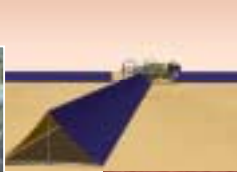




# “Breakthrough” Power Technologies



Now

5-10 Years

15-25 Years

## Applications

- LEO/GEO satellites
- Earth & planetary science missions
- International Space Station
- Mars Outposts
- Libration point observatories
- Electric propulsion
- Human missions far from Earth
- High power electric propulsion

## Capabilities

- Short duration/low power Mars surface PV
- 100w class RTGs
- 10-100kW near-Earth PV
- kW class Mars surface PV
- 10-100+kW surface nuclear
- Higher efficiency/low mass PV for in-space
- Multi-MW PV and nuclear dynamic systems for in-space
- Robust, high power surface systems

## High Payoff Technology Candidates

- Thin film and high efficiency PV cells/arrays
- Advanced dynamic and static conversion
- High temp/high strength materials
- High density energy storage
- High efficiency power management/distribution
- Lightweight, deployable structures

## National Benefits:

Advanced power systems increase the reliability and reduce the mass and cost of NASA, military and commercial satellites and spacecraft



---

# Power System Transition Package Backup Charts



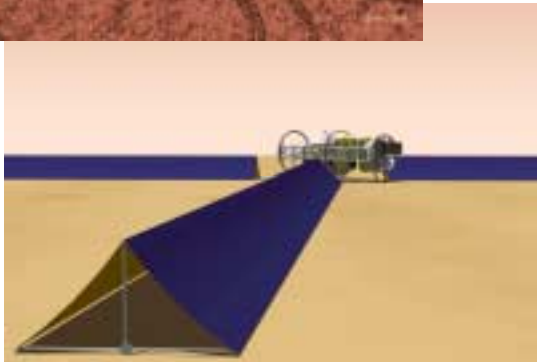
# Power Trade Space

Applications	Nuclear	Isotope	PV only	PV/ RFC	PV/ Batt	FC/ RFC	Batt.	Beam	Power Level
LEO Fuel Depot	X		X					X	~3 MW
BNTR	X					X			30-50kW
NEP	X								30-50kW/ 100kW-MMW
SEP/ Chem				X	X				20-30kW/ 1-2MW
Ascent/ Descent/ Re		X				X	X		3-5kW
30 day Mars	X	X		X	X	X			10-20kW
500 day Mars	X								60-100kW
10 hour rover		X				X	X		crewed, 1-3 kW
Multi-day rover	X	X		X		X			crewed, 5-10 kW
Mars mobile drill	X	X		X		X		X	1-5 kW
14 day lunar	X	X	X						2-100kW
45 day Lunar	X	X						X	10-100kW
Lunar S. pole	X	X	X			X	X	X	2-100kW
L2	X		X	X				X	2-10kW

= Preferred concept



# Mars Surface Systems Study Results Overview



- **Short Stay - 30 Days on Surface**

- Power requirement
  - Entry, descent, landing, ascent (E/D/L/A) = 3.7 kWe
  - Nominal ops = 8.2 kWe (day) / 5.3 kWe (night)
- System concepts
  - E/D/L/A: regenerative fuel cells
  - Surface ops: small, shielded reactor with CBC engine 100m from hab
  - Could consider PV arrays with RFCs if landing site <15 degrees latitude
- Landed mass = 3650kg for all power elements

