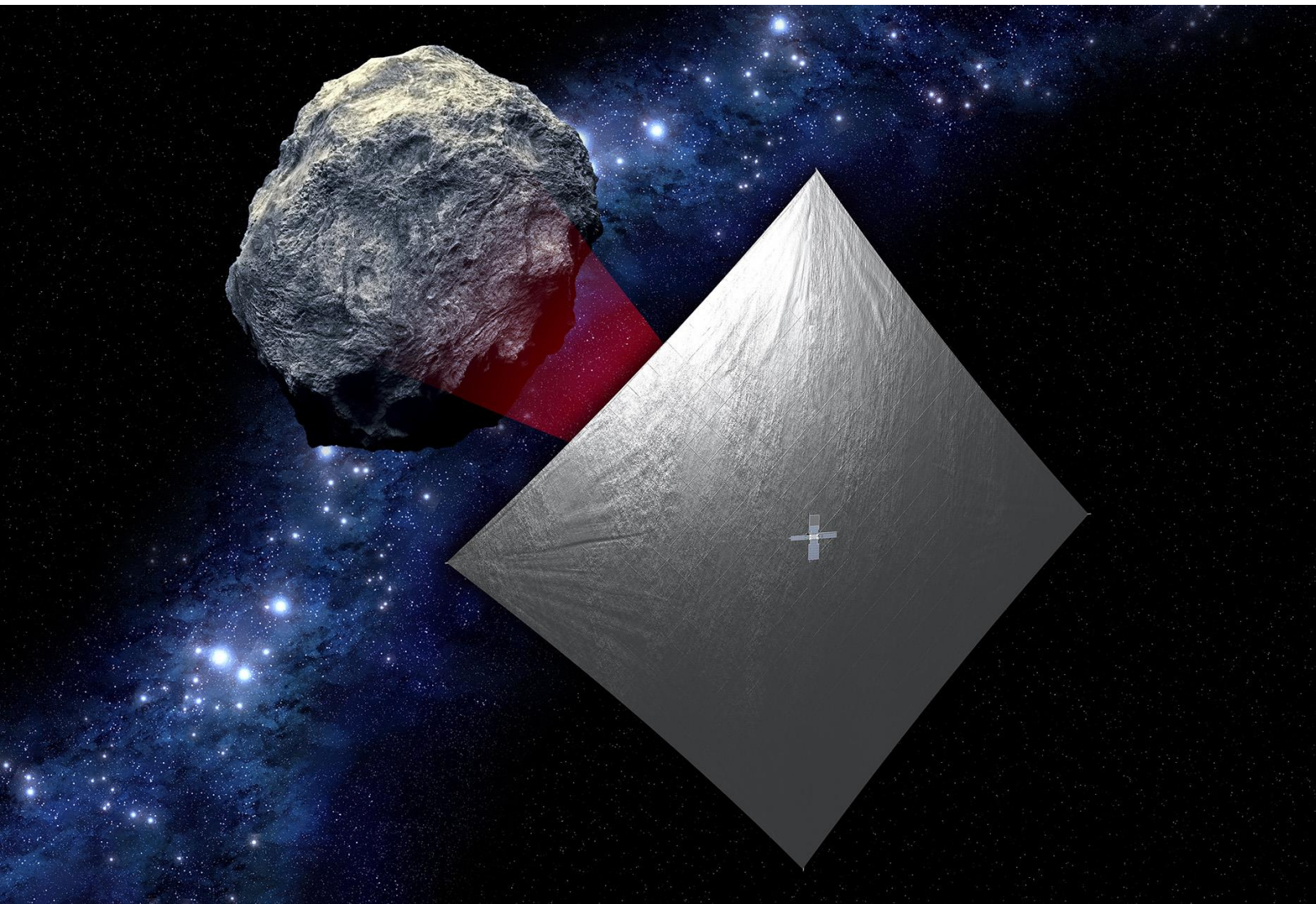


# Near Earth Asteroid (NEA) Scout

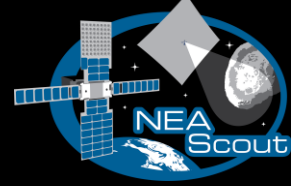


Les Johnson & Jared Dervan  
NASA George C. Marshall Space  
Flight Center

Julie Castillo-Rogez  
NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory



# Near Earth Asteroid Scout

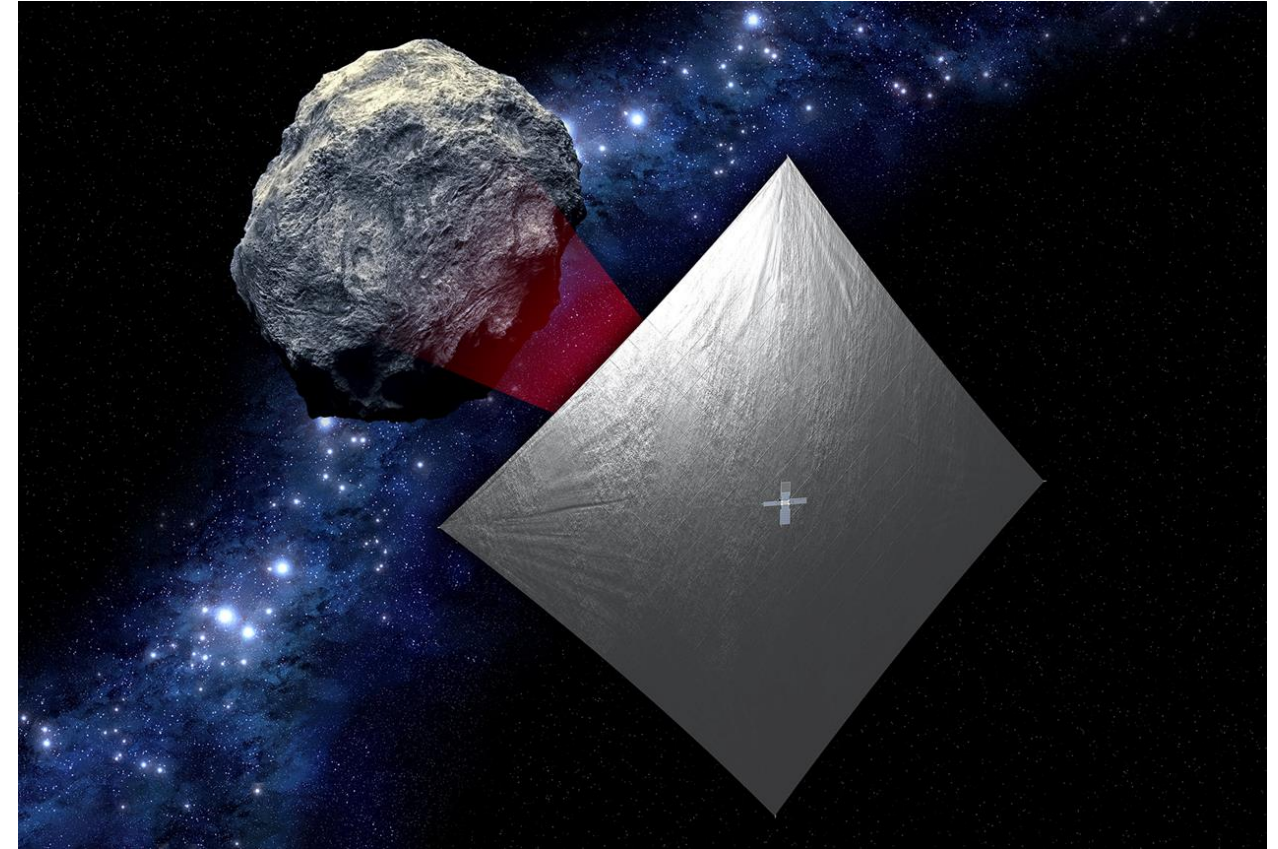


## The Near Earth Asteroid Scout Will

- Image/characterize a NEA during a slow flyby
- Demonstrate a low cost asteroid reconnaissance capability

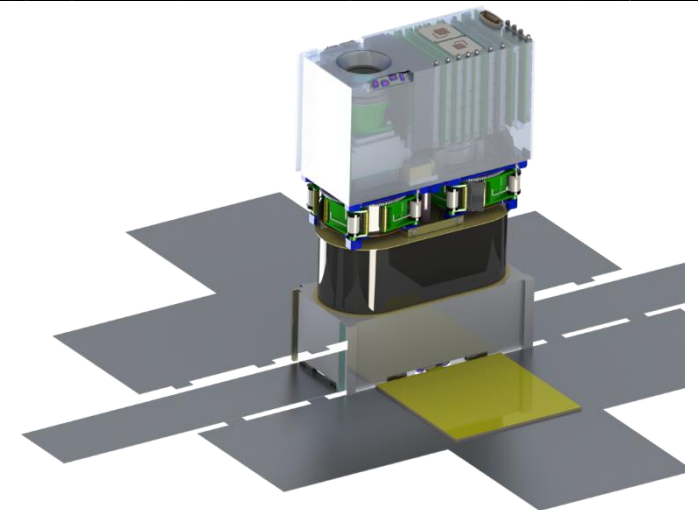
## Key Spacecraft & Mission Parameters

- 6U cubesat (20cm X 10cm X 30 cm)
- ~86 m<sup>2</sup> solar sail propulsion system
- Manifested for launch on the Space Launch System (EM-1/2019)
- 1 AU maximum distance from Earth



**Leverages:** combined experiences of MSFC and JPL with support from GSFC, JSC, & LaRC

**Close Proximity Imaging**  
Local scale morphology, terrain properties, landing site survey

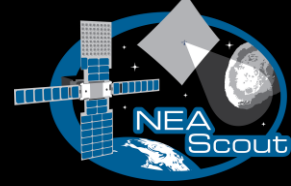


**Target Reconnaissance with medium field imaging**  
Shape, spin, and local environment





# NEA Scout Goals & Objectives



- 1) Design, develop, integrate and operate a spacecraft for the purpose of demonstrating a low cost reconnaissance capability
- 2) Enable asteroids as potential destinations for human exploration
- 3) Characterize a candidate NEA with an imager to address key SKG's

