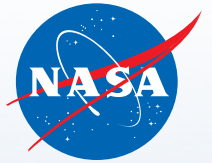


*“Anything one man can  
imagine, other men can  
make real.”*

—Jules Verne, 1873



# NASA Propulsion and Power Technologies for Multiple Applications

**James M. Free**  
Director, Glenn Research Center  
Cleveland, Ohio



# Who is NASA Glenn?



## Lewis Field (Cleveland)

- 350 acres
- 1626 civil servants and 1511 contractors
- 66% of workforce are scientists and engineers



## Plum Brook Station (Sandusky)

- 6500 acres
- 11 civil servants and 102 contractors

# Glenn Awards and Recognition



**R&D 100 Awards (1966 to 2014) Glenn has 118, highest in the Agency in these disciplines**

- Aeropropulsion systems
- Aerospace communications
- In-space propulsion systems
- Power and energy conversion



## Colliers

- Contributions to airline accident reduction (2008)
- Advance turboprop technology (1988)
- Thermal ice prevention systems (1946)



## Emmy

- Contributions to the Communications Technology Satellite (1987)



## Patents

- 43 to Glenn
- 38 to Glenn partners (fiscal years 2010 to 2013) as of July 25, 2013



## NASA Software of the Year

- 5 Glenn awards in the past 15 years



## FLCs

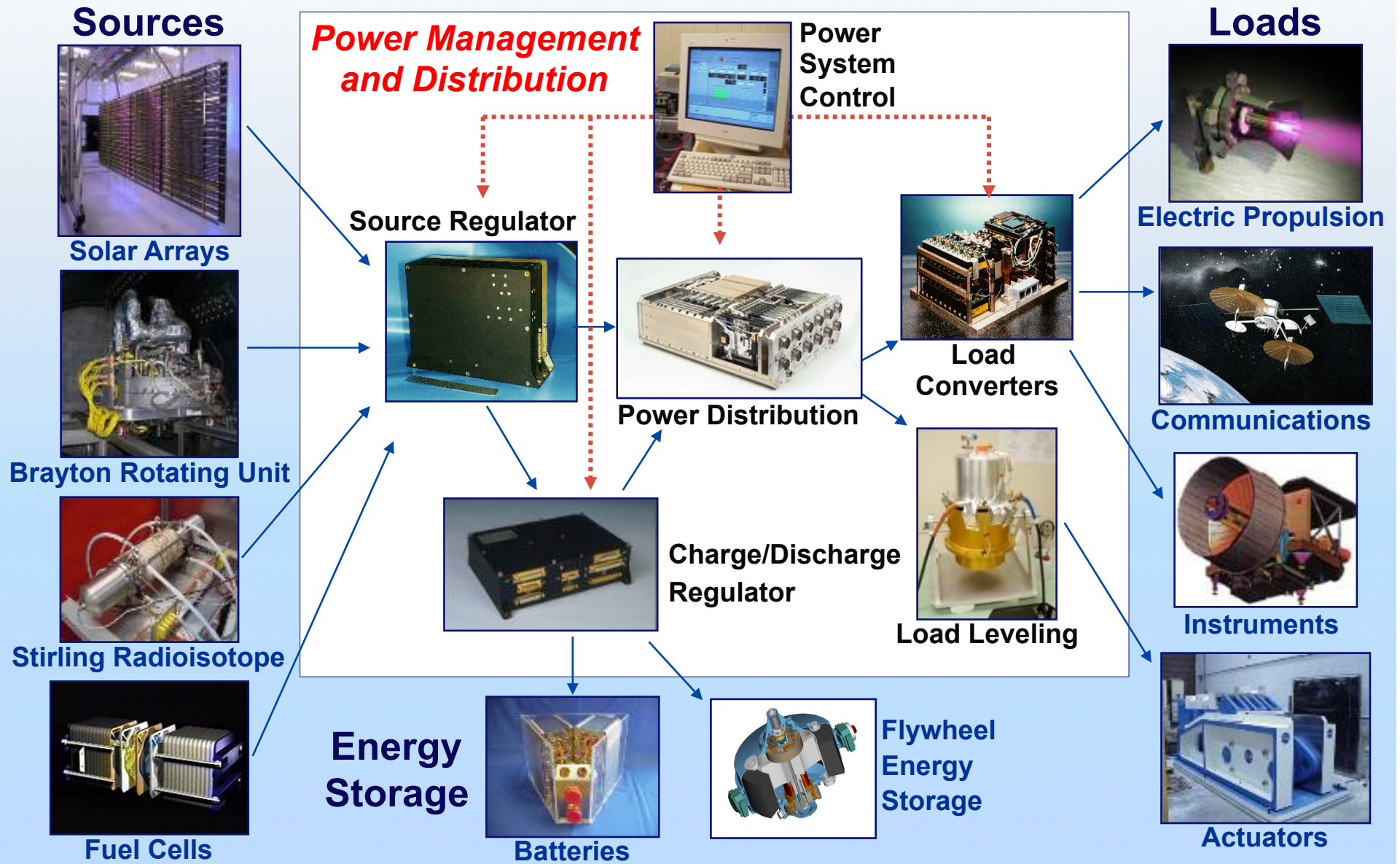
- Federal Laboratory Consortium (FLC) Excellence in Technology Transfer (2009 and 2011)



