





# INTERNATIONAL **ROVER CHALLENGE**

- Changing the way you Innovate -

February 15-18, 2022 Chennai, India

www.roverchallenge.org





## **FOREWORD**

## Welcome to International Rover Challenge 2022

The Mars Society South Asia has come up with an updated rulebook for International Rover Challenge (IRC) 2022 with significant changes. These changes have been made through insights gained from previous editions of IRC while also keeping the challenges faced by the rover teams in the post-pandemic world in mind. It would be fair to call it a new avatar of IRC.

From this year onwards, there will be an increased emphasis on creating awareness about the best practices and methods of systems engineering. The main focus is to highlight the benefits of an approach covering the whole project life cycle of developing a Mars Rover. In order to achieve that, changes have been made to the IRC Review Stages (Qualifiers) and the on-site Finals.

To qualify for the Finals, teams will have to successfully clear System Design and Development Review (SDDR), which has two components: an SDDR report and an SDDR video. This is one way of qualifying for the finals.

In addition to that, teams will have another route to qualify for the finals, where teams can opt to use their International Rover Design Challenge (IRDC) - 2021 (<a href="https://roverchallenge.org/">https://roverchallenge.org/</a> irdc) scores to be considered instead of an SDDR video. An SDDR report still has to be submitted in this route.

Teams may choose any one option of their choice. This choice has been given so that teams working online due to pandemic will have a fair chance to qualify for the IRC finals. The teams will get to choose either route to the finals during the registration process. Teams will not be allowed to amend their choice at a later stage.

Another major change is that the competition's on-site Finals dates have been shifted to February. This was a long pending request from many teams, which has been considered.

Additionally, a Project Implementation Review (PIR) has been added as one of the missions for the Finals. It will be a brief one-to-one interaction between teams and the judges, facilitating the free exchange of ideas and information.

These changes aim at making the competition a more comprehensive and better learning experience for everyone involved.

Wishing all the teams good luck and hoping for an exhilarating IRC experience for everyone.

Sagar Dhaka
Event Director (IRC)



## **CONTENTS**

Foreword		İ
Contents		ii
List of Abbre	ist of Abbreviations	
Chapter 1	COMPETITION OVERVIEW	1
	1.1 Competition Objective	1
	1.2 Competition Procedure and Schedule	1
	1.3 Administrative Regulations	3
	1.4 General Requirements for Teams and Participants	4
	1.5 Finances	4
	1.6 Documentation and Submission Deadlines	5
	1.7 General Rules	5
	1.8 Operations	5
Chapter 2	ROVER GUIDELINES	6
	2.1 Faculty Advisor Role	6
	2.2 Size, Weight and Design	6
	2.3 Communications Equipment	7
	2.4 Restrictions on the 2.4GHz Communication Bands	8
Chapter 3	COMPETITION MISSIONS (FINALS)	
	3.1 Interventions	10
	3.2 Sample Collection and Analysis Mission (SCAM)	10
	3.3 Reconnaissance and Delivery Mission (RDM)	12
	3.4 Autonomous Mission (Bonus Mission)	13
	3.5 Instrument Deployment and Maintenance Mission (IDMM)	14
	3.6 Project Implementation Review (PIR)	15



## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Al Artificial Intelligence

AM Autonomous Mission

BPP Business Plan Presentation

FAQ Frequently Asked Questions

GHz Giga Hertz

GPS Global Positioning System

IEEE Institution of Electrical and Electronic Engineering

IDMM Instrument Deployment and Maintenance Mission

INR Indian Rupees

IRC International Rover Challenge

IRDC International Rover Design Challenge

PERT Program Evaluation Review Technique

pH Potential of Hydrogen

RADM Reconnaissance and Delivery Mission

RF Radio Frequency

SDDR System Design and Development Review

SCAM Sample Collection and Analysis Mission

USD United States Dollars

WGS World Geodetic System



#### 1.1 COMPETITION OBJECTIVE

IRC is a space robotics engineering competition. It challenges university students to conceptualise, design, develop and operate an astronaut-assistive next-gen Mars Rover and perform specific missions in Mars simulated conditions.

The objective of the competition is to provide students with a real-world interdisciplinary engineering experience, combining practical engineering skills with soft skills, including business planning and project management.