*“Precursor robotics, robotic missions that investigate candidate destinations and provide vital information to prepare for human explorers, will lay the groundwork for humans to achieve new milestones in deep space.”*

**HEOMD/AES Strategic Goals/Objectives  
(Strategic Goal 1, Objective 1.1)**

*“Robotic exploration is the principal method we use to explore the solar system, and is an essential precursor to human exploration of space.”*

**SMD Strategic Goals/Objectives  
(Strategic Goal 1, Objective 1.5)**



# Baseline Target Asteroid: 1991 VG



- Diameter ~ 5-12 meters
- Albedo is unknown
- Position is known within 2700 km ( $1-\sigma$ ) but optical observation opportunity in July '17 will decrease uncertainty to a few 100s km
- Rotation period between a few minutes and less than 1 hour
- Unlikely to have a companion
- Unlikely to retain an exosphere or dust cloud
  - Solar radiation pressure sweeps dust on timescales of hours or day



# Near Earth Asteroid Scout Mission Overview

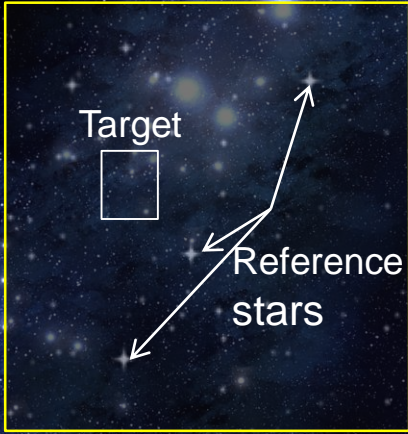


**Close Proximity Science**  
 High-resolution imaging,  
 10 /px over >30% surface  
**SKGs: Local morphology**  
**Regolith properties**

**NEA Reconnaissance**  
 <100 km distance at encounter  
 50 cm/px resolution over 80% surface  
**SKGs: volume, global shape, spin**  
**properties, local environment**

**Target Detection and Approach:**  
 50K km, Light source observation  
**SKGs: Ephemeris determination and**  
**composition assessment**