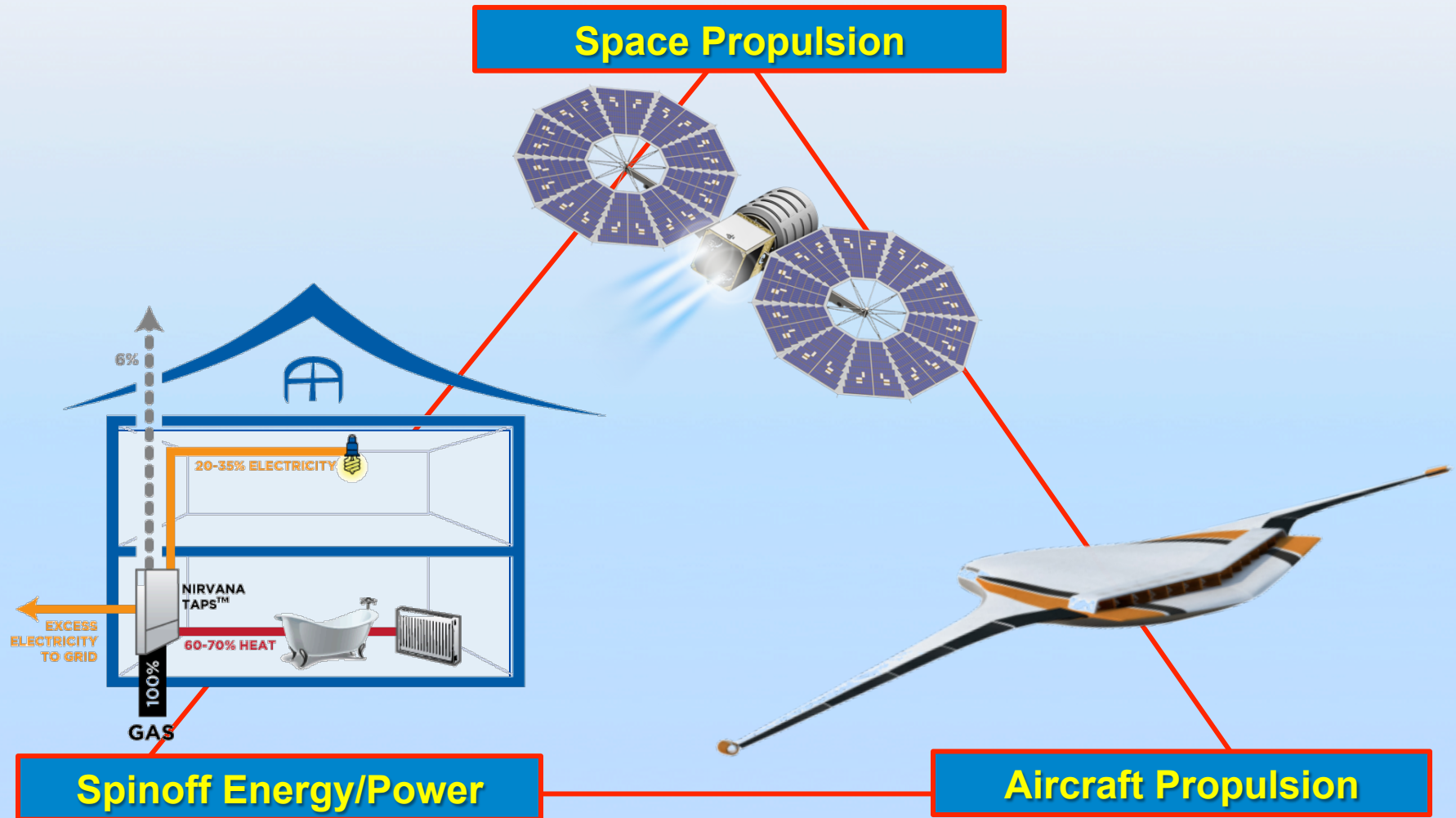
## Presidential Rank (2005 to 2011)

