Sanders SGDA07017-CC	26	13	16
Alpha AA035P2-00	26	12	19
Schellenberg SA-32AMP2	27	19	25

(Shaded devices selected for test and evaluation)



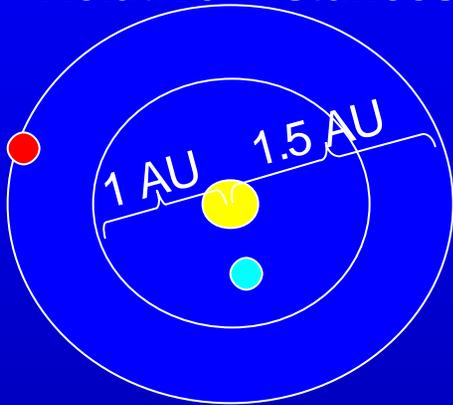
Measured data from Schellenberg  
32AMP2 device

# Current SOMO Communication & Navigation Architecture

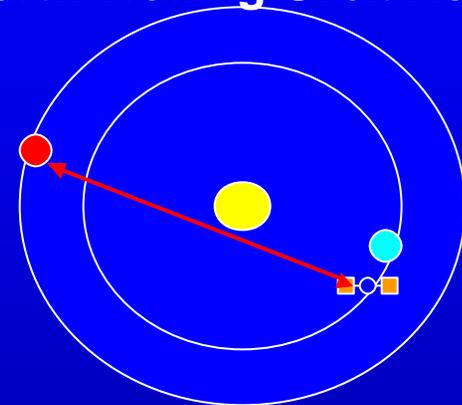
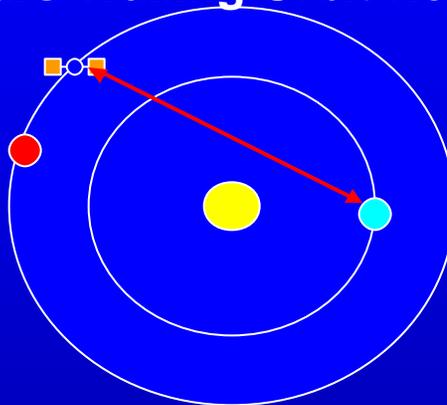


# Mars Relay Options

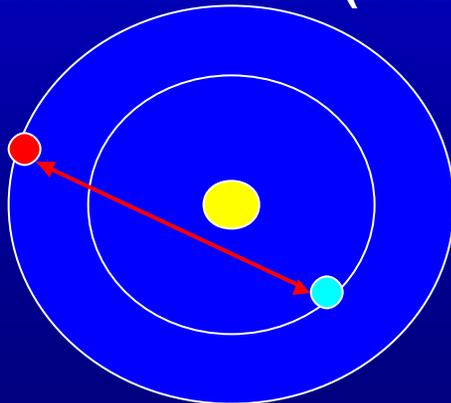
Relative Distances



Mars Trailing Orbit Relay Earth Trailing Orbit Relay

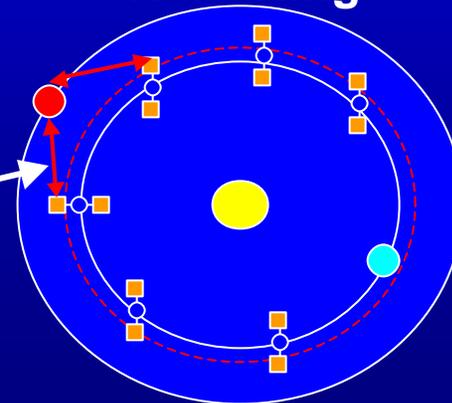


Direct-to-Earth (DTE)



Hurd Ring

Never more than .9 AU



Note: DTE has 2 week LOS during time when Human missions arrivals

Note: all options reflect a constellation around Mars



# Service Mgt & Accountability Context Diagram