**JPL IntelliCam)**

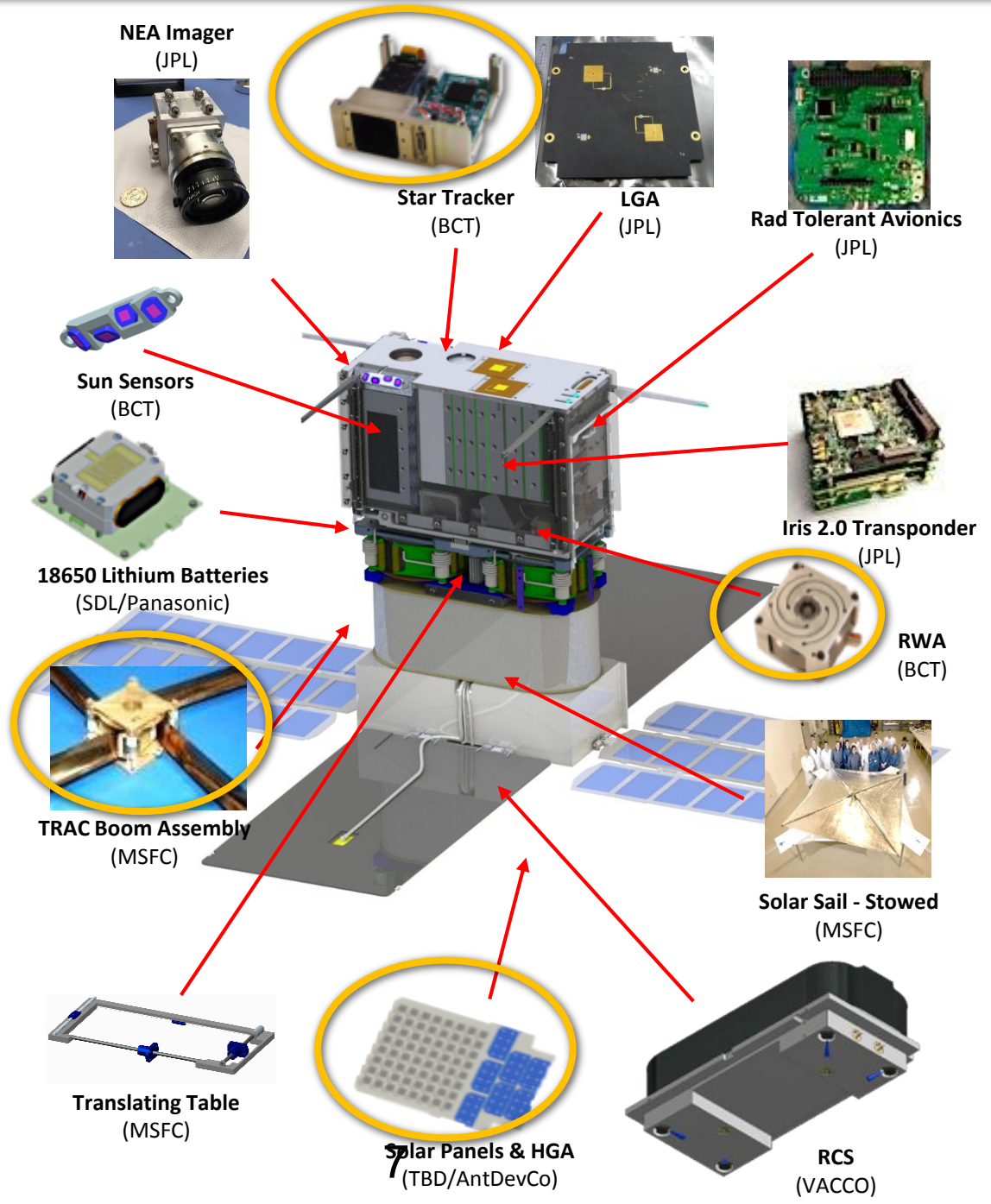




# Flight System Overview



<b>Payload</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Context Camera</li> </ul>
<b>Mechanical &amp; Structure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"6U" CubeSat form factor</li> <li>&lt;14 kg total launch mass</li> <li>Modular flight system concept</li> </ul>
<b>Propulsion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>~86 m<sup>2</sup> aluminized CP-1 solar sail (based on NanoSail-D2)</li> </ul>
<b>Avionics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Radiation tolerant architecture</li> </ul>
<b>Electrical Power System</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trifold deployable solar arrays with GaAs cells (~51.2 W EOL at 1 AU solar distance)</li> <li>6.2 Ah Battery</li> <li>10 -12.3 V unregulated, 5 V/3.5 V regulated</li> </ul>
<b>Telecom</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>JPL Iris 2.0 X-Band Transponder; 4 W RF output power supports doppler, ranging, and D-DOR</li> <li>2 pairs of INSPIRE-heritage LGAs (RX/TX)</li> <li>8x8 element microstrip array HGA (TX); ~1 kbps to 34m DSN at 0.8 AU</li> </ul>
<b>Attitude Control System</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15 mNm-s (x3) &amp; 100 mNm-s RWAs</li> <li>Active mass translation system</li> <li>VACCO R-236fa (refrigerant gas) 'warm gas' RCS system</li> <li>Nano StarTracker, Coarse Sun Sensors &amp; MEMS IMU for attitude determination</li> </ul>



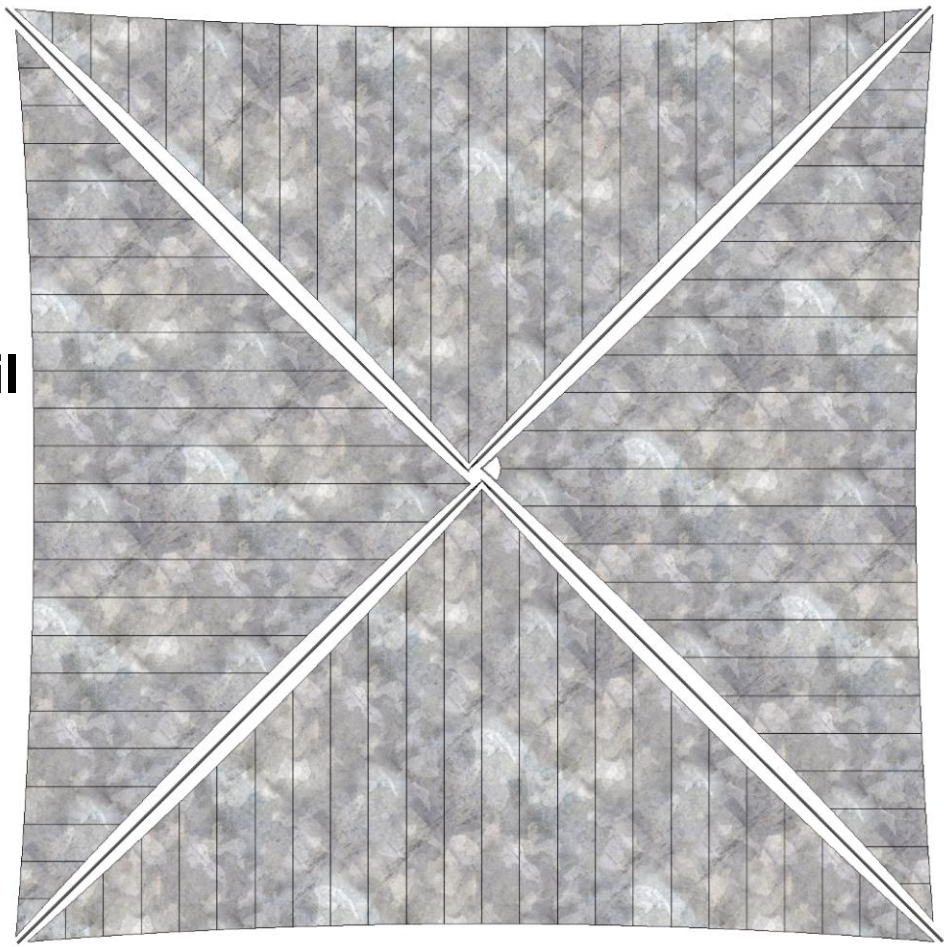
**A fully functional planetary spacecraft in a shoebox**