#### 1.2 COMPETITION PROCEDURE AND SCHEDULE

The competition is split into two stages:

- Qualifiers (Online)
- Finals (On-site)

#### 1.2.1 Team Selection Criteria

All teams will undergo a review and down-selection process during the qualifiers, i.e. only the Top 25 teams that pass each milestone will be invited to compete in the on-site Finals. Specific details for each deadline (including deliverable format, submission requirements, and judges' expectations) will be posted to the IRC website (https://roverchallenge.org). Additionally, officials may respond to teams with follow-up questions or requests for clarification at any of these milestones.

## 1.2.2 Registration

All teams have to declare an intent to compete. The registration form will be available online on the IRC website from August 20-31, 2021. No significant deliverables are required for this deadline, aside from team details requested via the IRC website.

## 1.2.3 System Design and Development Review (SDDR)

Teams are required to submit a System Design and Development Review (SDDR) package before



November 1, 2021. The SDDR package will focus on both technical and project management aspects of the rover development and has written report and video components. In the Project Management aspects, teams shall include the organisational structure of the team, resources management, project planning, a PERT chart showing project timeline, initial budget, fundraising plans, sponsorships, team's recruitment process, educational and public outreach. In the Technical aspects, teams shall include the current state of the rover development and prototypes, overall system design, science strategy, and team's prototype testing strategy. The video component will be a 5 minutes video showcasing salient features of rover design and its readiness. This video has to be shot after August 2021. Teams are not allowed to reuse edited videos from earlier competition or previous design cycle (Teams will have the option to use their International Rover Design Challenge (IRDC) 2021 scores instead of the video. For more details about IRDC, check https://roverchallenge.org/irdc). SDDR is a competitive milestone, and packages will be judged against other team's submissions by the judges. The top 25 teams will advance to the on-site finals. All the teams qualified for the IRC Finals will have to confirm their participation by December 1, 2021. If a qualified team is unable to participate in the Finals due to a particular reason, then its spot will be transferred to the highest-ranked reserve team.

Competition Dates - IRC Finals will be held during February 15-18, 2022, at Vellore Institute of Technology, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India.

Note: Any changes in the dates or mode of the Finals due to the evolving pandemic situation shall be communicated to the teams. The decision solely rests on the discretion of the Mars Society South Asia board.

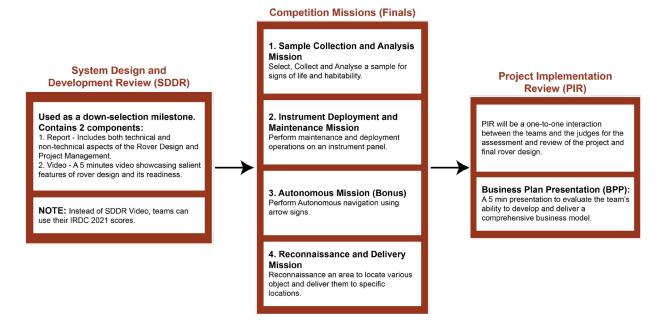


Figure 1.2: IRC Stages



#### 1.3 ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

### 1.3.1 Competition Information

The competition-specific rules and relevant information are defined in this Rulebook, and the specific guidelines issued separately for various submissions/missions will be available on the competition website. All the questions in the FAQ section on the IRC website will also be considered part of the rules and guidelines. In addition, any official announcement shall also be considered part of these rules. Any issues not covered by these published rule sets will be addressed on a case-by-case basis by the IRC officials. If there is a discrepancy, the Rulebook (this document) will take precedence over FAQs.

## 1.3.2 Queries regarding the Rules

Queries regarding any rules or guidelines may be asked to the officials only through email (contact@roverchallenge.org). The frequently asked questions (FAQ) section on the competition website must be checked before submitting a question. The officials will only answer questions that are not already answered in the rules or FAQs or that require new or novel interpretation. The official language of the competition is English. Refer to the competition website for specific directions on how to submit a query.

## 1.3.3 General Officials Authority

The officials reserve the right to revise the schedule of the competition and/or interpret or modify the competition rules at any time and in any manner that is, in their sole judgment, required for safe, fair and efficient operation. Therefore, all team members are required to cooperate with and follow all instructions from the officials.