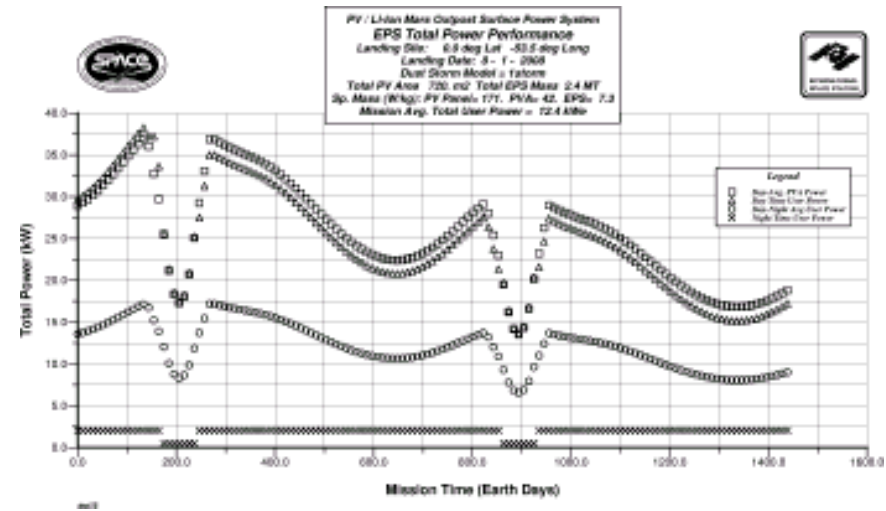
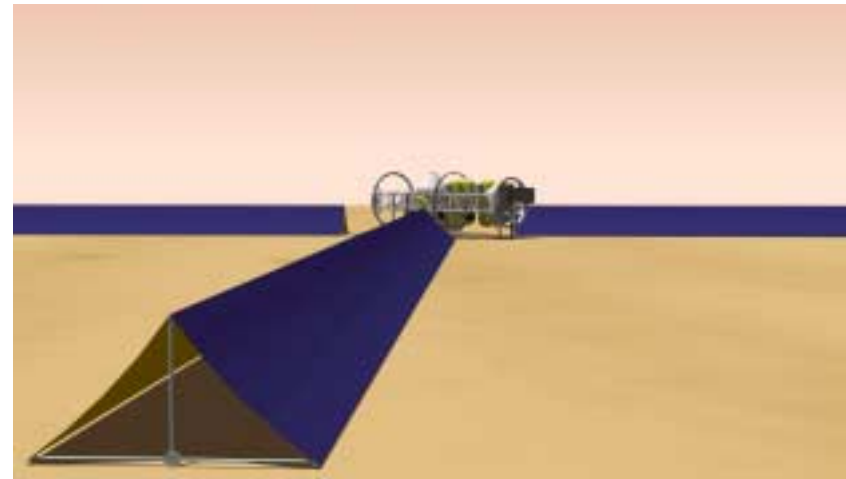
- **Long Stay ~ 500 days on surface**

- Power requirement
  - E/D/LA = 3.7 kWe
  - Nominal ops = 18 kWe (no ISRU)
- System concepts
  - E/D/LA: regenerative fuel cells
  - Surface ops: 2 reactors 2km from hab (any latitude) or PV/RFC if < 15 degrees latitude
- Landed mass = 6000 kg for either Nuclear or PV (including RFCs and reactants)



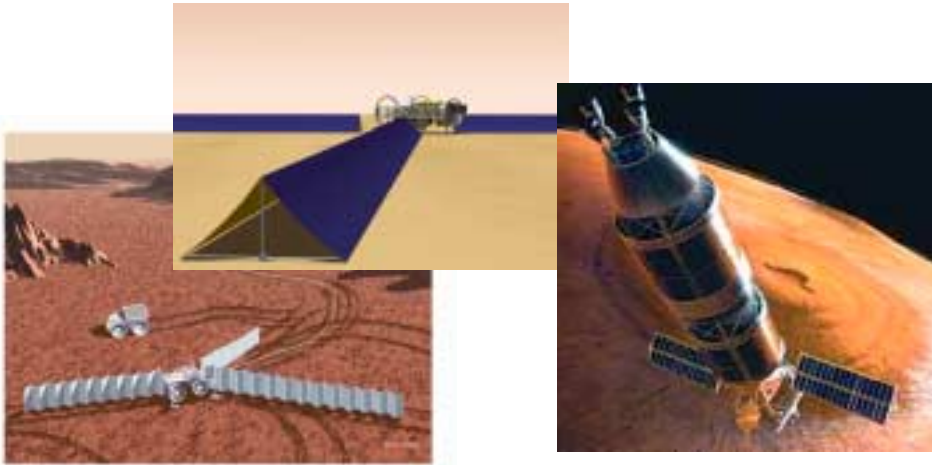
# Mars Outpost Solar Surface Power for Equatorial Mission