# NEA Scout Approximate Scale



Deployed Solar Sail



School Bus



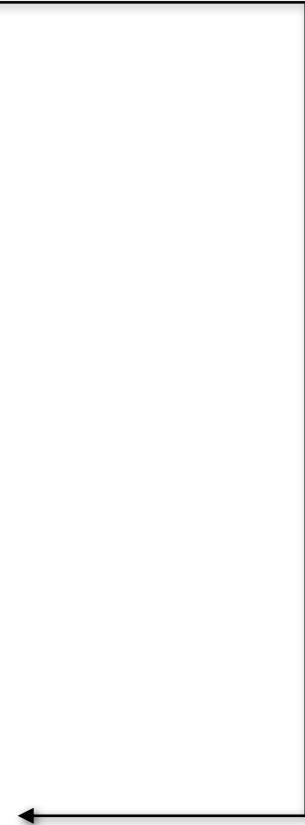
Human



6U Stowed Flight System

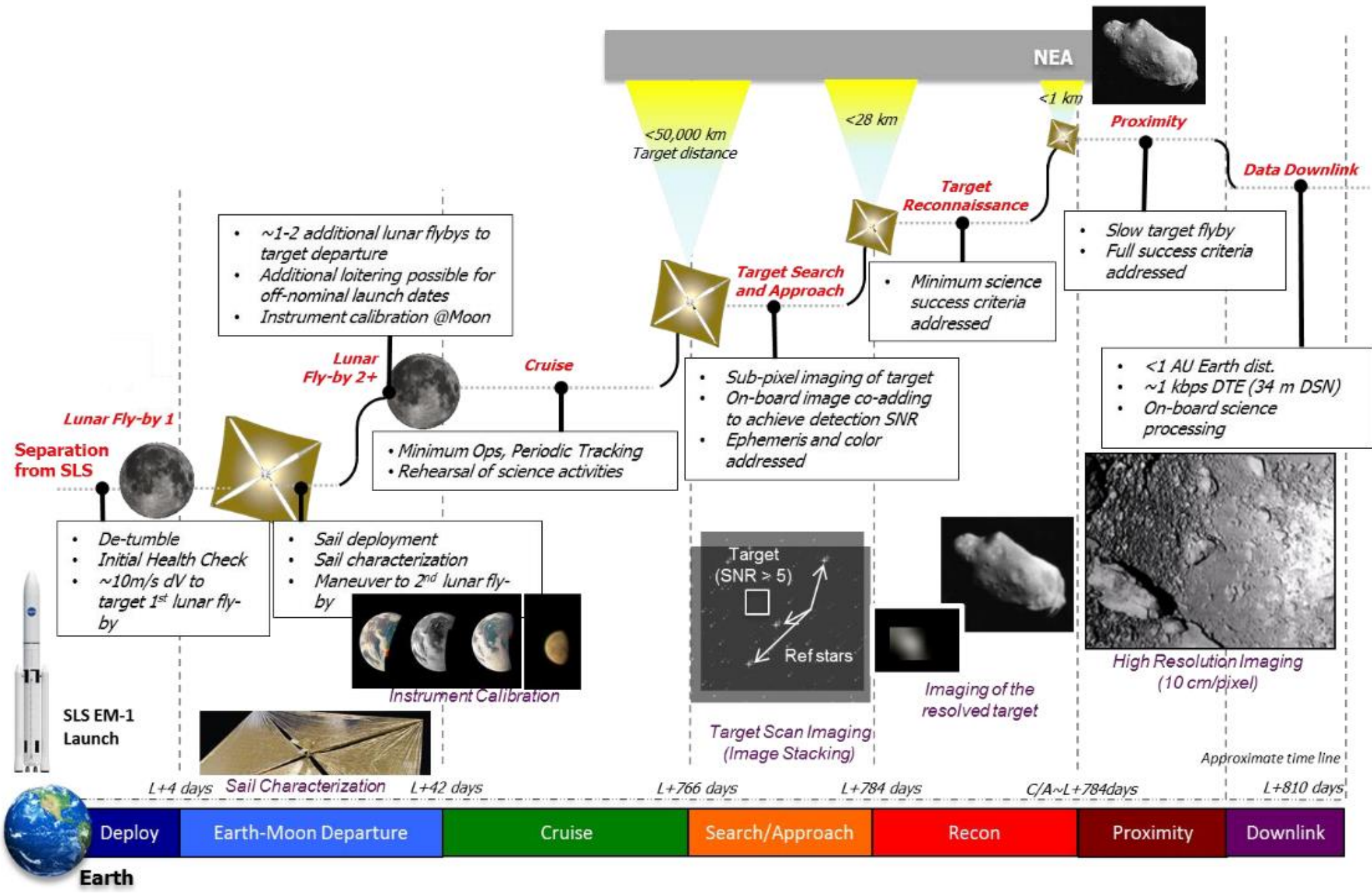


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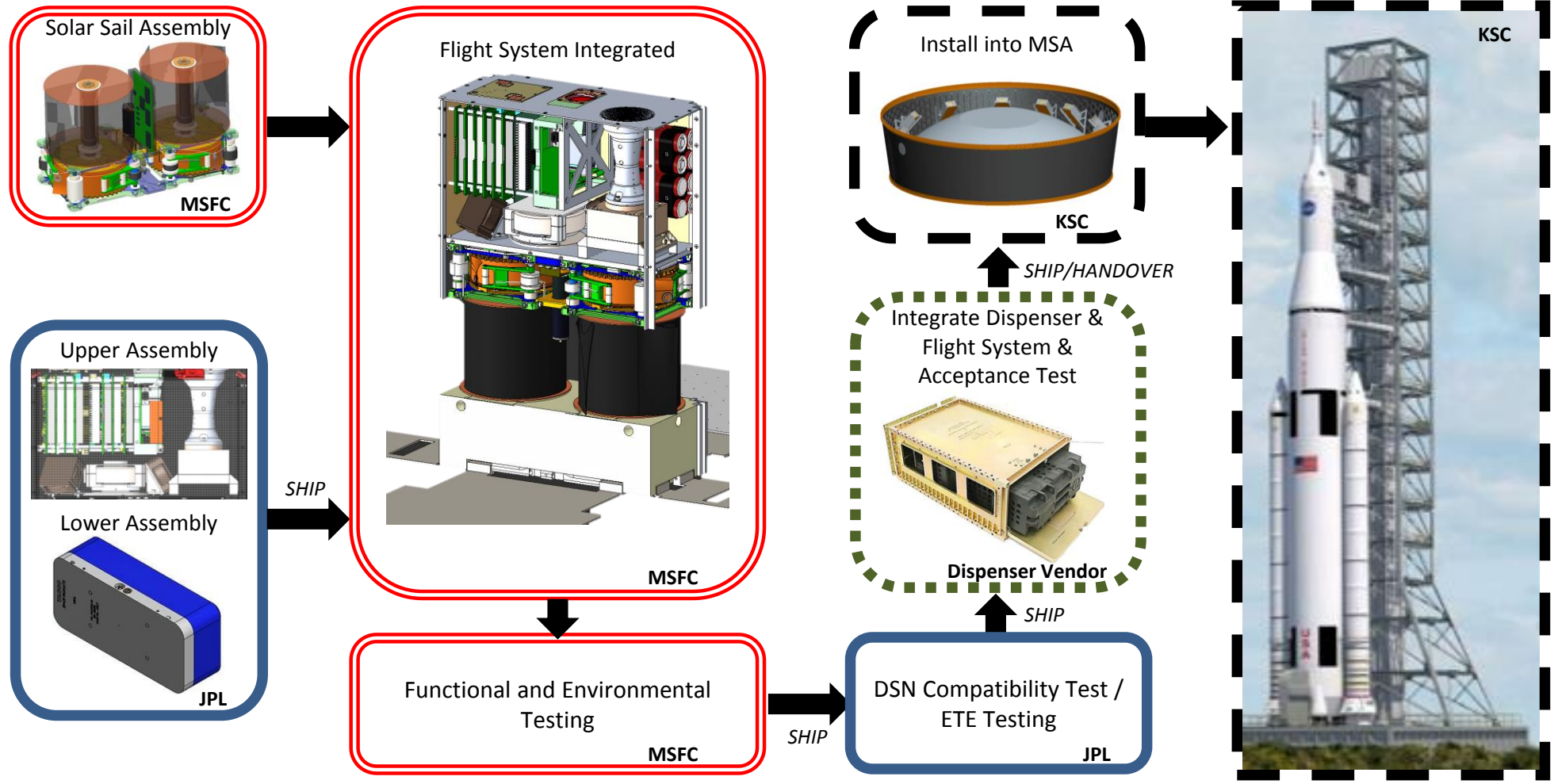
# Concept of Operations Overview