#### 1.3.4 Official Instructions

Failure of a team member to follow an instruction or command explicitly directed to that team and/or member will result in a 20 points penalty, which will be deducted from their overall score.

#### 1.3.5 Conduct with Officials

Argument with or disobedience to any official will result in the team being eliminated from the competition.

## 1.3.6 Unethical Conduct

In case of unethical conduct by a team member, a 20 points penalty will be deducted from the team's overall score. A second violation will result in the expulsion of that member and his/her team from the competition.



#### 1.3.7 Protests

If a team has a question about scoring, judging, policies or any official action, in that case, it must be brought to the officials' attention for an informal initial review before an official protest can be filed. A team may protest any rule interpretation, score, or officials' action which they feel has caused some actual, non-trivial harm to their team or has had a substantive effect on their score. If a resolution cannot be found through the initial review, a protest must be filed in writing and presented to the officials by the Team Leader. The decision of the officials regarding any protest will be in a written form and will be final, and no further protests will be considered on that same topic.

## 1.4 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR TEAMS & PARTICIPANTS

## 1.4.1 Teams per University

There is no limit to the number of teams a university can send to the competition. Teams that are formed with members from two or more universities are treated as a single team. It is up to the members to decide if they want to represent one university or compete independently. Representing more than one university is not allowed.

#### 1.4.2 Team Members

A person can be a part of only one team. Each team must have one team member identified as their team leader/captain. The team leader/captain is the main point of contact for the officials during the registration process and competition.

#### 1.4.3 Student Status

Team members must be enrolled as degree-seeking undergraduate or graduate students in any university. Team members who have graduated before the competition are ineligible to participate.

Students seeking a PhD degree/PhD students or equivalent are not allowed to participate.

#### 1.4.4 Age

Team members must be at least 18 years of age. Written permission from the official guardian should be provided for members below the age of 18 years on the date of January 1 of the year of the Finals.

#### 1.5 FINANCES

The maximum allowable cash budget which a team can spend on the project is 2,000,000 INR (25,000 USD). It shall include components for the rover, rover module, rover power source, rover communication equipment, and rover base station equipment. Teams are encouraged to get financial and in-kind sponsorships and donations for their project. Teams should mention the sponsorship amount and donations in their SDDR.



#### 1.6 DOCUMENTATION & SUBMISSION DEADLINES

#### 1.6.1 Submission

Submitted documents may only be viewed by members of the submitting team, authorized judges and officials. The official website of the competition will be used for all online submissions. By submitting documents via the competition website, the team agrees that these documents may be reproduced and distributed by the officials, in both complete and edited versions, for educational and marketing purposes. Teams should check the competition website regularly to keep track of the submission deadlines.

#### 1.7 GENERAL RULES

## 1.7.1 Forfeit for Non-Appearance

It is the responsibility of each team to be present at the competition site with their rover at their scheduled timeslot, which will be communicated to them beforehand by the organizers. If a team is not present and ready to compete at the scheduled time, it forfeits its attempt at that mission/task.

## 1.7.2 Team Briefing

All team leaders/captains and members are supposed to attend the team briefing for that day. If any member is not present at the briefing, it's the team's duty to get those members up to speed. If any specific doubts are there regarding the mission, they can be cleared during the briefing. No doubts or clarifications will be entertained once the mission time has begun.

#### 1.8 OPERATIONS

- Teams will operate their rovers from designated base stations. These base stations will be
  isolated such that the visibility of the course is blocked to the operators. Basic Indian-style
  power outlets (220V, 50Hz), tables, and chairs will be provided.
- All of the competition events will be held in full daylight or under adequate artificial light.
- The GPS coordinates provided shall adhere to the WGS 84 datum standard. The format for the same will be latitude/longitude in decimal degrees.
- There will be a radio communication line of sight from the command station to the rover for all the on-site tasks. Rovers are expected to travel 500m at most from the command station.
- Testing will not be allowed at the site during or before IRC 2022.



#### 2.1 FACULTY ADVISOR ROLE

- The rover entered into the competition must be entirely designed and built by the student team members without direct involvement from faculty advisors and industry professionals.
- The role of faculty advisor/coordinator/supervisor will be limited to mentorship and guidance. He/She may not make design decisions.
- Students should perform manufacturing and fabrication tasks themselves as much as
  possible. For cases where in-house manufacturing and fabrication are not possible, teams
  can approach contractors, but the amount charged will be considered in the team budget.

