

Martian Greenhouse 3.0 Request for Proposal (Sample RFP)

Overview: The Martian Greenhouse Project 3.0 team, in collaboration with AIAA (American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics) and the Aldrin Family Foundation, is seeking systems designed to produce food for human habitation on Mars. These prototype systems will need to be self-sufficient and fit within a relatively small space. The greenhouse will provide habitat for the growth of a variety or varieties of edible plants.

1. Design of Structure

1. Student teams are asked to design a self-contained greenhouse module with a volume no larger than 1 meter³. This volume includes all supporting equipment.
2. Teams will create a set of procedures and plans that may be shared that allow others to duplicate their design.

1. Growth of Plants

1. Teams will provide a rationale for their selection of a crop or crops to be produced.
2. Teams will submit procedures and a time-line for planting, maintenance and harvest of their crop(s).
3. Teams will provide a recipe for preparation of their crop(s) as a food source.

1. Use of Water

1. Teams will identify the amount of water that will be consumed by the system and create a water budget for their greenhouse design.
2. Teams will address systems to limit use of water.

1. Use of Energy

1. Teams will identify the amount of energy that will be consumed by the system and create an energy budget for their greenhouse design.
2. Teams will account for lighting and generation of power.

1. Efficiency of the System

1. Teams will calculate and submit a chart defining the efficiency of their system by comparing total use of energy and water to the total calories of food produced.

1. Submissions

1. Teams have the option of submitting one of the following packages
 1. Technical drawings and a descriptive paper,
 2. Technical drawings, a descriptive paper, and a conceptual model, or
 3. Technical drawings, a descriptive paper, and a functioning prototype
2. Teams will create and post a brief video to YouTube that describes the process, products and learning by the team.

The RFP is designed with the idea of appealing to students with a wide range of interests and to make use of management strategies. Projects will not be judged against each other. The idea is to allow everyone a chance to compete with themselves against set functional standards.

Jim Christensen, Aldrin Family Foundation, 2021

Teachers

Michael Cus
Wu, McDougall, & Itzab
Dr. Rose & Dr. Trudi
Peter Tlusty
Michael Bruscia
Melissa Sleeper
Christina Campos
Nadine Francisco & Sonieda Teul
Christine Girtain & Dr. Kretz
Zenaida Romero & Melva Guerra
Rick Russon
Arielle Christensen
Wilson Mendoza & Guilber Mesh
Dr. Joe Wagner
Bede Adazi
Uzma Mazoor
Adrian Ojeda Flores

School

[Our Lady of Guadeloupe](#)
[Pallotti HS](#)
[Astra Nova](#)
[St. Mary's](#)
[Charlottesville Catholic School](#)
[Storm Grove MS](#)
[West Oslo JH](#)
[Georgetown Technical HS](#)
[Toms River HS](#)
[Our Lady of Guadeloupe](#)
[Valor Christian High School](#)
[Wings Aerospace Pathways](#)
[Bishop Martin High School](#)
[Eads High School](#)
[Liberty Bells Schools](#)
[DPS Sahiwal](#)
[Liceo Naval C. de N. Francisco Carrasco](#)

Mentors

Masha Esfandabadi & Nicole Rote
Sunny Narayanan & Nutifafa Doumon
Jeffrey Umland
Pacifica Sommers
Bryce Meyer
Chad Cerutti
Chetan Kulkarni
Rhonda Ahrens & Rose Worku
Mario Maggio
Dr. Emily Matula & Grace Ford
Tamalee Basu
Uyen Suo
Dan Adamo
Dan Adamo
Nikhitha C
Prakhar Jain
Peruvian Mentors

Our Teams are from Belize, Nigeria, Pakistan, Virginia, New Jersey, Colorado, California, and Florida.

Martian Resources

AIAA FREE HS Student Membership: [LINK](#)

Descripción del proyecto en español: [LINK](#)

Thank you Aurospace

Mars Facts

<https://mars.nasa.gov/all-about-mars/facts/>

3D Printed 'Artificial Leaves' Could Provide Sustainable Energy on Mars

<https://interestingengineering.com/3d-printing-microalgae-for-sustainable-energy-on-mars>

The Cultured Meat Revolution: Singapore and Israel One Step Closer to Commercializing Lab Grown Chicken

<https://3dprint.com/276467/the-cultured-meat-revolution-singapore-and-israel-one-step-closer-to-commercializing-lab-grown-chicken/>

Astronauts Enjoyed a Fresh Supply of Leafy Greens Grown on the International Space Station
<https://scitechdaily.com/astronauts-enjoyed-a-fresh-supply-of-leafy-greens-grown-on-the-international-space-station/>

Bringing Space Home: The Role of Sample Return in Space Exploration:
<https://vimeo.com/537422251>

This algae bioreactor can remove as much carbon dioxide as an acre of trees
<https://www.inverse.com/article/59334-this-algae-bioreactor-can-sequester-carbon-dioxide>

Algae Caviar, Anyone? What We'll Eat on the Journey to Mars
<https://www.wired.com/story/space-food-what-will-keep-us-human/>

With Bugs and Algae, One Million People Could Live in Mars Colonies
<https://www.discovermagazine.com/the-sciences/with-bugs-and-algae-one-million-people-could-live-in-mars-colonies>

Nasa's rover makes breathable oxygen on Mars:
<https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-56844601>

Clever space algae could be the key to getting humans to Mars
<https://www.wired.co.uk/article/algae-long-term-space-missions>

NASA is learning the best way to grow food in space
<https://www.popsci.com/nasa-growing-food-in-space/>

