



23-27 JANUARY 2023
NATIONAL HARBOR, MD & ONLINE

EVENT RECAP

#aiaaSciTech | aiaa.org/SciTech



THANK YOU FROM AIAA

The 2023 AIAA SciTech Forum set an optimistic and energetic tone for this year. As the world's largest event for aerospace research, development, and technology, the forum was a tremendous success. It is clear the aerospace industry has not slowed down innovation, connection, and technical exchange as we emerge from the pandemic. We are grateful for so much support from AIAA members, sponsors, exhibitors, and Corporate Members.

We are excited to share with you the many dimensions of the forum in this recap. The numbers are impressive, yet the quotes from attendees, the pictures and videos of presentations and personal interactions, and the comments on social media illustrate the incredible impact of the forum experience.

Together, we broke forum records: **5,800** attendees representing **50** countries, **62** Corporate Members, **71** exhibitors, **780** technical sessions including **2,700+** technical presentations, and **29** companies and **400** job seekers at Meet the Employers.

Throughout the week, we heard important perspectives from across the generations working within the aerospace industry, along with related industries, focused on the daily key themes:

- › solving societal grand challenges,
- › investing in the future,
- › enabling progress through science and engineering,
- › accelerating confidence in this digital world, and
- › making Sci-Fi a reality.

The leadership of the AIAA SciTech Forum was visionary. Many thanks go to the members of the Guiding Coalition, the Forum Technical Chairs, and the Technical Discipline Chairs. This group of hardworking AIAA volunteers are the force behind curating the exciting and thought-provoking content we enjoyed all week. We especially appreciate the guidance from our AIAA Aerospace R&D Domain Lead and SciTech Executive Producer, Scott Fouse.

The technical program is one feature that sets an AIAA forum apart from other events in the industry. We delivered a deeper look at current research and technologies geared to solve specific problems with the largest technical program ever offered.

Several organizations looked to the forum as their place to make news. We were honored to host NASA Administrator Bill Nelson, along with NASA Deputy Administrator Pam Melroy and DARPA Director Stefanie Tompkins to announce their partnership on the Demonstration Rocket for Agile Cislunar Operations from the forum stage.

We also celebrated ingenuity, collaboration, and diversity with multiple AIAA member recognition activities. We welcomed the Class of 2023 AIAA Associate Fellows, we presented awards of excellence to 14 individuals, we recognized student paper winners, and we heard three Premier Lectures.

Your support of 2023 AIAA SciTech Forum helped ensure our community advanced the science, technologies, and policies that are shaping our industry's future. You helped our community continue fueling the collective human drive to explore, create, and be a part of something bigger than ourselves.

Thank you for bringing the forum theme to life to "Ignite the Future!"



Dan Dumbacher
Executive Director
American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics

“I had an incredible experience at the 2023 AIAA SciTech Forum. The HUB was a truly brilliant idea! We enjoyed showcasing our technology and education innovation with our Caltech students and collaborators at JPL, and having stimulating discussions with many attendees.”

SOON-JO CHUNG, Bren Professor of Control and Dynamical Systems, JPL Senior Research Scientist, Caltech

“I think the program's been really cool. It's been really nice to have opportunities to meet with folks in the young professional's group.”

MAIA GATLIN, Georgia Tech Student and Diversity Scholar

“At a conference like SciTech you can meet and work with people who are just starting their career and people who have 50 years of experience in the business. There's just no other forum in which you get that dynamic range of experience and interests, and all high enthusiasm!”

JOHN LANGFORD, Founder and CEO, electra.aero

“It's days of jam-packed networking, personal growth, professional growth. I met a lot of people—made a lot of connections that I've personally never thought I would have accessible to me.”

MADELINE ROSSMAN, University of Maryland - College Park Student and Diversity Scholar

“Being able to carve out time and engage one-on-one for me has been the most energizing and exciting part of this week.”