#### 2.2 SIZE, WEIGHT AND DESIGN

- The rover shall be a stand-alone, off-the-grid, mobile platform. Tethered power and communications are not allowed. A single connected platform must leave the designated start line.
- The maximum allowable mass of the rover when deployed for any competition mission is 60 kg. The total mass of all fielded rover parts for all events is 75 kg. For example, a modular rover may have a robotic arm and a sensor that are never on the rover at the same time. The rover plus arm and rover plus sensor combinations must each be under 60 kg, but the total rover plus arm plus sensor must be less than 75 kg. The limitations on the rover's weight do not include any spares or tools that may be required to build or maintain the rover If the rover is overweight during a mission, the team will be charged a penalty of 5% of the points scored for every kilogram over 60.
- The maximum allowable length and breadth of the rover are 1.5m and 1.2m, respectively. There is no vertical height limit for IRC 2022. If the rover is oversized during a mission, the team will be charged a penalty of 20% of the points scored during that mission.
- The rovers must use power systems that may be applicable on Mars. Battery-powered systems can only be used for the rovers. Any potential hazardous material will require proper



documentation to be submitted to the organizers before the competition.

All rovers must be equipped with a "kill switch" placed on the rover's exterior, accessible
and visible at all times. This switch must cease any movement by the rover and withdraw all
power draw from batteries in case of an emergency.

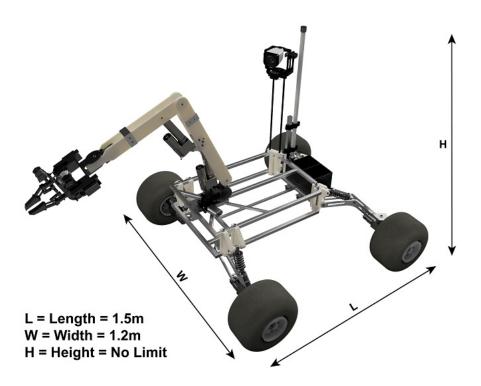


Figure 2.2: Rover Dimensions

#### 2.3 COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT

- The rover shall be operated remotely using wireless communications with no time delay. The operators will not be able to view the rover or the site directly, and line-of-sight communications are not guaranteed for all of the missions. Teams must power down communications equipment at the event sites while not competing to not interfere with other teams. Aerial devices are not allowed for communications at IRC 2022.
- Both omnidirectional and directional antennae are allowed, but communications equipment must not rely on the team's ability to watch and track the rover first hand.
- Steered directional antennae may use a mechanized antenna mounted outside that is controlled via an electronic signal from the command station. Signal strength, relayed GPS, or other strategies may be used to give feedback on antenna direction, but it is not allowed to mount a camera on top of the antenna for visual feedback.
- Base station antenna height is limited to 3 metres and shall adhere to all applicable regulations. Antenna bases must be located within 5 meters of the team's command station.



Any ropes or wires used for stability purposes only may be anchored within 10 meters of the command station.

#### 2.4 RESTRICTIONS ON THE 2.4GHZ COMMUNICATION BANDS

Teams must inform the organizers of IRC about the communications standards they will be using, including frequency bands and channels, by December 1, 2021.

- 2.4 GHz frequency band (2.400-2.4835 GHz): Teams shall use centre frequencies corresponding to channels 111 of the IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) 802.11 standard for 2.4 GHz. A team shall be allotted three channels in each mission, details of which will be posted along with the competition schedule. The teams must strictly stay within the assigned channels, which will be monitored by the judges during the tasks.
- These restrictions apply to both the command station to rover communications and any local wireless network such as (but not limited to) on-board the rover between subsystems.
- Communication on the 5.8Ghz band is recommended for less interference.



