



ULA Meeting with the Presidential Transition Team for NASA

Background:

On December 16, ULA met with the Presidential Transition Team (PTT) for NASA. The transition team was interested in Expendable Launch Vehicle topics relating to NASA current and possibly future programs. The principal topics of discussion were:

1. NASA-DOD Cooperation

We believe it is important to address the potential opportunities in the current national launch infrastructure that could be realized through increased cooperation between NASA and the DOD. The collective needs of all USG launch users can be better served and our nation's space industrial base could be enhanced by increased coordination of these major users of EELV systems. Today each user is buying launches on an individual mission basis. By leveraging the collective buying power of the USG administrative efficiencies and lower costs can be gained for all users.

2. Medium Lift

NASA has built much of its science portfolio around missions requiring medium lift launch capability. With the possibility that the NASA manifest will be unable to support continued operation of the Delta II the NASA science community is expressing frustration over the uncertainty of availability of launch services to support their missions. ULA has evaluated several options for supporting medium lift launch requirements. The selection will depend on gaining clarity of the future NASA and National Security markets. Until that time, current Delta II inventory can support the known NASA manifest.

3. ULA Capabilities to Address the Shuttle Gap.

Cargo

The EELV systems are capable of supporting a wide range of cargo delivery options. ULA has completed preliminary integration of a number of existing and planned cargo transfer vehicles on EELV, including ATV and HTV. EELV's offer a competitive price per kilogram of delivered cargo, and were included in a number of COTS proposals

Crew

The EELV systems are also capable of supporting commercial crew delivery options. The basis for this capability was established during the NASA Orbital Space Plan (OSP) Program.

4. ULA Support to the Exploration Initiative

ULA has been a continued supporter of NASA's Exploration Initiative and Project Constellation. For example, we are providing the avionics systems for the first Ares test flight and the use of our Delta Mariner barge to transport flight hardware.

To our knowledge, NASA has not considered launching Orion on EELV since the ESAS study. Although we believe the EELV systems have the basic capability, we have limited insight into the specific details of Orion necessary for a complete integration assessment. Programmatic issues involved in launching Orion on EELV have also not



been addressed. These would include joint use of infrastructure and systems by NASA and the AF and the associated contractual complexities of these diverse program operational needs.