

Lunar Crater Construction Project

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The Lunar Crater project is an expansion phase of the current Johnson Space Center Extravehicular Activity (EVA) Remote Field Demonstration Test Site. The site was originally constructed to enable engineers and scientists – those working on developing planetary surface exploration prototype spacesuits, life support systems, EVA ancillary support hardware, tools, rovers, robotic systems, and scientific equipment, as well as developing technical requirements and mission operational scenarios – by offering a realistic and representative planetary surface terrain analog setting on which to conduct a variety of test activities. Coupled with the strewn rock field surface area

and the large hill structure with various slopes and grades, the Lunar Crater project, which incorporates three large crater structures, adds another degree of planetary surface “reality” to the analog facility.

The crater area was used to support a National Geographic nighttime photo shoot in regard to an article being prepared in recognition of NASA’s 50th anniversary. The test site will also be used for supporting the series of “dry run” test activities in preparation of the Fiscal Year 2007 Desert Research and Technology Studies activities being sponsored by NASA Headquarters.