- Teams will get an allotted time of 30 minutes to complete a mission, except the bonus mission, which will be of 15 minutes. If a team completes a mission/stage in less than 80% of the allotted time for that mission/stage, the team will get 10% bonus points for that mission/stage.
- All the penalties are additive: e.g. penalties of 10% and 20% would result in a score of 70% of the points earned during that particular mission. All the missions are scored independently, and it is not possible to score less than zero in a mission.
- Before the start of the mission, teams will get 10 minutes as the setup time to set up all
  necessary systems and equipment at the base station. After completing the mission, teams
  will have to switch off their radio communication equipment immediately, and they will
  have 10 minutes to disassemble all the equipment and vacate the base station.
- The rover is not required to be in the same configuration during the entire competition.
   Teams can change the configuration of the rover according to their needs and mission requirements. The rover will be accessible to the teams throughout the competition, and teams can make modifications and repair between the missions.

MISSION / SUBMISSION	POINTS		
Qualifiers (Online)			
System Design & Development Review (SDDR) Report	125		
IRDC Score / SDDR Video	125		
Qualifiers Total	250		
Finals (On-site)			
Sample collection and Analysis Mission (SCAM)	200		
Reconnaissance and Delivery Mission (RDM)	175		
Instrument Deployment and Maintenance Mission (IDMM)	175		
Autonomous Mission (AM)	50 (Bonus)		
Project Implementation Review (PIR)	125		
Business Plan Presentation (BPP)	75		
Finals Total	750		
Total	1000 (+50 Bonus)		

Table 3.0: IRC Points Distribution



#### 3.1 INTERVENTIONS

An intervention can be called when a critical error hinders regular rover operation during a mission. However, the following set of guidelines are to be followed to service an intervention call.

Teams are allowed to call for a maximum of two interventions during a mission. An additive 10% penalty of the total points scored in that particular mission will be imposed per intervention. So, a team may call for multiple interventions, with each call resulting in a penalty. If a team calls for a second intervention during a mission, it will have to start the mission from the starting point of that mission/stage. The mission clock continues to run during an intervention.

A request for intervention can only be called by the team members present at the base station. It must be relayed through the judges at the base station. Teams may designate any number of team members who may repair or retrieve the rover (hereafter referred to as "runners"). Spectating team members may be asked to act as runners, and also rover operators may leave the base station and become runners, but members from the base station will not be allowed to re-enter the base station.

A spectating team member may only interfere with the rover operation to press the kill switch to prevent fatal harm to the rover. Once the kill switch is used, the mission will be forfeited, and only the points scored until that moment will be considered.

## 3.2 SAMPLE COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS MISSION (SCAM)

In this mission, the rover will function as a Mobile Science Laboratory to collect samples from designated sites and perform basic science evaluation of these samples using a suite of carefully designed tests and experiments. The objective is to identify and characterise the sites for their capabilities to support microbial life and seek signs of extinct or extant life in those sites. The rover may use cameras or other passive instruments to investigate the designated area and collect samples using mechanical methods. The rover must have at least one life-detection capability instrument or assay of the team's choice. Samples must be investigated by the rover on-site, and at least one sample must be brought back to the base station uncontaminated. There will be no laboratory analysis at the base station. All instruments/tests must be on-board the rover.

- Teams will be collecting data (of scientific relevance in context to Martian biosphere), and during this mission, teams must select, collect and analyse (investigate) samples from at least two sites.
- Teams shall document each selected site by investigating it using a wide-angle panorama of minimum 1:3 height to width ratio showing the full context of the site. The panorama must indicate cardinal directions and scale, GPS coordinates of each site, elevation and accuracy range.
- Based upon the investigation of the selected sites, teams shall then collect and store soil sample from a depth of 5 cm or deeper. Sample(s) must be at least 10g and may consist of a single rock, loose soil, or anything in between.

## **COMPETITION MISSIONS (FINALS)**



- The teams should conduct these analyses on both soil and atmosphere: sub-surface temperature, humidity, pH and atmospheric pressure. The teams can do other analysis depending on their choice. Teams should conduct only those tests and analysis which provide conclusive results in the allotted mission time of 30 minutes.
- Any chemicals used on-board, including water and other chemical products, must follow a
  no-spill policy and should not spill on the ground during the mission. In addition, the use of
  hazardous chemicals must be pre-approved before the competition by submitting a usage
  plan, transportation, safety precautions, and accident plan.
- After completing roving time, teams will have to prepare for a 10-minute presentation for the judges, based on the on-board analysis. This presentation will take place during the Project Implementation Review presentation. The presentation is mandatory for the teams, even if they are unable to collect data during the mission.
- The presentation to the judges should include:
  - The team's conclusions (results and explanation of results) based on the analysis performed.
  - Results of on-board rover tests performed, including data and images.
  - Scientific knowledge of astrobiology and Mars based on responses to judges' questions.
- The score for this task will be based on the following components:
  - Correct identification of extant or extinct life in the designated sample(s).
  - Quality and applicability of the on-board analysis and how well this supports the team's conclusions.
  - The completeness, correctness, and clarity of the science plan.
  - Scientific knowledge of astrobiology, particularly as it relates to Mars.