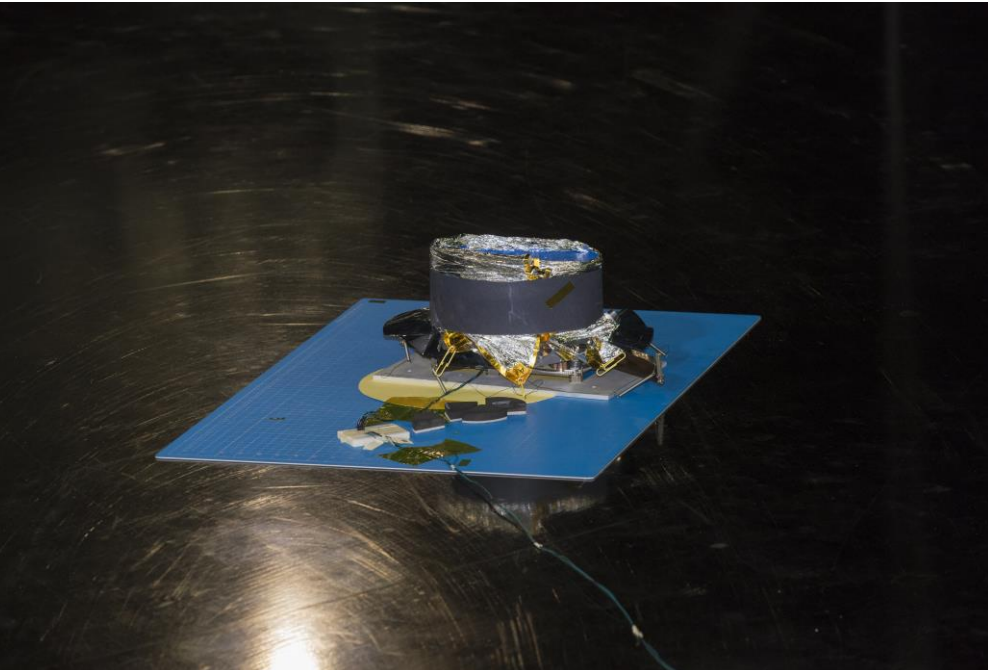
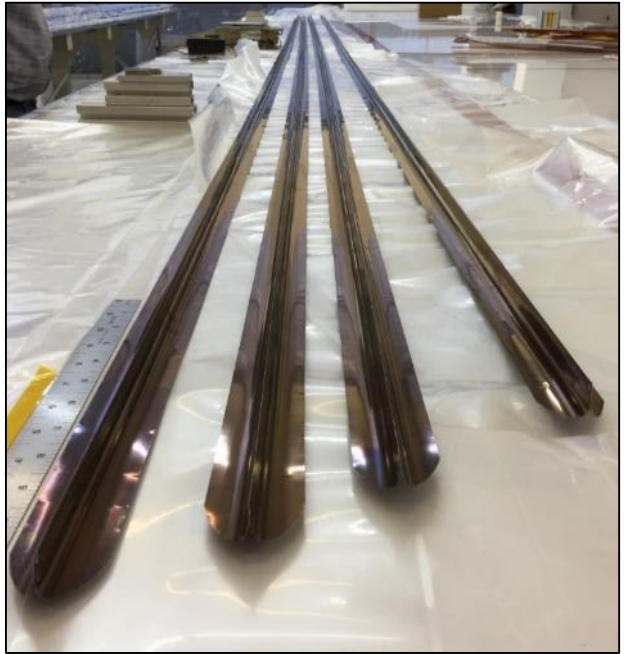