- 17 Meritorious
- 4 Distinguished

# Power System Elements—Broad Spectrum



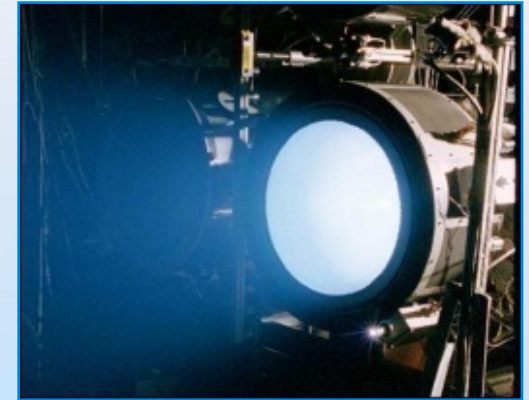
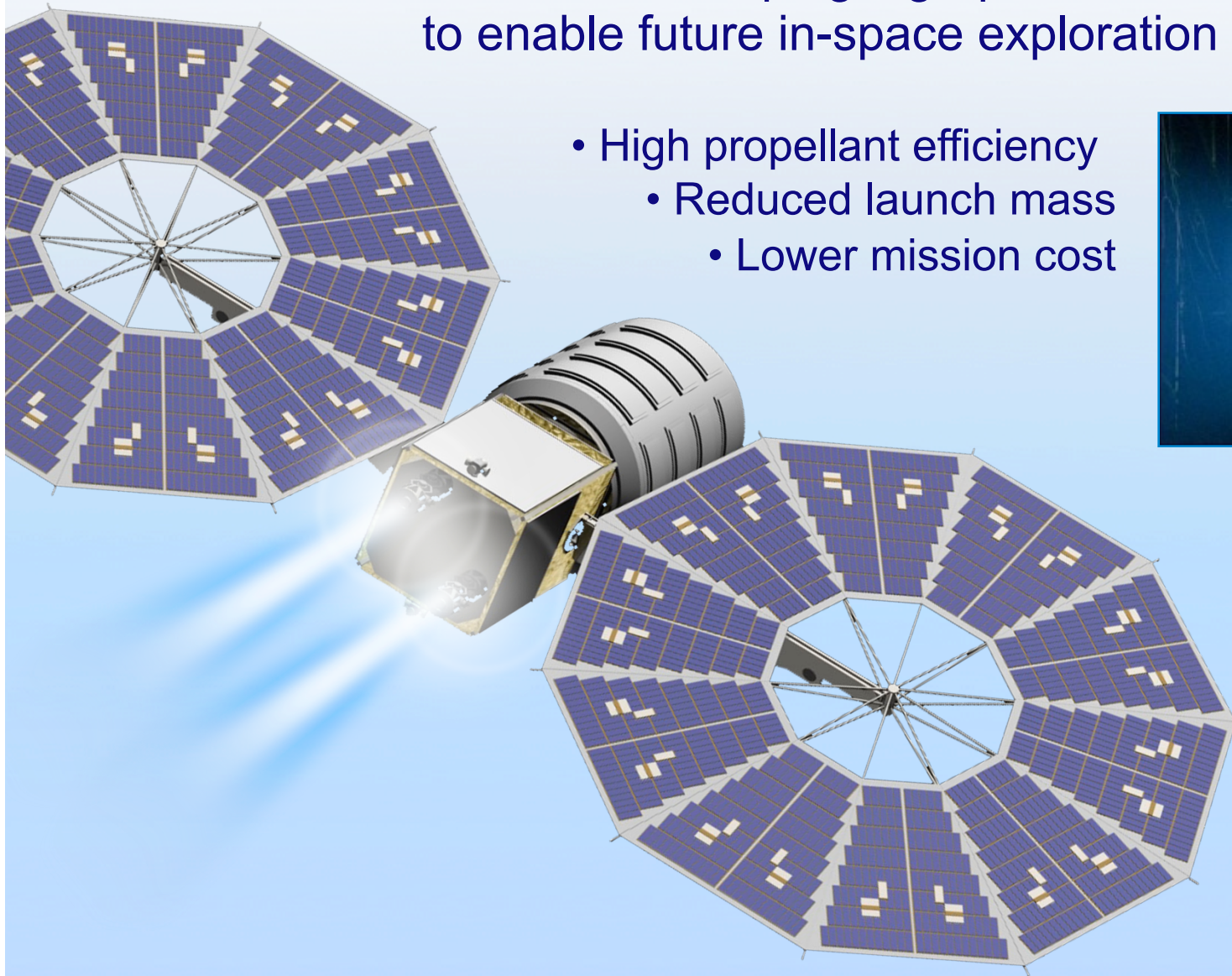
# Leveraging Glenn Aerospace and Energy Technology Synergies To Address Future Challenges



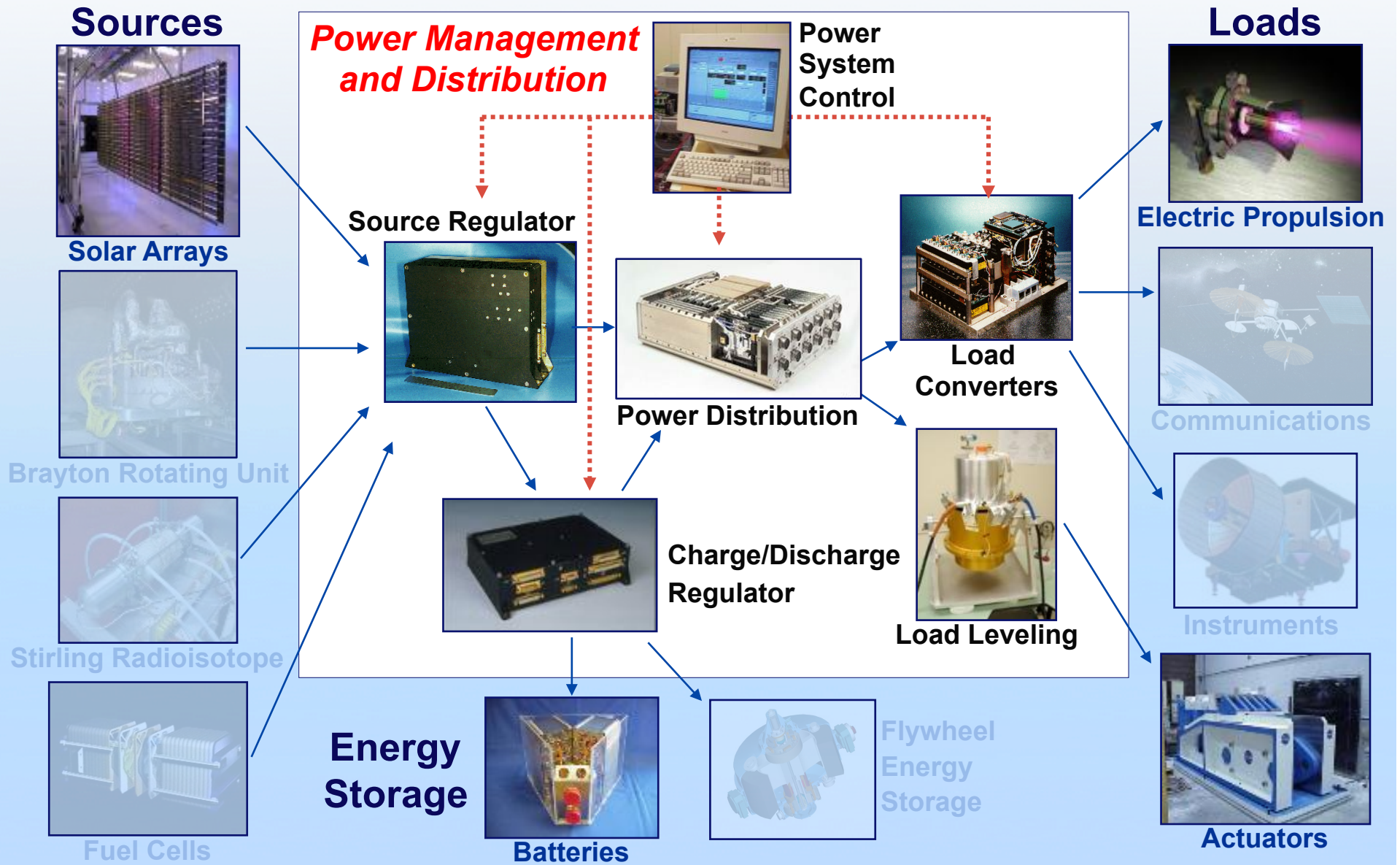
# Leverage Point #1—Solar Electric Propulsion (SEP)

NASA is developing high-performance SEP capability to enable future in-space exploration missions.