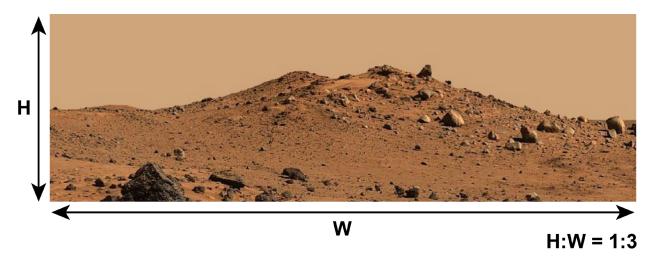


Figure 3.2: Panoramic Image Dimensions



## 3.3 RECONNAISSANCE AND DELIVERY MISSION (RDM)

In this mission, rovers shall be required to reconnaissance an area not more than 500m away from the base station. The rover will search, locate, pick up, and deliver objects to specific locations (GPS coordinates) and/or pick up and store objects until the mission's end to deliver to the base station. The objects will be scattered over the field. Hence, this task will require the rover to have a storage facility and an arm for assistance.

#### 3.3.1 Reconnaissance

In this stage, the rover will have a maximum of 15 minutes to reconnaissance through an area to search and locate various objects around the competition site. Teams shall document each located object by taking its photograph and the GPS coordinates of its location. The team may choose to pick up and store any one object of its choice during this stage (Not to be delivered in this stage). The rover may carry at most one object in its storage cache (carrying an object by gripping will not be allowed) during this stage. The remaining time at the end of this stage will not be added to the following stage, which will begin immediately after this stage.

## 3.3.2 Delivery

In this stage, the rover will have 15 minutes to pick up and deliver the objects to designated locations. During this stage, the rover can use a gripper or other mechanisms to deliver the objects.

- Objects will include small, lightweight hand tools (e.g., screwdriver, hammer, wrench), supply containers (e.g., toolbox), or rocks up to 5 kg in mass. All items will be graspable, with diameters no greater than 5 cm. The maximum dimensions will be 40 cm x 40 cm x 40 cm, but teams should expect a variety of sizes and weights.
- The terrain will vary from soft sandy areas to rough stony areas and may contain rocks and boulders, vertical drops, sand dunes and slopes. The difficulty of the task will increase with further levels.
- Approximate GPS coordinates or colours of the markers will be provided for all the delivery locations, although accuracy may vary. The rover can take any sequence/path it wants. However, certain sequence or parts of the terrain may be compulsory to complete the mission, and the same information will be provided beforehand. In addition, the instructions regarding the markers' colour and the objects (if necessary) will be provided in advance.
- Teams will be scored based on their ability to search, locate, pick up and deliver/store the
  correct objects from/to the correct locations and based on the proximity of the object placed
  to the objective within the specified time.



## 3.4 AUTONOMOUS MISSION (BONUS MISSION)

During this mission, rovers shall be required to traverse between markers across moderately rugged terrain autonomously. This is a single-stage mission. This is a bonus mission, and teams will have to score a minimum of 50% points in this mission for the points to be added as a bonus in their final score. Any points scored below 50% in this mission will not be added to the final score.

Teams may be required to begin on this mission, possibly as soon as 10 minutes after the completion of the Instrument Deployment and Maintenance Mission, from the same base station. The total time of this mission is 15 minutes.

Before beginning the mission, teams must formally announce to judges that they are entering into the autonomous mode. In autonomous mode, team members may monitor video and telemetry information sent from the rover but may not transmit any commands. No scouting will be allowed before the start of this mission.

