Orion Crew Exploration Vehicle
Deep Space, Long Duration Exploration

Crew Module
crew and cargo transport

Service Module
propulsion, electrical power, fluids storage

Launch Abort System
emergency escape during launch

Spacecraft Adapter
ORION: Preparing to Fly

• Strong, bi-partisan political support
• Excellent program execution
• Transition to Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle
• Orbital Flight in 2013
• Crewed Operations by 2016

Politically Supported ... Technically Sound ... Financially Sustainable
LESSONS LEARNED: Do It Right ... From the Start

• Build an effective Industry–NASA customer relationship

• Partner with states/communities to invest in new capabilities

• Communicate program progress and purpose to the public & elected officials

• Control what you can … Anticipate your challenges … Adapt to unexpected change beyond your control

A Successful Program Builds on a Strong Foundation
LESSONS LEARNED: Make It Better ... When Challenges Occur

• Align funding and mission to budget and policy
• Adopt commercial practices where they apply
• Modify approach to program oversight vs. insight
• Change the plan and accelerate the schedule

Change and Challenge Bring Opportunity to Improve
Stepping Stones: a series of increasingly challenging exploration missions, building incrementally towards America’s long-term goal of exploring Mars. Each mission will address science objectives relating to the formation of the solar system and the origins of life.
Questions?