ERIC RUGGIERO, Engineering Executive, GE Aerospace

“I've been a member of AIAA for over 30 years since I was in school pursuing my degree at Stanford. It's a precious gem to have in the world to have an organization like AIAA bringing together people who have a passion for space, to discuss with people who are like-minded where we need to go and share a vision and move it forward.”

NELSON PEDREIRO, Vice President, Advanced Technology Center, Lockheed Martin

“Overall I had an excellent experience. I'm still very early in my career, but the conference experience has inspired me to write more often.”

(unattributed, from survey)

A large audience is seated in a conference hall, facing a stage. On the stage, a woman is speaking, and a large screen displays a presentation. The word "AUDIENCE" is overlaid in large white letters across the center of the image. The background shows a complex stage setup with lighting rigs and a large screen displaying a presentation. The audience is seen from behind, filling the foreground and middle ground. The stage is lit with warm colors, and the screen shows a woman speaking and a presentation slide titled "OUR FIRST CRAZY IDEA".

AUDIENCE

AUDIENCE COMPOSITION

5,857

ATTENDEES



37%

Nonmember Audience



33%

Student Attendees

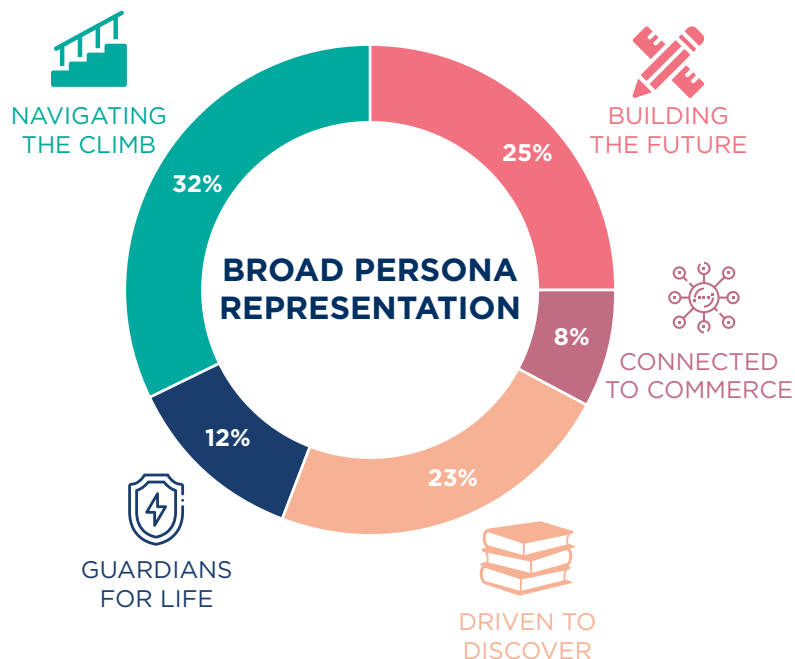


50

Countries



AUDIENCE DEMOGRAPHICS



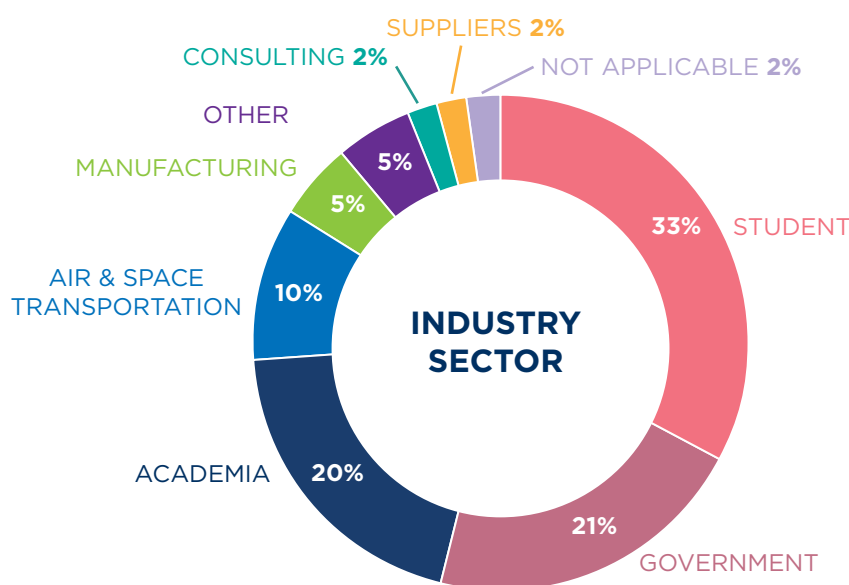
BUILDING THE FUTURE: Interested in tools and technology and eager to gain hands-on experience to solve problems or enhance career.