- High propellant efficiency
  - Reduced launch mass
  - Lower mission cost



# Power System Elements—Solar Electric Propulsion





# Leverage Point #2— Aircraft Turboelectric Propulsion

Power Level for Electrical Propulsion System

## Projected Timeframe for Achieving Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 6

Spinoff Technologies Benefit More/All Electric Architectures:

- High-power density electric motors replacing hydraulic actuation
- Electrical component and transmission system weight reduction



**kW class**

- All-electric and hybrid-electric general aviation



**1 to 2 MW class**

- Hybrid electric 50 PAX regional
- Turboelectric distributed propulsion 100 PAX regional



**2 to 5 MW class**

- Hybrid electric 100 PAX regional
- Turboelectric distributed propulsion 150 PAX



**5 to 10 MW**

- Hybrid electric 737–150 PAX
- Turboelectric 737–150 PAX



**>10 MW**

- Turboelectric and hybrid electric distributed propulsion 300 PAX

(Power level for single engine)

Today

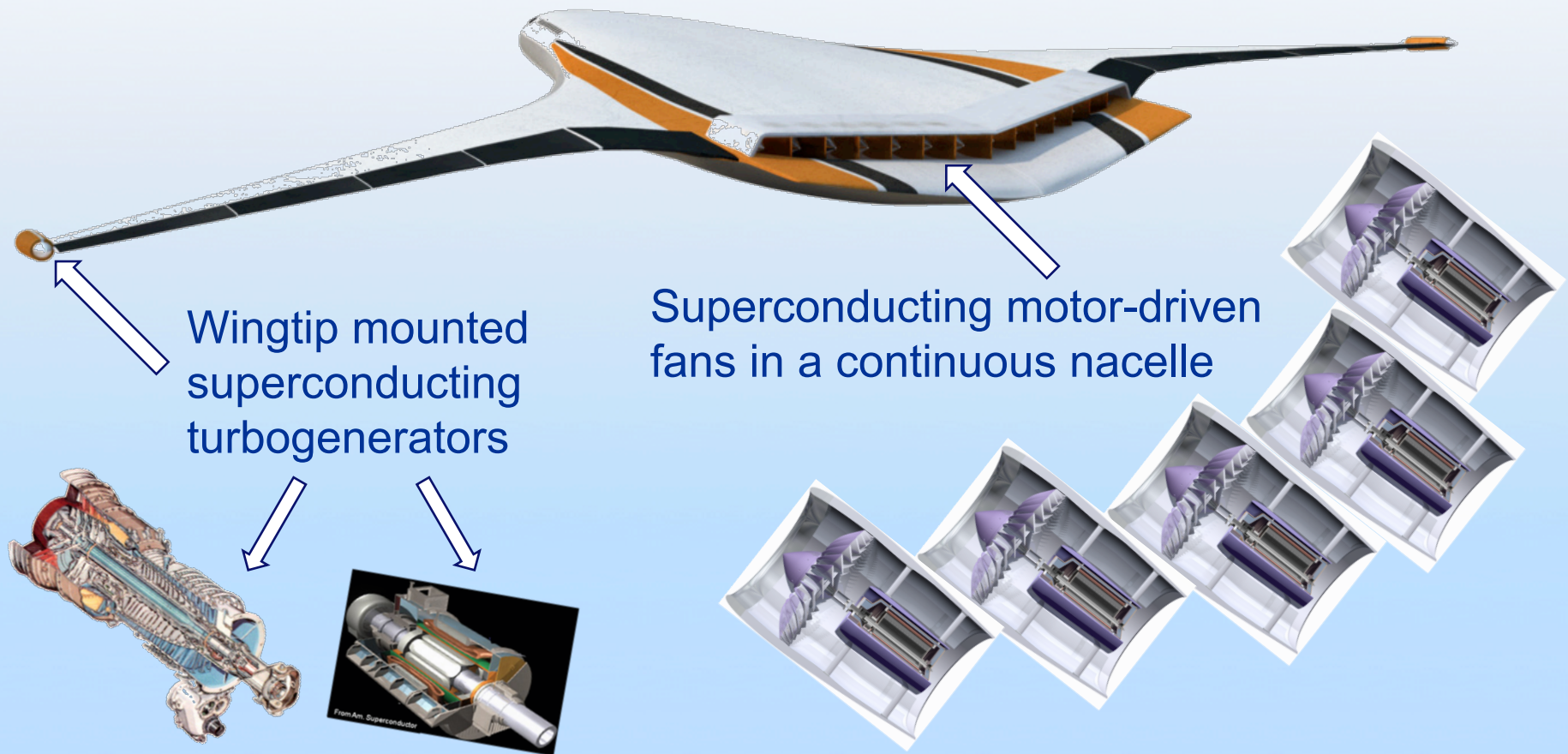
10 Year

20 Year

30 Year

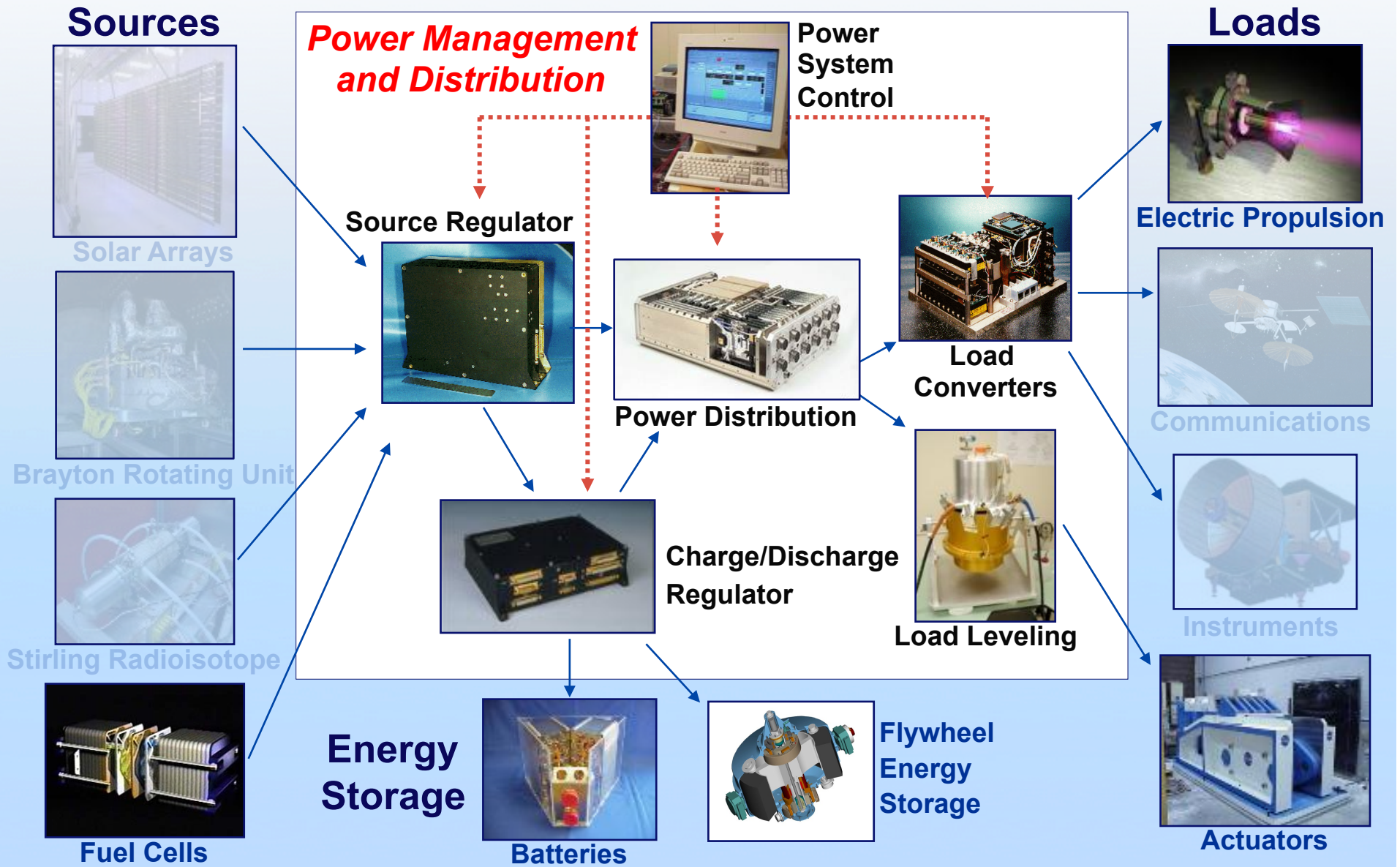
40 Year

# Leverage Point #2— Aircraft Turboelectric Propulsion

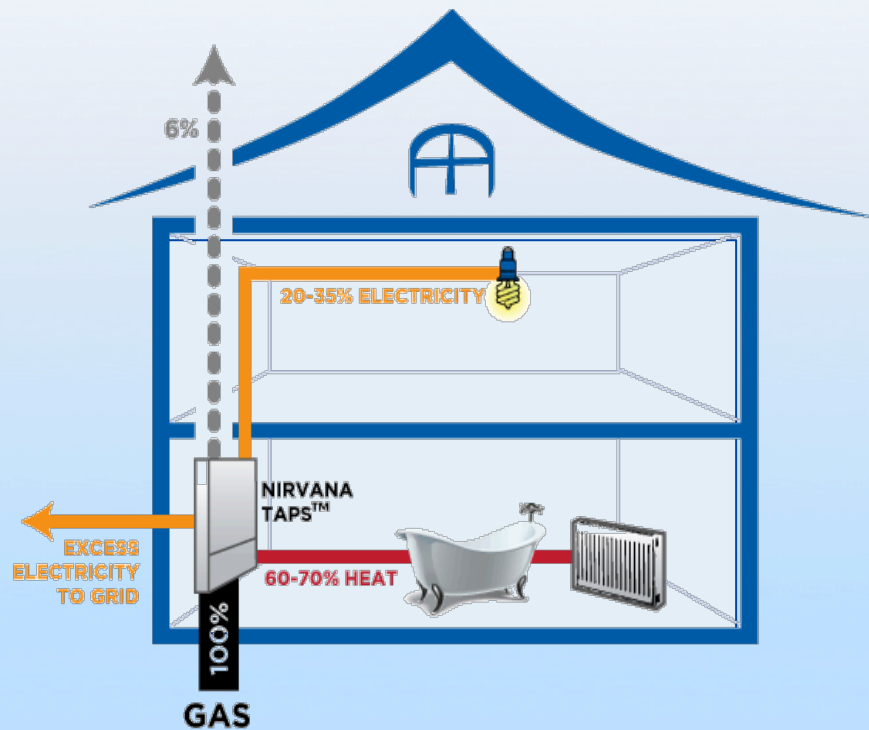


Power is distributed electrically from turbine-driven generators to motors that drive the propulsive fans.