- ◆ **Flexible Tent Arrays**
  - ◆ Thin, high- $\eta$ , c-Si solar cells
  - ◆ Deployable masts
- ◆ **260 A-hr Li Ion Energy Storage**
- ◆ **120-VDC PMAD**
- ◆ **1400-Day Surface Mission**
  - ◆ 2007/2009 Launch Opportunities
  - ◆ 1 Great Dust Storm per year
  - ◆ 15-37 kW Day time power
  - ◆ 2 kW Night time power
  - ◆ 0.5 kW Dust storm keep-alive power
- ◆ **System Sizing**
  - ◆ Power system mass 2360 kg
  - ◆ Photovoltaic array area 720 m<sup>2</sup>
  - ◆ Array blanket dimensions 2-m x 43-m





# Advanced Space Power Technologies



## Key Near-Term Technologies

- Nuclear fission
  - High temp Brayton engine (1300-2000K)
  - High temperature reactor fuel
  - Low mass/low volume radiators (<math><2\text{kg/m}^2</math>)
  - High voltage transmission (>5000v)
- Solar photovoltaic
  - High efficiency thin film cells (>20%)
  - Large, low mass array/structure (>500W/kg)
  - Surface and in-space deployment
- High density energy storage (>400Wh/kg)

## Candidate Technologies

- Gas-cooled bimodal reactor
- Liquid metal reactor
- Brayton conversion
- Stirling conversion
- K-Rankine conversion
- Thermal control/Radiators
- Advanced PV cells
- PV cell dust mitigation
- Large solar arrays
- Power electronics
- High voltage transmission/conversion
- Energy storage
- High temp/high strength materials
- Environmental protection
- Deployment systems



# Solar/Nuclear Pros and Cons

---

## Solar Pros

- Avoids political and programmatic issues associated a nuclear development program
- Simplifies the Safety Review & Launch Approval Process
- Leverages current technology development (terrestrial & space)
- Synergistic technology with SEP & large scale Space Solar Power

## Solar Cons

- Scalability in packaging and deployment of large arrays
- Relatively low insolation at Mars surface due to distance from Sun and atmospheric dust
- Accumulation of dust on array surface
- Sensitivity to diurnal, seasonal and latitude variations
- Requires energy storage for night operation
- Cost and reliability

## Nuclear Pros

- Constant day/night power at any latitude
- Power production nearly insensitive to planetary environment (e.g. dust, temp)
- Mass and volume scale favorably with power output
- Brayton power conversion heritage - 10kWe/38,000 hours (1970's)
- Negligible Curies at launch

## Nuclear Cons

- Public perception/political resistance
- Rigorous safety review process (INSRP)
- Deployment of reactor cart and radiators
- Development of kV power transmission
- Integrated nuclear system testing
- Cost and reliability



# Mars In-Situ Power Summary

---

- In-situ sources, such as wind, areothermal, geothermal and solar have been assessed by the space power community at large and by NASA
- In general these energy sources are low density and require large infrastructures to harvest the energy and convert it electricity
- The most promising of these sources is solar since it draws upon the technology base of NASA, commercial, and military in-space applications
- Solar energy varies hourly and yearly, but is predictable - except for magnitude and duration of atmospheric dust obscuration of the Sun and power output loss rate of settled dust on the array
- Recent studies show that solar power appears applicable to small (up to 10kW), short duration power needs.
- Analysis, testing, and flight experiments (MATE & DART) have been proposed to develop and verify the ability to mitigate dust accumulation so that long duration missions are feasible using PV arrays





