Building a World in Orbit: Construction & Deployment of Aegis Station

Modular. Redundant. Ready from day one.

I. Overview

Aegis Station is not built all at once. It's deployed in **phases**, ring by ring, with the ability to begin operations long before full completion. This approach spreads cost, reduces risk, and accelerates value.

II. Assembly in Three Stages

Stage 1: Launch & LEO Assembly

- Ring segments and core structures launched dry via heavy-lift vehicles
- Assembly in low Earth orbit (LEO) using robotic and crew operations
- No water mass launched from Earth—only dry components
- Each ring is constructed independently to avoid schedule bottlenecks

Stage 2: Transfer to Lunar Orbit

- Fully assembled ring modules towed to lunar orbit by high-efficiency electric or hybrid tugs
- Central hub remains non-rotating throughout
- Spin-up occurs only after safe orbital placement

Stage 3: Shielding with Lunar Water

- Shielding begins immediately on arrival in lunar orbit
- Fleet of tankers delivers water directly into shield reservoirs built into each ring's outer hull
- Rings are shielded one at a time—but may begin partial operation once lower decks are protected

III. Phased Ring Activation

Each ring is a self-contained system:

- Independent life support, power, thermal, and crew subsystems
- Physically isolated for fault tolerance
- Operationally independent from other rings

This allows Ring A to:

- Activate ahead of Rings B and C
- Host initial crew for science, construction, and pilot operations
- Serve as a testbed while expansion continues in parallel

IV. Shielding Operations & Timeline

- **Per-ring shielding volume:** ~550,000 tons
- Fleet capacity: 30 tankers delivering 900 tons/day
- Time to fill each ring: ~1.6 years
- Shielding can proceed in parallel across rings
- Partial shielding enables early deck-level protection and phased activation

V. Cost Breakdown (Phase 1–3)

Component Estimated Cost

Launch + dry mass to LEO ~\$300B

Tug transfers to lunar orbit ~\$10–30B

Lunar water sourcing + fill ~\$250B

Total Construction Phase ~\$560B

Includes:

- Station dry mass (\sim 120,000 tons)
- Shielding mass (~1.65 million tons)
- All transfer, tug, and fill operations

VI. Operational Timeline

Year Milestone

- 1 Launch of dry modules begins
- 2 Ring A assembled in LEO
- 3 Ring A moved to lunar orbit

Year Milestone

- 4 Ring A begins shielding + early ops
- 5 Ring A partial shield; Ring B begins
- 6 Ring B arrives, shielding begins
- 7–8 Ring C in LEO, crew scaling
- 10 All rings fully shielded and active

VII. Why This Works

- Modular deployment spreads schedule and cost
- Ring A delivers value from year 4 onward
- Failures are isolated—no single point of station-wide risk
- Shielding is integrated, flexible, and scalable
- A station that works from the ground up—even if it's in orbit