# Power System Elements—Aircraft Turboelectric Propulsion



# Leverage Point #3—Energy/Power Spinoffs

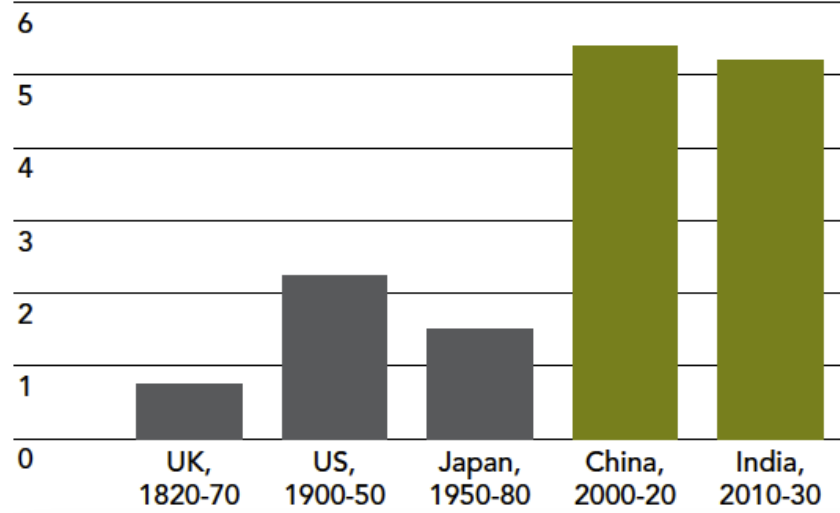


NASA is finding markets and applications for its technologies to address rising trends.

- Trends push demand for both aviation-related power technologies and non-aerospace.
- NASA has been tasked to enhance our technology transfer.
- NASA Glenn is focused on closing the loop on taxpayer investment.

# What do emerging global trends reveal?

Average increase in percentage point share of global GDP, per decade

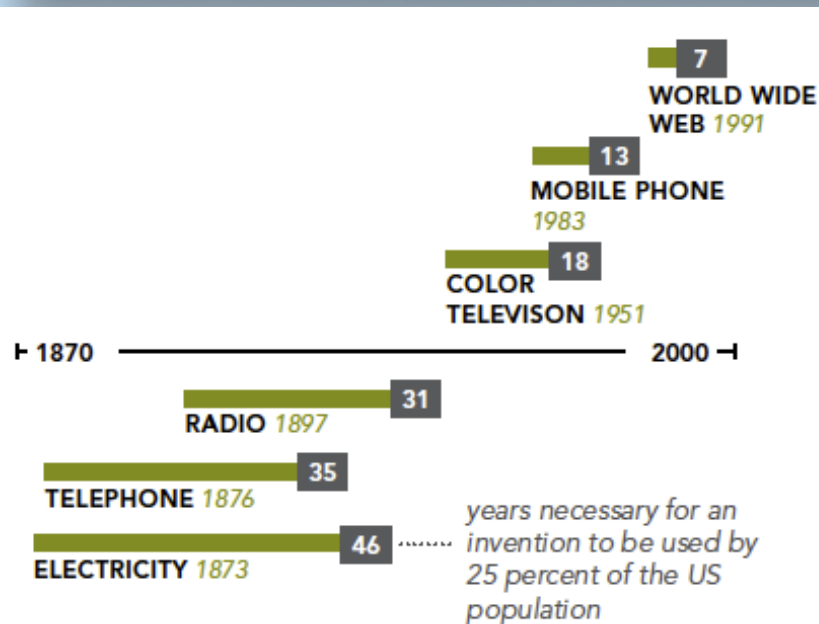


China and India are growing economically at unprecedented rates.

Asia-Pacific will have the largest middle class.

The world will be predominantly urban.

Revolutionary technology development and adoption are accelerating.



Source: National Intelligence Council

# Why are these trends important?

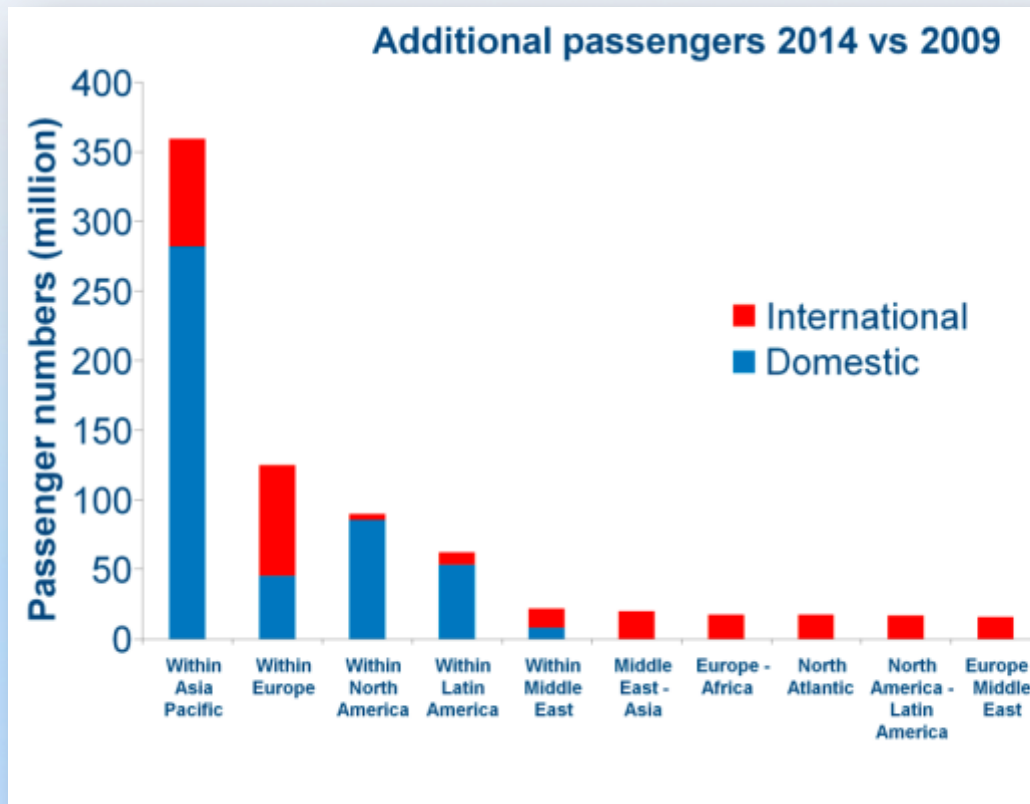
They drive global demand for air travel...