# In-situ Power Assessment

- **Aerothermal**
  - Must locate plant near high temperature heat source
  - Have to take power plant and construction equipment to Mars
    - Turbine-generators
    - Heat rejection system
    - Drilling rig
    - Heat exchangers
  - Not a candidate for an initial power system due to massive infrastructure required and limited site possibilities

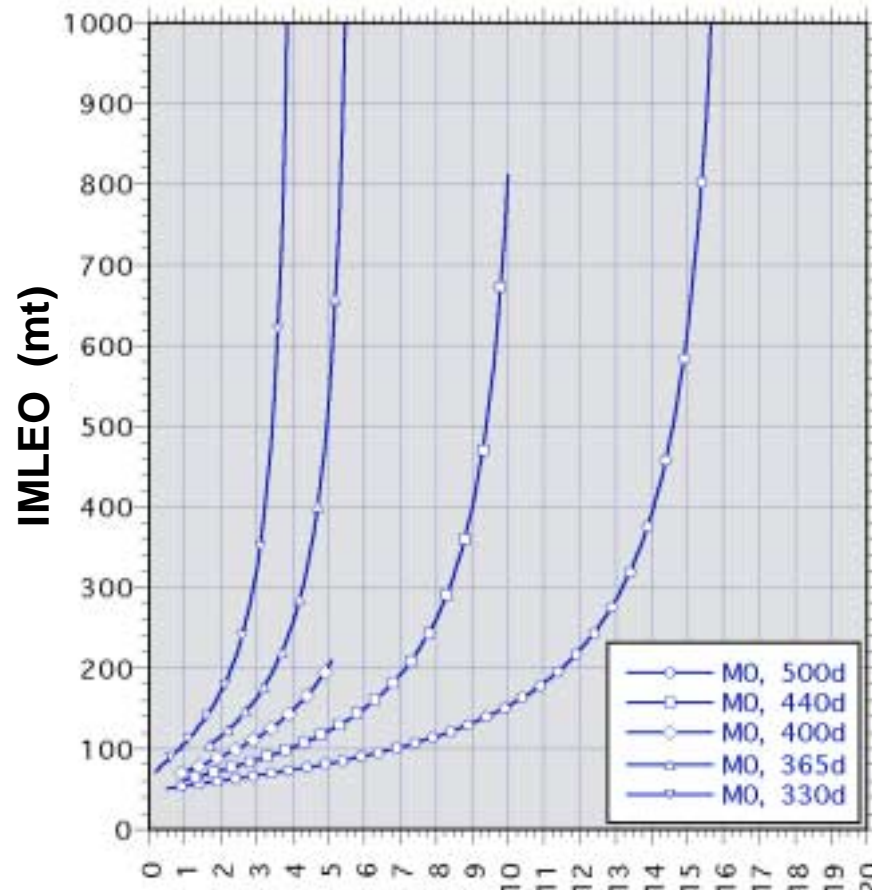
- **Wind**
  - Typical surface wind speed on Mars is 3-4 m/s (Viking 1 and 2)
  - Wind speed may be greater at distances above the surface
  - Topographic influenced winds and dust storms may reach 20-30 m/s

<u>Speed</u>	<u>Wind Energy</u>	<u>Elec. Energy</u>	<u>10 kWe Area</u>
@ 3 m/s	0.225 W/m <sup>2</sup>	0.08 We/m <sup>2</sup>	123,000 m <sup>2</sup>
@ 10m/s	8.33 W/m <sup>2</sup>	3.0 We/m <sup>2</sup>	3,300 m <sup>2</sup>
@ 25 m/s	130 W/m <sup>2</sup>	47 We/m <sup>2</sup>	214 m <sup>2</sup>

- Not a candidate for initial missions due to uncertainty and variability of winds, large infrastructure and site limitations



# Sensitivity of IMLEO to NEP Power & Propulsion System\* Specific Mass



- 2018 Human Mars Mission
- Piloted Round Trip Vehicle
- 45 day Mars stay
- Earth flyby return at 13 km/sec
- 25 mt payload, no masses dropped
- 5% tankage fraction
- Fixed 4000 second specific impulse at 60% efficiency
- Consumables mass= 2.6 mt for all cases (based on 330 days)

