ispace Completes Success 7 of Mission 1 Milestones

HAKUTO-R Mission 1 Lunar Lander Successfully Enters Lunar Orbit

TOKYO—March 21, 2023—ispace, inc., a global lunar exploration company, announced today that its HAKUTO-R Mission 1 Lunar Lander is now safely orbiting the Moon following a lunar orbit insertion maneuver, thereby successfully completing Success 7 of its Mission 1 Milestones.



ispace engineers celebrating the successful maneuver at the HAKUTO-R Mission Control Center in Nihonbashi, Tokyo, Japan

The Mission 1 Lander performed its first lunar orbit insertion maneuver in accordance with the mission operation plan, at 10:24 (JST), on March 21, 2023, under the direction of ispace engineers at the HAKUTO-R Mission Control Center in Nihonbashi, Tokyo. After a controlled burn from the lander's main propulsion system lasting several minutes, the maneuver was successfully completed.

In general, all orbital control operations for Mission 1 have been completed as planned following launch. While the lander has performed multiple deep space maneuver operations, this maneuver represents the longest burn performed by the propulsion system during the mission. These functions during the approximately three-month period verify that the lander performs as designed and demonstrates the high operational capability of ispace engineers to perform long-term mission operations.

The achievement demonstrates ispace's ability to successfully deliver spacecraft and payloads into a stable lunar orbit. The successful insertion of the lander into lunar orbit is an important step toward the establishment of a payload transportation service, as it demonstrates that ispace is capable of transporting customer payloads to orbit around the Moon. Future ispace missions will involve deployment of satellites into lunar orbit.

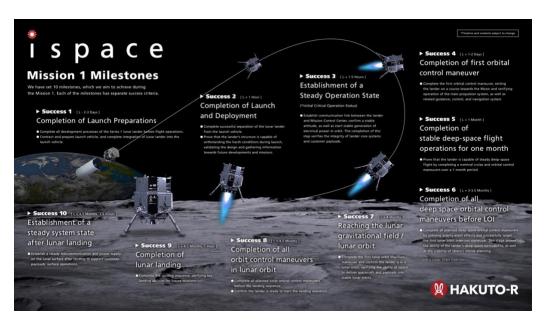
Currently, ispace is in active negotiations with a number of global companies regarding future lunar missions, many of which have identified demand not only for lunar landings but also for transportation to orbit around the Moon.

During Mission 3, two relay satellites are planned to be injected into lunar orbit to establish communications with the landing site on the far side of the Moon. The valuable data and knowhow gained from today's operation is being incorporated into mission planning for Mission 3 in order to enhance technical reliability.

The completion of all lunar orbital maneuvers prior to the beginning of the landing sequence—Success 8 of the Mission 1 Success Milestones—is scheduled to be announced around late-April 2023. The lunar landing, Success 9, is then scheduled to take place around late-April 2023. Specific information on date and time of the landing will be announced in the future.

Mission 1 Milestones

For Mission 1, ispace has set 10 milestones between launch and landing, and aims to achieve the success criteria established for each of these milestones. Recognizing the possibility of an anomaly during the mission, the results will be weighed and evaluated against the criteria and incorporated into future missions already in development between now and 2025. Mission 2 and Mission 3, which also will contribute to NASA's Artemis Program, will further improve the maturity of ispace's technology and business model. Future announcements on progress of milestone achievement are expected to be released once attained.



#	Milestone	Success Criteria per Milestone
1 Completed	Completion of Launch Preparations	 Complete all development processes of the Series 1 lunar lander before flight operations. Contract and prepare launch vehicle, and complete integration of lunar lander into the launch vehicle.
2 Completed	Completion of Launch and Deployment	 Complete successful separation of the lunar lander from the launch vehicle. Prove that the lander's structure is capable of withstanding the harsh conditions during launch, validating the design and gathering information towards future developments and missions.
3 Completed	Establishment of a Steady Operation State (*Initial Critical Operation Status)	 Establish communication link between the lander and Mission Control Center, confirm a stable attitude, as well as start stable generation of electrical power in orbit. The completion of this step verifies the integrity of lander core systems and customer payloads.
4 Completed	Completion of first orbital control maneuver	 Complete the first orbital control maneuver, setting the lander on a course towards the Moon and verifying operation of the main propulsion system, as well as related guidance, control, and navigation system.
5 Completed	Completion of stable deep-space flight operations for one month	 Prove that the lander is capable of steady deep-space flight by completing a nominal cruise and orbital control maneuvers over a 1 month period.
6 Completed	Completion of all deep space orbital control maneuvers before LOI	 Complete all planned deep space orbital control maneuvers by utilizing gravity assist effects and successfully target the 1st lunar orbit insertion maneuver. This stage proves the ability of the lander's deep-space survivability, as well as the viability of ispace's orbital planning.
7 Completed	Reaching the lunar gravitational field / lunar orbit	 Complete the first lunar orbit insertion maneuver and confirm the lander is in a lunar orbit, verifying the ability of ispace to deliver spacecraft and payloads into stable lunar orbits.
8	Completion of all orbit control maneuvers in lunar orbit	 Complete all planned lunar orbital control maneuvers before the landing sequence. Confirm the lander is ready to start the landing sequence.
9	Completion of lunar landing	 Complete the landing sequences, verifying key landing abilities for future missions.
10	Establishment of a steady system state after lunar landing	 Establish a steady telecommunication and power supply on the lunar surface after landing to support customer payloads' surface operations.

About ispace, inc.

ispace, a global lunar resource development company with the vision, "Expand our Planet. Expand our Future.", specializes in designing and building lunar landers and rovers. ispace aims to extend the sphere of human life into space and create a sustainable world by providing high-frequency, low-cost transportation services to the Moon. The company has offices in Japan, Luxembourg, and the United States with more than 200 employees worldwide. ispace U.S. is part of a team led by Draper, which was awarded a NASA Commercial Lunar Payload Services (CLPS) Program contract to land on the far side of the Moon by 2025. Both ispace, and ispace EU were awarded contracts to collect and transfer ownership of lunar regolith to NASA, and ispace EU was selected by ESA to be part of the Science Team for PROSPECT, a program which seeks to extract water on the Moon.

Established in 2010, ispace operated "HAKUTO", which was one of five finalist teams in the Google Lunar XPRIZE race. The company's first mission as part of its HAKUTO-R lunar exploration program launched on Dec. 11, 2022, from the United States on a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket and is currently expected to land on the lunar surface at around late April 2023. Subsequent missions are in development with launches expected in 2024 and 2025. ispace has also launched a lunar data business concept to support new customers as a gateway to conduct business on the Moon.

For more information, visit: www.ispace-inc.com; Follow us on Twitter: @ispace_inc.

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