CONNECTED TO COMMERCE: Building strategic partnerships and connecting with fellow business people and policy leaders; selling a product or service with significant impact on the aerospace economy.

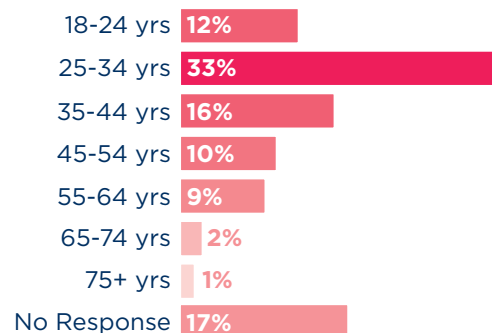
DRIVEN TO DISCOVER: Lifelong learner and teacher; exploring the intersection of science and technology and developing the next big ideas in aerospace.

GUARDIANS FOR LIFE: Years of experience building aerospace programs that impact society, committed to investing in meaningful change.

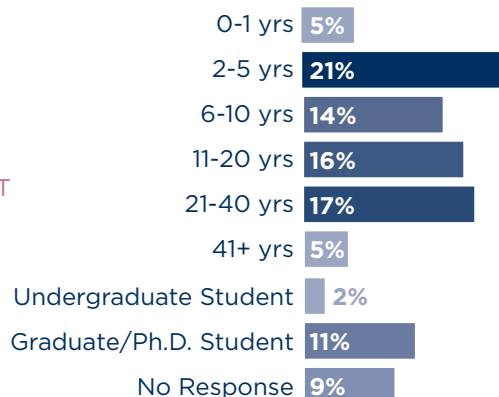
NAVIGATING THE CLIMB: Long, ambitious career ahead, looking for a breadth of ideas, connections, and experiences that will launch to the next level.



AGE RANGE



CAREER LENGTH



The background of the image is a blurred photograph of a hallway. Several people are walking, their figures out of focus. Large, three-dimensional blue letters spelling 'WMA' are positioned in the middle of the hallway. The word 'PROGRAM' is overlaid in white, italicized, sans-serif capital letters across the center of the image, partially obscuring the 'WMA' letters. The floor has a colorful, abstract pattern, and the overall lighting is soft with a blue and orange color palette.