The mission will consist of multiple arrow signs (all black in colour) of size 30 cm x 20 cm elevated at 10 - 50 cm off the ground. The arrows will be printed on white background. The arrowheads point the direction the rover is expected to navigate, leading the rover to the endpoint, which will be marked by an orange colour traffic cone. Each arrow sign will be located inside a circle of a 2 m radius on the ground. The rover will have to stop (pause) inside the circle for a minimum of 10 seconds (once it detects the particular arrow sign) before navigating to the next arrow sign. At least half of the rover should be inside the circle for 10 seconds before moving to the next arrow. If the rover hits the arrow signs, there will be no points for that particular arrow detection. Teams can take the picture given below as reference (picture is not drawn to scale):



Figure 3.4: Autonomous Mission Arrow Sign



## 3.5 INSTRUMENT DEPLOYMENT AND MAINTENANCE MISSION (IDMM)

This mission will be divided into two stages, Instrument Deployment and Instrument Maintenance. The rover is expected to traverse a short distance to operate on a mock-up instrument panel to perform a set of precise maintenance and deployment operations. The rover will have to use robotic manipulators to carry out this mission.

The mission may include multiple operations. The provided list is not exhaustive, and the mission may include operations similar to those mentioned below. Teams must be ready for certain flexibilities.

#### 3.5.1 Instrument Maintenance

- Picking up a cache and traversing to the panel. The cache will have a handle of at least 10 cm in length and not more than 5 cm in diameter. The cache will weigh less than 5 kg.
- Open a drawer to place the cache inside it and close the drawer.
- Push buttons, flip switches, turn knobs.
- Operate a joystick.
- Undo latches.
- Open panels.
- Connect an electric three-pin plug to a standard three-pin socket.

#### 3.5.2 Deployment

The deployment leg of this mission will require teams to retrieve and carry sample cache components for deployment in particular designated locations near the collection panel. The cache(s) may have to be deployed in a particular pattern/orientation, details of which will be provided at the competition site itself. The cache components will consist of standard graspable features such as handles, ropes etc.

After the deployment of the components, the rover has to read certain codes/patterns/text displayed on or near the panel or on any of the components that are being deployed. This code needs to be noted by the base station team using the transmitted video feed.

The deployment leg will be considered completed only after correctly placing the cache(s) in designated spots and the correct submission of the code to the judges by the base station team.

- The maximum height of the instrument panel will be 1.5m from the ground.
- Teams can do the sub-missions in any desired order. Points will be awarded for completing each sub-mission successfully.



## 3.6 PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW (PIR)

The objective of the PIR is the assessment and review of the project and final rover design.

PIR will have one-to-one interaction between the teams and the judges. The teams will have to give a presentation to the judges about their rover development. This presentation will cover the lessons learned during the whole life cycle of developing a rover. It will include both technical and non-technical aspects, from the project plan to manufacturing and testing the rover. Teams may also include spin-offs that have emerged from their rover project. Furthermore, this presentation offers the opportunity for the judges to ask some specific questions.

## 3.6.1 Project Implementation Review Procedure

- Presentations are limited to a maximum of 20 minutes (15 minutes rover + 5 minutes BPP).
   If the teams complete their rover presentation before 15 minutes, they are free to transition into the Business Plan Presentation (BPP) without interruption. The judges will stop any presentation exceeding the allotted time.
- Teams may employ creative and interactive tools such as their Rover, Posters, Banners, PPTs etc.
- The presentation will not be interrupted by questions. Immediately following the presentation, there will be a question and answer session where judges will question the teams regarding certain design and implementation decisions.
- All team members involved in the presentation must be in the podium area and introduced
  to the judges at the beginning of the presentation. The team members who have been
  introduced may answer the judges' questions even if they were not presenting.
- Sample Collection and Analysis Mission (SCAM) Presentation will take place before PIR.

#### 3.6.2 Business Plan Presentation (BPP) Objective

- The business plan presentation is part of the Project Implementation Review Presentation. The objective of the BPP is to evaluate the team's ability to develop and deliver a comprehensive business model which demonstrates their product, a prototype rover, could become a rewarding business opportunity that generates a monetary profit. The teams should consider themselves part of a hypothetical for-profit company that wants investors and partners for its business.
- The judges should be treated as if they are potential investors or partners for the presented business model.
- The business plan must relate to the specific rover entered in the competition.
- Specific details for the BPP will be provided before the finals.