A MULTI-PURPOSE ANALYSIS AND LOGISTICS DEVICE FOR LUNAR EXPLORATION.

M. Rizzo[1], B.C. Hall[2], M.K. Pérez[3]
[1]Institut Supérieur de l'Aéronautique et de l'Espace, 31055 Toulouse, France, maxime.rizzo@supaero.isae.fr,
[2]University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742, hall@umd.edu,
[3]Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA 24061, mkperez@vt.edu.

Introduction: This project studies the concept of a multi-purpose analysis device that may be used by astronauts on the lunar surface during extravehicular activities (EVAs). The device to be developed will be mobile and designed for compatibility with the astronauts' glove and space suit model. It must be robust and able to withstand the lunar environment. The purpose of this device is to provide the astronauts with scientific and logistical information. It would be known as MALIC: Mobile Analytical and Logistical Information Companion. MALIC, even though being developed for lunar use could also be adapted to any exploratory environment, such as the extreme regions of Earth.

Methodology: In order to complete this project, members of the scientific community will be surveyed to identify potential capabilities for the device. To foster the development of MALIC, prize competition and Space Act Agreement models will be reviewed and compared.

Expected Results: This project will conclude with a set of requirements for MALIC, as well as a roadmap for its development. This roadmap will be built around the selected model, which will either be a prize competition or a Space Act Agreement.

The underlying goal of this project is to further the involvement of private companies and individuals in the space industry, specifically in Man's return to the lunar surface.