

SELENE Project: Science Goals and Present Status

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SELENE project has started as a joint mission of ISAS and NASDA of Japan in 1998 FY. Japanese space agency and institutes of ISAS, NASDA and NAL have been merged into a space agency JAXA last October. SELENE project is certainly identified as a JAXA's science mission. The SELENE launch target is rescheduled for 2006 FY due to delay of completion of launch vehicles, H2 and H2A. First integration and interface test was completed in the end of last March. Each science instruments are being carried out functional checks and calibration. In the beginning of February an over-all integration and tests of interface, vibration, thermal-vacuum, electromagnetic interference, and end-to-end GDST (Ground Data System Test) will be set about in the testing site of TKSC/ JAXA. Launch site operation will be followed to launch day of 2006 FY.

Ground operation and data analysis center is also being implemented in JAXA's Sagamihara campus. International collaboration begins to be discussed world widely with lunar scientists and space agencies for fruitful achievements using SELENE science data.

References

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