PROGRAM

TECHNICAL PROGRAM



783

Technical Sessions



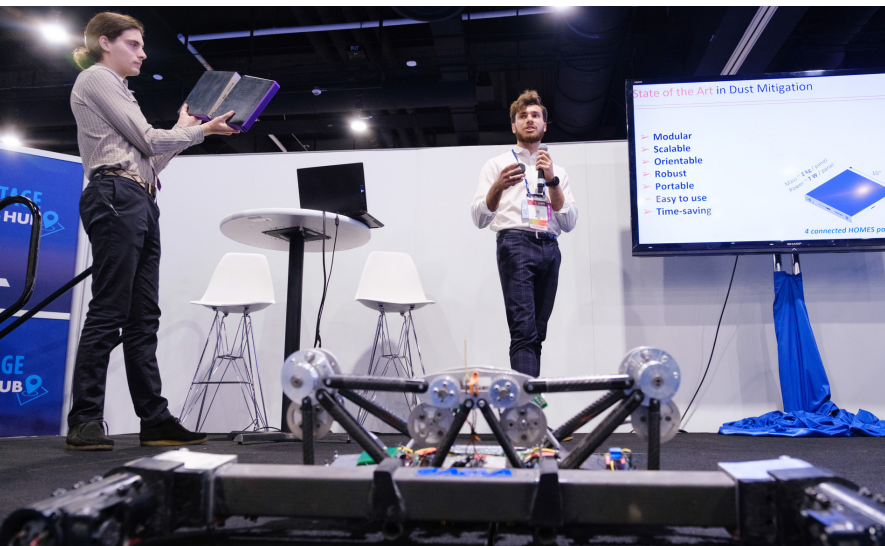
2,707

Papers Published



7,078

Published Authors





MEDIA OUTREACH

MEDIA OUTREACH



39

Credentialed Reporters



109

Article Mentions



210.4M

Potential Reach



\$55.5K

Publicity value



MEDIA COVERAGE



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Civil

NASA meeting works to define exploration architecture

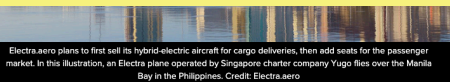
Jeff Foust January 29, 2023



Astronauts engage in lunar surface operations a short distance from a generic lander and rover in this NASA artist's concept.

WASHINGTON — NASA officials met last week to review its overall exploration architecture, although it was unclear exactly what they agreed to and when they will make it public.

Agency leaders met at the Kennedy Space Center for what NASA calls the Architecture Concept Review, a meeting linked to the development of 63 objectives for its lunar and Mars exploration plans released in September.



Electra.aero announces \$85M in new funding, much of it prompted by U.S. Air Force award

BY PAUL BRINKMANN | JANUARY 26, 2023

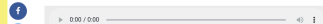
Company plans to fly demonstrator and full-scale prototype of its hybrid-electric airplane



HOME NEWS MEDIA POLITICS BUSINESS SPORTS TECH ART ECONOMY HEALTH INVESTMENT REAL ESTATE SCIENCE

Future Space Telescopes Could be 100 Meters Across, Constructed in Space, and Then Bent Into a Precise Shape

Published 4 weeks ago on January 30, 2023 by Henry Heller



It is an exciting time for astronomers and cosmologists. Since the [James Webb Space Telescope](#) (JWST), astronomers have been treated to the most vivid and detailed images of the Universe ever taken. Webb's powerful infrared imagers, spectrometers, and coronagraphs will allow for even more in the near future, including everything from surveys of the early Universe to direct imaging studies of exoplanets. Moreover, several next-generation telescopes will become operational in the coming years with 30-meter (+98.5 feet) primary mirrors, adaptive optics, spectrometers, and coronagraphs.

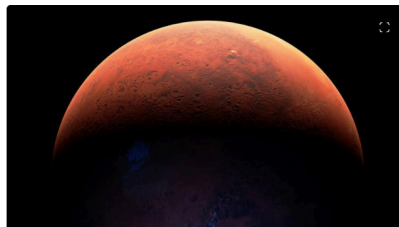
Even with these impressive instruments, astronomers and cosmologists look forward to an era when even more sophisticated and powerful telescopes are available. For example, [Zachary Condore](#) of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) recently proposed a telescope with a 100-meter (328-foot) primary mirror that would be autonomously constructed in space and bent into shape by electrostatic actuators. His proposal was one of several concepts selected this year by the [NASA Innovative Advanced Concepts](#) (NIAC) program for Phase I development.

Condore is the Boeing Career Development Professor in Aeronautics and Astronautics at MIT and a member of the [Aerospace Materials and Structures Lab](#) (AMSL) and [Small Satellite Center](#). His research integrates his expertise in processing science, mechanics, and design to develop novel materials and

The Register Follow View Profile

NASA and DARPA team up to go nuclear in hopes of putting boots on Mars

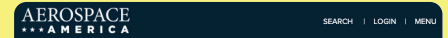
Story by Laura Dobberstein · Jan 25 14 2 Comments