# Assembly, Integration, and Test (AI&T) Overview



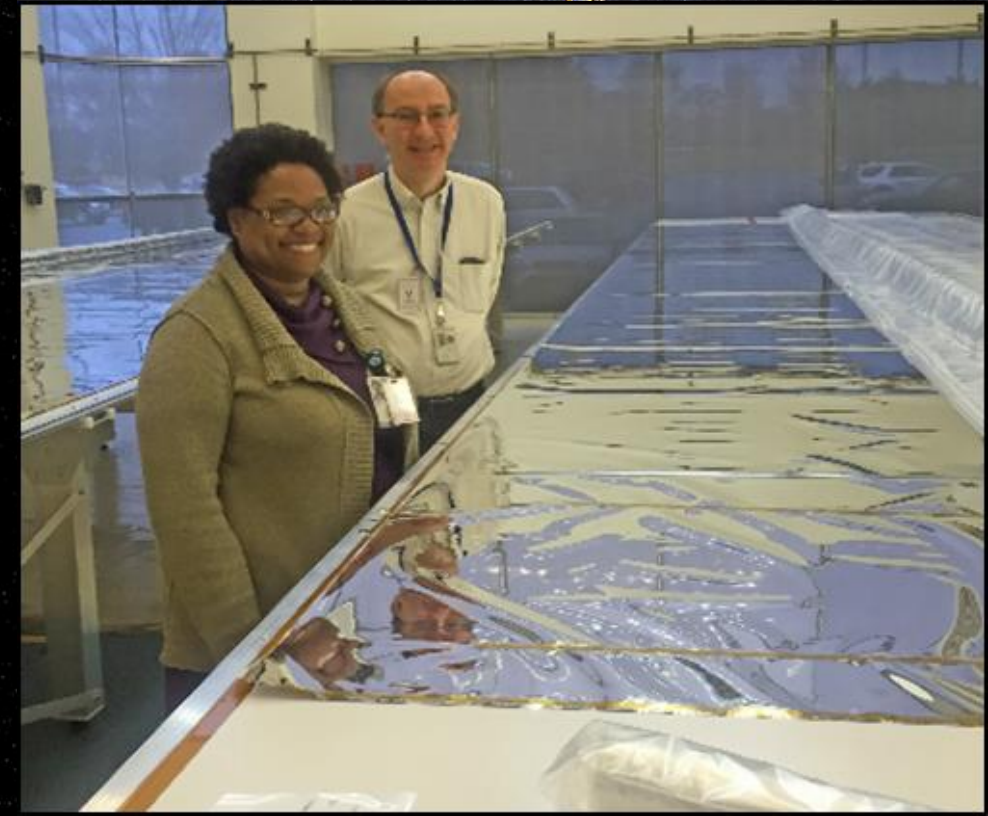
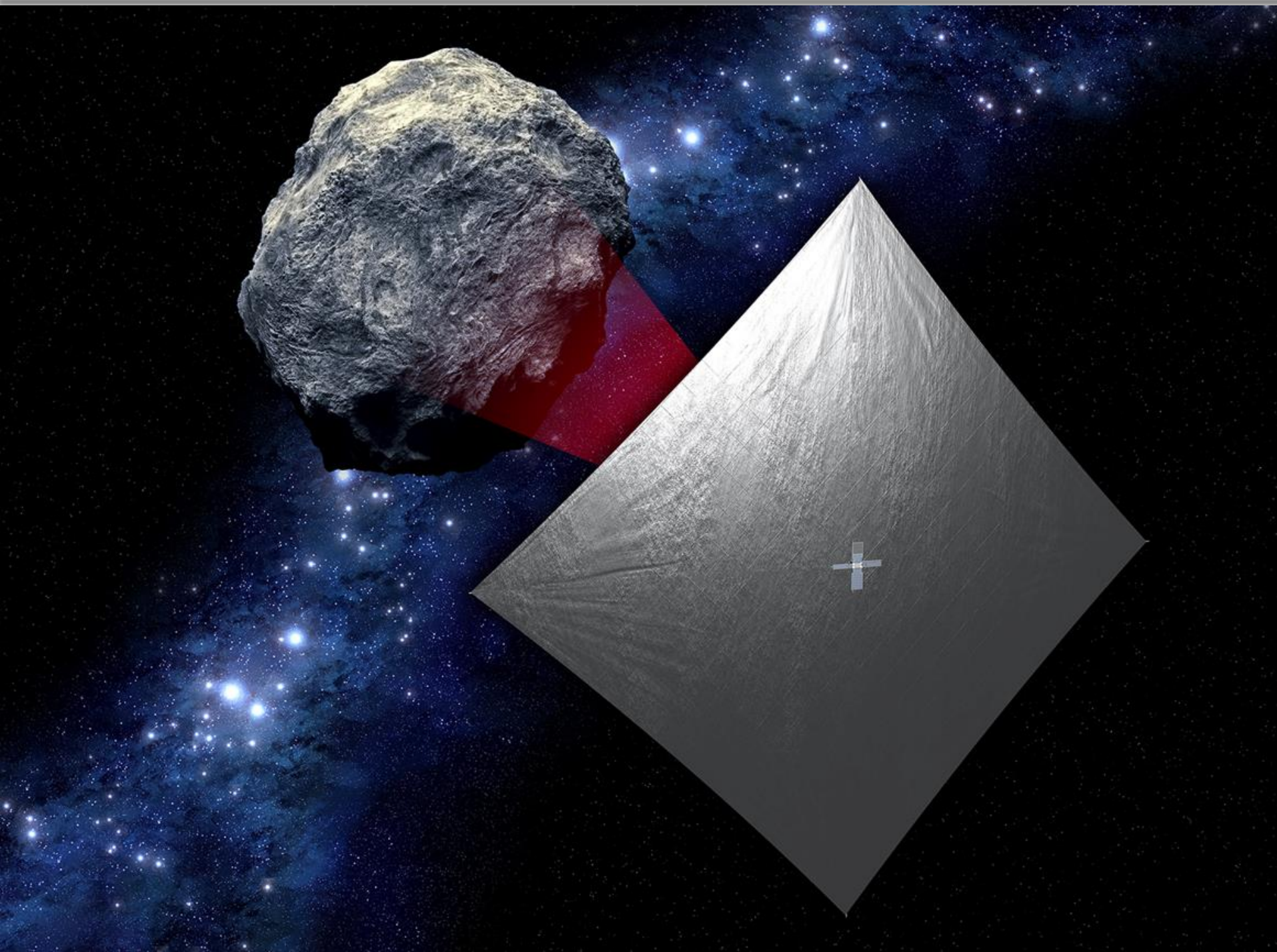


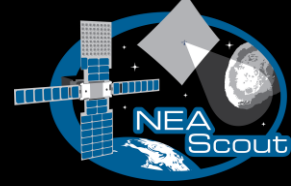
# On Schedule to Deliver Spacecraft in 2018





# Questions?





# Backup Information