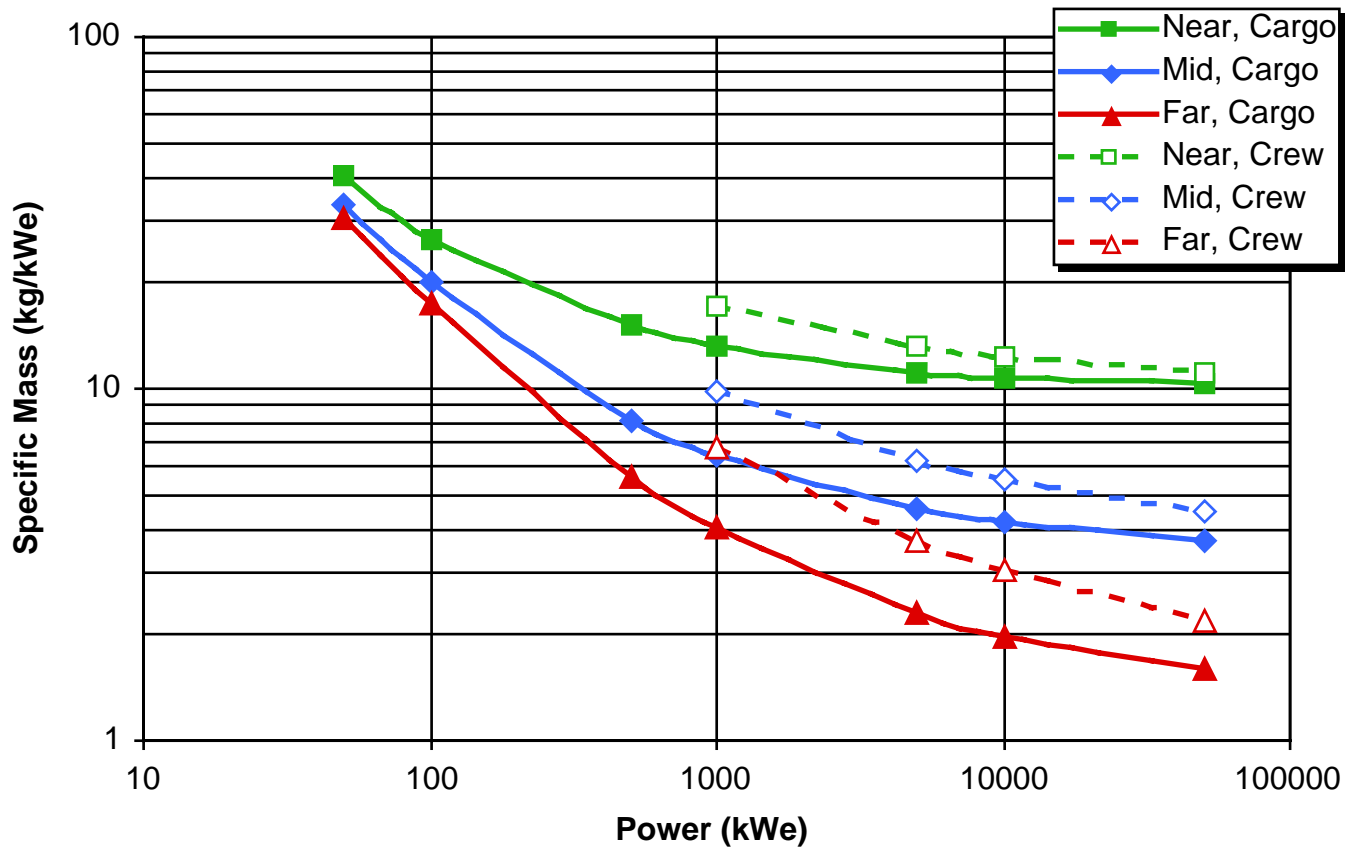
**Extreme IMLEO sensitivity to power system and thruster specific masses**