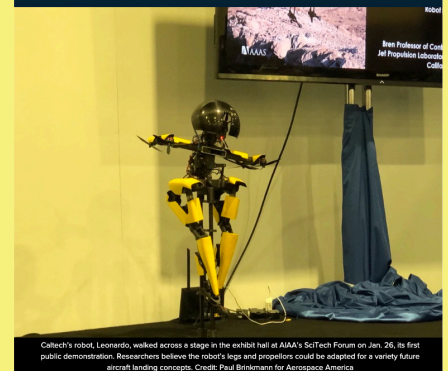
NASA and DARPA team up to go nuclear in hopes of putting boots on Mars © Provided by The Register

Fission reactor rocket should get them going quite fast

US research agencies NASA and DARPA are teaming up to create a nuclear thermal rocket engine in hopes the tech will one day carry crewed missions to



SEARCH LOGIN MENU



Caltech's robot, Leonardo, walked across a stage in the exhibit hall at AIAA's SciTech Forum on Jan. 26, its first public demonstration. Researchers believe the robot's legs and propellers could be adapted for a variety of future aircraft landing concepts. Credit: Paul Brinkmann for Aerospace America

Caltech's flying robot Leonardo could have applications from cities to Mars

BY PAUL BRINKMANN | JANUARY 27, 2023

University's first public demonstration of robot draws crowd of hundreds at AIAA's SciTech forum

AIAA SCITECH FORUM, National Harbor, Md. — Caltech researchers showed off



DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT



258,605

Impressions



9,640

Engagements



459

Tweets to
#aiaaSciTech



15,994

Page Views



38,270

Video Views



+1,133

Overall Audience Growth





PARTNERSHIPS

ORGANIZERS & VOLUNTEERS

GUIDING COALITION



Scott Fouse
AIAA Aerospace
R&D Domain Lead,
AIAA SciTech Forum
Executive Producer



Geoff Butler
General Atomics
Aeronautical Systems



Michael Cawood
Lockheed Martin
Corporation (ret.)



Taylor Fazzini
Northrop Grumman
Aeronautics Systems



Steve Frick
Lockheed Martin Space
Advanced Technology
Center



Sam Magill
NASA Langley Research
Center



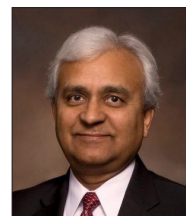
Michele Miller
Ball Aerospace



Charles Norton
NASA Jet Propulsion
Laboratory



Masami Onoda
JAXA



Pradeep Raj
Virginia Tech



Robert Rose
Reliable Robotics



Chris Rouw
Ball Aerospace



Marilee Wheaton
The Aerospace
Corporation



Karen Willcox
University of Texas
at Austin



John Wojno
GE Aviation

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SPONSORS



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Employees from 62 Corporate Member and Partner companies participated

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ADDiTEC

ADS CFD Inc

Aerospace Research Central (ARC)

Aerospace Village

Ahmic Aerospace LLC

AIAA Career Center

AIAA Mid-Atlantic Section

ALTAIR

Ansys

Aurora Flight Sciences, A Boeing Company

BETA CAE Systems USA, Inc.

Blue Origin

✦ **The Boeing Company**

Cadence

California Institute of Technology

Calspan

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Gulfstream

Hadland Imaging

Hexagon

IC2 (Interdisciplinary Consulting Corp)

Intelligent Light

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KBR

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Tri Models Incorporated

University of Maryland UAS Research and Operations Center

Aerospace Engineering & GLMartin Wind Tunnel @ University of Maryland

Virginia Tech

VirtusAero, LLC



Companies in bold type are AIAA Corporate Members. Companies with a star and bold type are AIAA Corporate Partners.

95%

of 2024 exhibits were sold during 2023. Only 13 booths remain on the 2024 floor plan. New options are under development.

7

companies increased their booth size for 2024

2 NEW

companies contracted on site for their first time ever participation in 2024

the HUB

where great minds gather



Sponsored by:





**8-12 JANUARY 2024
ORLANDO, FLORIDA**

SEE YOU IN 2024!

Interested in sponsoring or
exhibiting at the 2024 AIAA
SciTech Forum or becoming
a Corporate Member?
Reach out to our team!

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