They drive expanding competition for high-tech manufacturing...

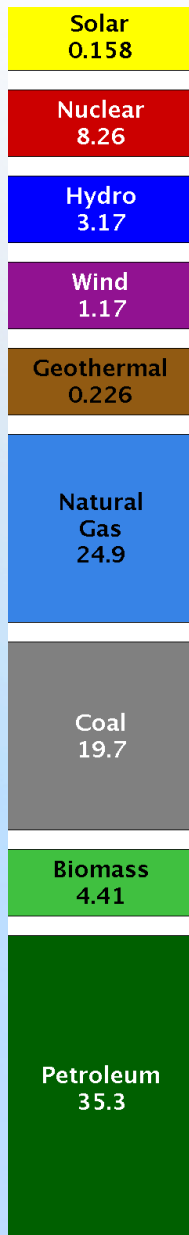
They drive “leapfrog” adoption of new technology and infrastructure...

They drive resource use, costs, constraints, and impacts...

They drive need for alternative energy technologies...



# Domestic Energy Use Trends



Source: LLNL 2012

## Energy sources:

- Fossil fuels (petroleum, natural gas, and coal) account for more than 80% of all U.S. energy production
- Nuclear provides about 8%
- The balance is renewable fuels (biomass, hydro, wind, geothermal, and solar)

## Energy consumption:

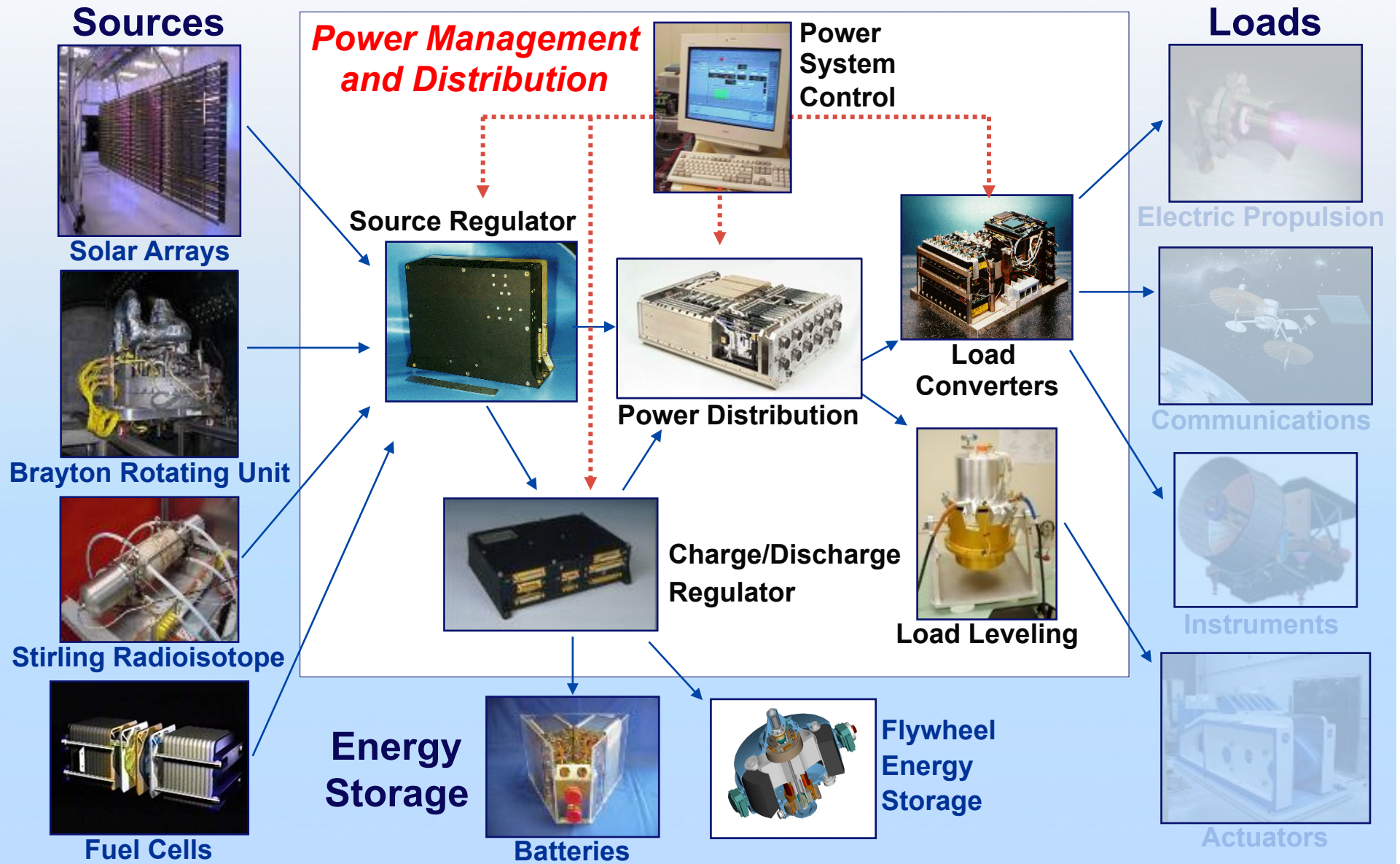
- ~40% of all U.S. energy is used for generating electricity
- ~28% is used in transportation
- The remainder is used for other residential, commercial, and industrial needs (e.g., heating)