**\*Specific Mass (kg/kWe)**

(\*Power System and Thruster Only - payload, propellant, balance of spacecraft not included)



# NEP Power System Specific Mass Trends



Near=LMCR, Brayton, 1300K, 6 kg/m<sup>2</sup>, 200 Vac (Available ~10 yrs)

Mid=LMCR, Brayton, 1500K, 3 kg/m<sup>2</sup>, 1000 Vac (Available ~15-20 yrs)

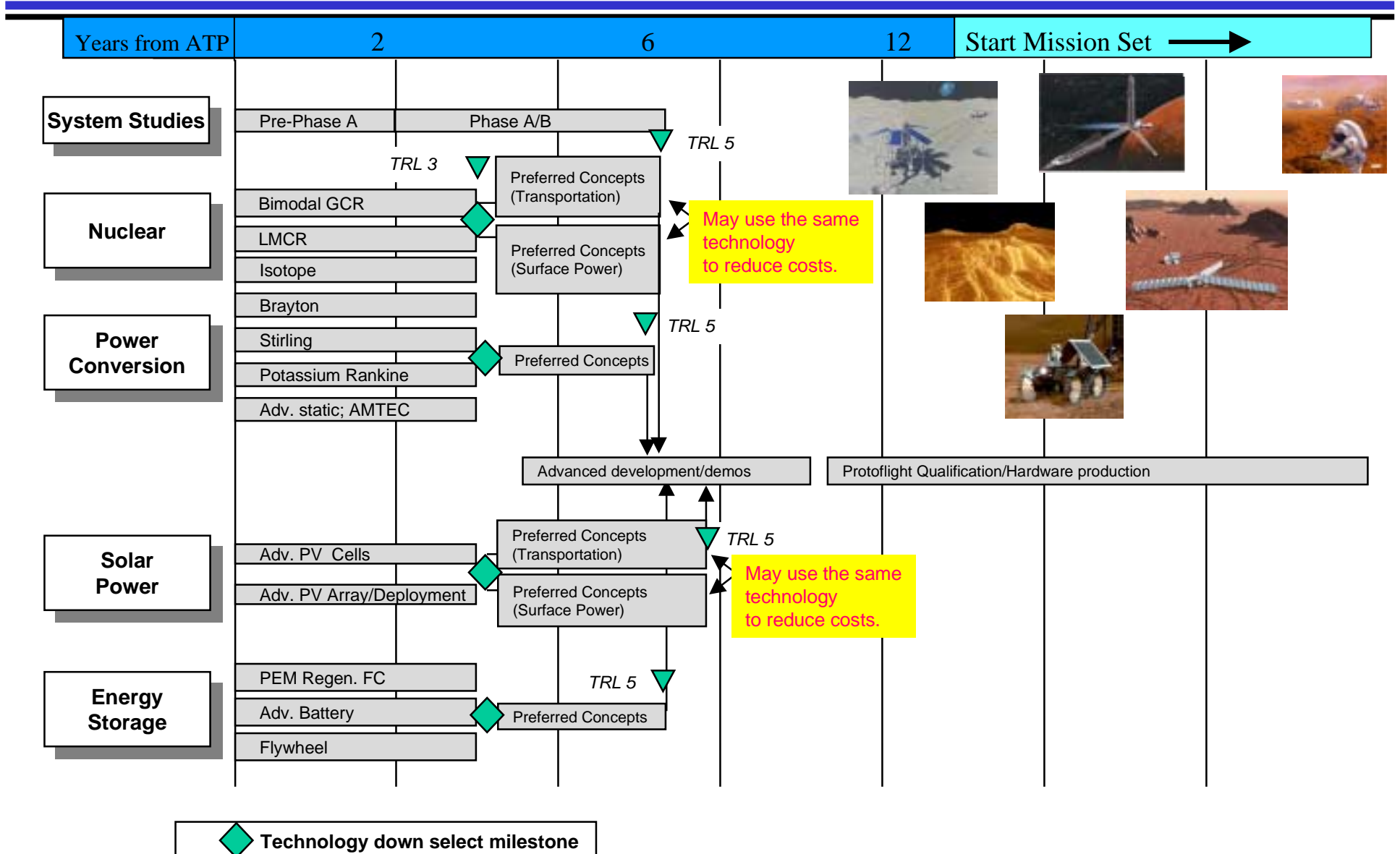
Far=LMCR, Brayton, 2000K, 1.5 kg/m<sup>2</sup>, 5000 Vac (Available ~25-30 yrs)

