



## Artemis Moonbase Simulation One

c/o The Moon Society

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### **Project M.A.S.T. - Mars Analogue Simulation Trainer**

Principal Investigator, Author and Producer: Hugh S. Gregory, Spaceflight Historian

One of the key ingredients for planning any expedition be it on Earth or off Earth into outer space and out ward to another planet is pre-mission reconnaissance. Both FMARS and MDRS are missing this capability. Yes, incoming crews can look back over several years worth of web shots and reports, but that only gives the new crew a peep through a key hole at selected tiny areas of the Habitat and the surrounding terrain who's exploration they are about to undertake.

Project M.A.S.T. is a Virtual Reality (VR) simulator of the MDRS HAB both inside and out and it's surrounding network of ATV trails and exploration routes. The MAST VR software will enable first time members of incoming crews to train for their MDRS rotation in the comfort of their own home on their personal computer. It will also allowing returning MDRS veterans to refresh their memories of what is where and help them plan their next MDRS mission. Annual updates will enable the latest version of the MAST VR simulator to reflect which ATV travel routes are currently open or closed to travel and what new exploration areas have been authorized for investigation. Finally it will graphically represent any changes have been made in the HAB since their last crew rotation.

The initial test of the MAST VR software using data gathered on MDRS Crew 35 (The Pisces One Expedition) in Feb-March of 2005 has been a complete success. A second privately sponsored data gathering mission to MDRS has been approved and executed in mid June of 2005 as a part of Crew FLAME. A third data gathering mission to MDRS was approved and executed in October of 2005, Crew MAST. The fourth and final initial data gathering mission will be executed on MDRS Crew 45. The Moon Society Expedition this coming February of 2006 with Hugh joining that crew as a Crew Scientist-Surveyor.

The Project M.A.S.T. VR simulator is being sponsored, funded and produced in house by SpaceBase™ © - The Astronomy & Space Sciences Educational Information Service in Vancouver, Canada.

Project MAST - The MDRS Edition is the first of three planned MAST VR's. FMARS and EuroMARS Editions are currently in the preliminary stages of development. These will be available for purchase by both society members and the general public with a portion of the proceeds of each sale going to The Mars Society's Engineering Team to help fund their ongoing maintenance and upgrading of the Society's research stations.

Please note: Mars Society and Moon Society members in good standing qualify for a special "members only" discount of \$5.00 off the list price when MAST goes on sale.

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