## Energy efficiency:

- More than half of all energy produced is rejected due to inefficiencies (e.g., waste heat)

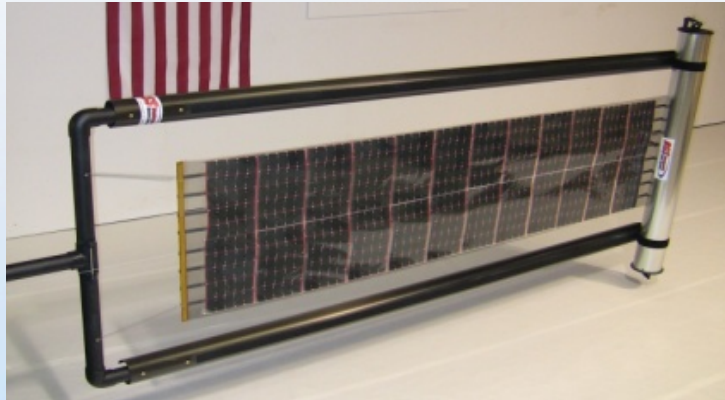
***NASA can contribute to changing these trends.***

# Power System Elements—Energy/Power Spinoffs





# NASA-Driven Energy Advancements: Renewables



## ***Solar: Higher Performance and More Applications***

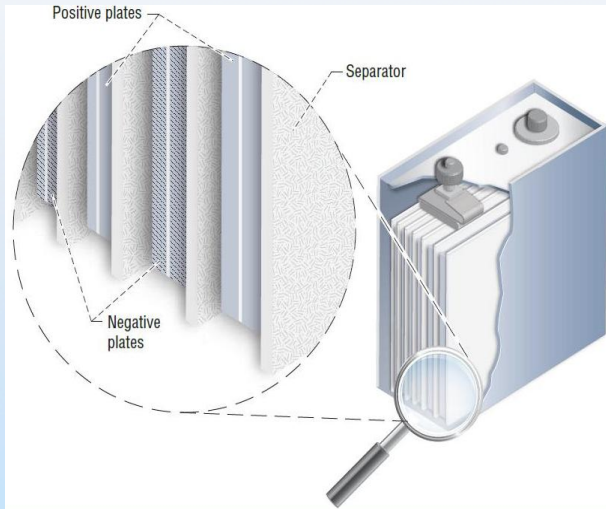
- Improved solar cell performance, measurement, and calibration
- Higher efficiency, lighter weight, and flexible solar cells
- Improved design and fabrication techniques
- Solar array technology advancements

## ***Wind: Enhanced Efficiency, Capacity, and Siting***

- Aeroelasticity analysis and vibration reduction
- Advanced rotating components and tribology research
- Ice accretion testing, analysis, and mitigation
- Improved composite blade manufacturing



# NASA-Driven Energy Advancements: Storage

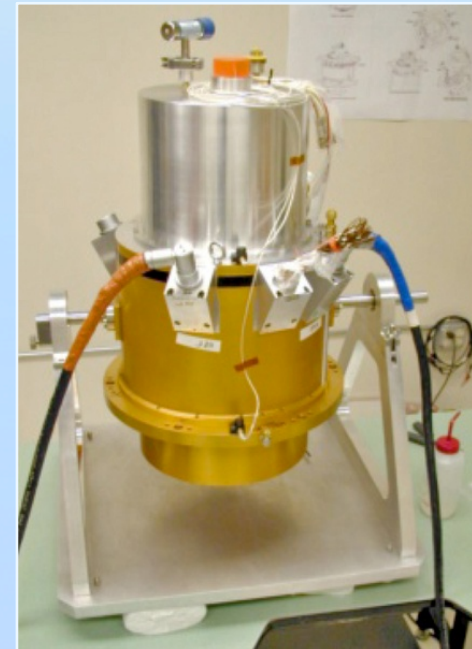


## ***Batteries: Safer, Better, and Lighter***

- Safer high-performance Li-ion chemistries
- Compact, lighter weight Li-ion architectures
- Performance advancements using carbon nanotubes, metal and metal oxide nanocatalyst processes, and engineered ceramic microstructures

## ***Storage and Fuel Cells: Longer Life and More Reliable***

- Advanced flywheel systems for energy storage and frequency regulation
- Compact, high-power, and low-cost architectures
- Improvements in balance of plant components via life testing and evaluation
- Basic materials and electrochemistry research



# NASA-Driven Energy Advancements: Controls and Alternatives



## *Power Management: Smart, Robust, and Resilient*

- Intelligent power systems
- Long-term autonomous operation
- Hierarchical control
- Distributed algorithm computation
- Agent-based software

## *Alternatives: Improved Efficiency, Integration, and Flexibility*

- Higher efficiency energy conversion (e.g., Stirling, Brayton, motors, and electronics)
- Integration of renewable sources
- Improved combustion modeling, simulation, and testing
- Alternative fuels research, testing, and evaluation



# Moving Forward

- Technologies to advance power and propulsion
  - Exist
  - Are highly advanced
  - Have multiple applications
- NASA Glenn drives research, technology, and systems with power and propulsion at our core.

***NASA Glenn is Leveraging Aerospace  
and Energy Technology Synergies  
To Address Future Challenges.***