Cargo=Instrument rated shielding,  $1.6 \times 10^{15}$  nvt,  $1.2 \times 10^8$  rad @ 2 m

Crew=Human rated shielding, 5 rem/yr @ 100 m, 7.5° half angle

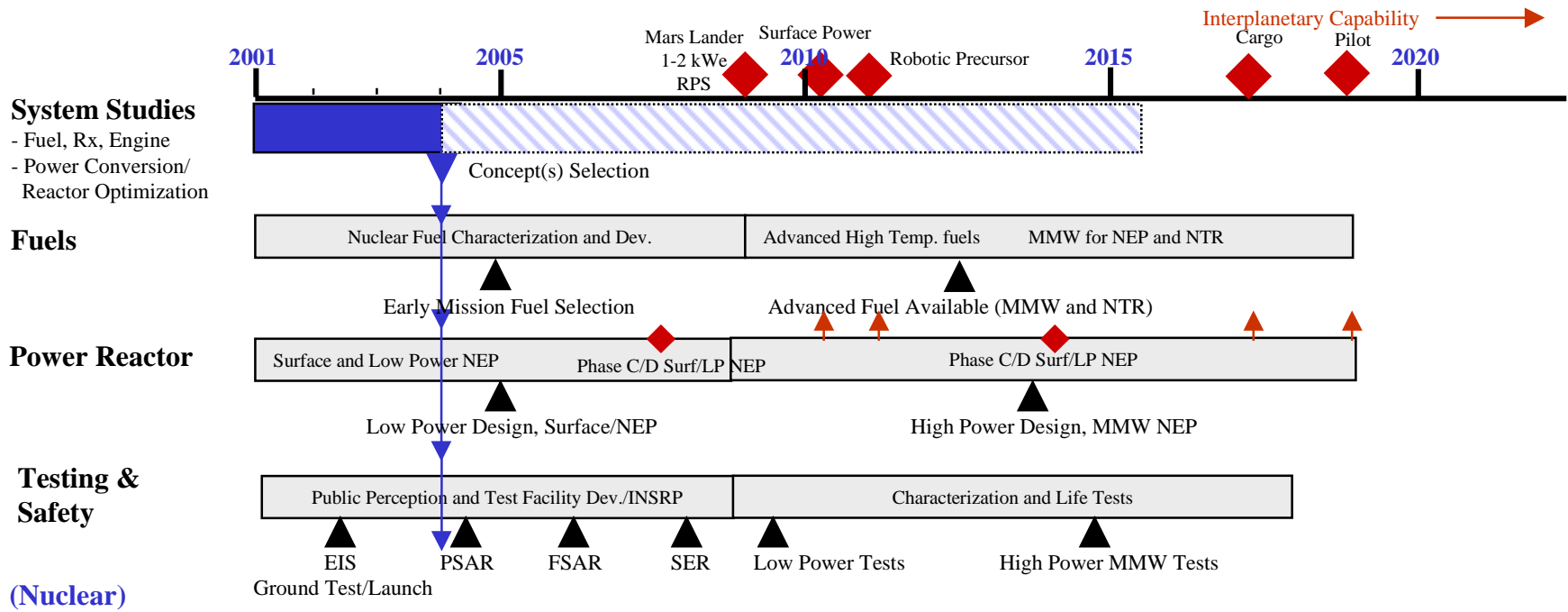


# Advanced Space Power Development Plan





# Nuclear Propulsion and Power Roadmap



(Nuclear)

(Non-Nuclear)