Terrestrial, Atmospheric, and Space Science
<https://www.lanl.gov/org/ddste/aldcels/chemistry/physical-applied-spectroscopy/terrestrial-atmospheric-space-science/index.php>

3D Printed Artificial Leaves Could Generate Oxygen on Mars
<https://3dprint.com/281250/3d-printed-artificial-leaves-could-generate-oxygen-on-mars/>

Automatic Gardening
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v3aTJeuTW5Y>

Greenhouses for Mars
https://www.nasa.gov/vision/earth/livingthings/25feb_greenhouses.html

Roane Lab: Applied Microbial Ecology
<https://roanemicrobiology.weebly.com/>

Microorganisms in parched regions extract needed water from colonized rocks
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2020/05/200504155203.htm>

Getting Water From a Stone: How Life Survives in Extreme Environments

<https://scitechdaily.com/getting-water-from-a-stone-how-life-survives-in-extreme-environments/>

Space agencies are learning how to make food on Mars and the moon

<https://www.cnbc.com/2021/06/20/space-agencies-are-learning-how-to-farm-on-mars-and-the-moon.html>

Mars: Vast amount of water may be locked up on planet

<https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-56400227>

Sneaky New Bacteria on the ISS Could Build a Future on Mars

<https://www.wired.com/story/sneaky-new-bacteria-on-the-iss-could-build-a-future-on-mars/>

Nasa's rover makes breathable oxygen on Mars

<https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-56844601>

Inspirational story about a 12-year old aerospace girl

<https://www.goodmorningamerica.com/amp/living/story/12-year-genius-sights-set-nasa-engineer-76923842/>

<https://www.goodmorningamerica.com/living/video/12-year-child-prodigy-dreams-working-nasa-day-76983173>

Decades of Mars research by CU faculty and students lays the groundwork for human astronauts|LASP|CU-Boulder

AIAA Classroom Grant Program

<https://www.aiaa.org/get-involved/students-educators/aiaa-foundation-classroom-grant-program>

Google Workspace

<https://blog.google/products/workspace/google-workspace-everyone>

Mars Science City project in Dubai

<https://www.3dnatives.com/en/top-5-videos-dubais-mars-science-city-130620214/>

Decades of Mars research by CU faculty and students lays the groundwork for human astronauts

<https://lasp.colorado.edu/home/2021/03/05/decades-of-mars-research-by-cu-faculty-and-students-lays-the-groundwork-for-human-astronauts/>

Technical Sketching

<https://sites.google.com/stemk12.org/mr-rs-engineering/introduction-to-engineering/technical-sketching>

Nanoracks' spinoff aims to bring food production to Earth's deserts and orbital space

<https://www.space.com/nanoracks-food-agriculture-earth-deserts-orbit>

In an attempt to understand "Key (Driving) Requirements, I found these resources:

<https://science.nasa.gov/science-red/s3fs-public/atoms/files/2019-546-Pugel-Final-WhatAreRequirements%20.pdf>

https://www.nasa.gov/sites/default/files/atoms/files/nasa_systems_engineering_handbook_0.pdf

Mars Greenhouses: Concepts and Challenges. Proceedings from a 1999 Workshop:

<https://ntrs.nasa.gov/citations/20050182966>

KETCHUP on MARS:

https://www.floridatoday.com/story/news/2021/11/15/florida-tech-and-heinz-grow-space-tomatoes-mars-ketchup-brevard-county-space-travel-mars-red-planet/8584265002/?utm_source=floridatoday-Daily%20Briefing&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=daily_briefing&utm_term=hero&utm_content=1028FT-E-NLETTER65

Deep Space Food Challenge - Winner

<https://www.nonfiction.design/projects/deep-space-food-challenge>

<https://www.hortidaily.com/article/9398112/chickpea-seeds-headed-to-international-space-station-for-use-in-mini-greenhouse/>

<https://spacewatch.global/2022/03/interstellar-lab-announces-a-us-5-million-seed-round-to-accelerate-biopod-manufacturing/>

<https://nypost.com/2022/03/22/humans-on-mars-may-feast-on-gene-edited-salad-to-stop-bones-breaking/>

ISS Post-Flight Crew Debrief (June 1, 2022): *They said one of their favorite experiments was the Veggie system, in part because they got to eat some good tasting produce at the end, but that wasn't the main reason. He said that he looked forward to opening up the plastic curtain and having the earthy, green smell of things growing blast him in the face as a break from the sterile plastic smell from the rest of the station. He said it was actually great for his mental health.*

<https://www.nonfiction.design/projects/deep-space-food-challenge>

Hydroponically grown microgreens bring a little bit of planet Earth to the tastebuds and the psychology of the astronauts. Maintaining the hydroponic garden is essentially nurturing nature. It lowers blood pressure, stress levels and brings a sense of balance to the void of space. Closed loop hydroponics can help agriculturally challenged environments on the planet as well.

micor:bits Hackathon Invitation: Kevin Simmons has invited students to this FREE event.

<https://www.wolfpacksat.org/hackathon>

Students will be organized into 3 person teams and given 24 hours to solve a series of open-ended problems related to growing food in space.

Careers in Aerospace:

<https://www.aiaa.org/docs/default-source/uploadedfiles/education-and-careers/2020-hs-career-booklet.pdf>

MAT Filtration Technologies has a system that produces food for fish based on Hybrid Autotrophic Bacteria using human feces- <https://matkuling.com/news/first-aquaculture-farms-mars-space/>

Life on Mars - SpaceGeekChannel on youtube:

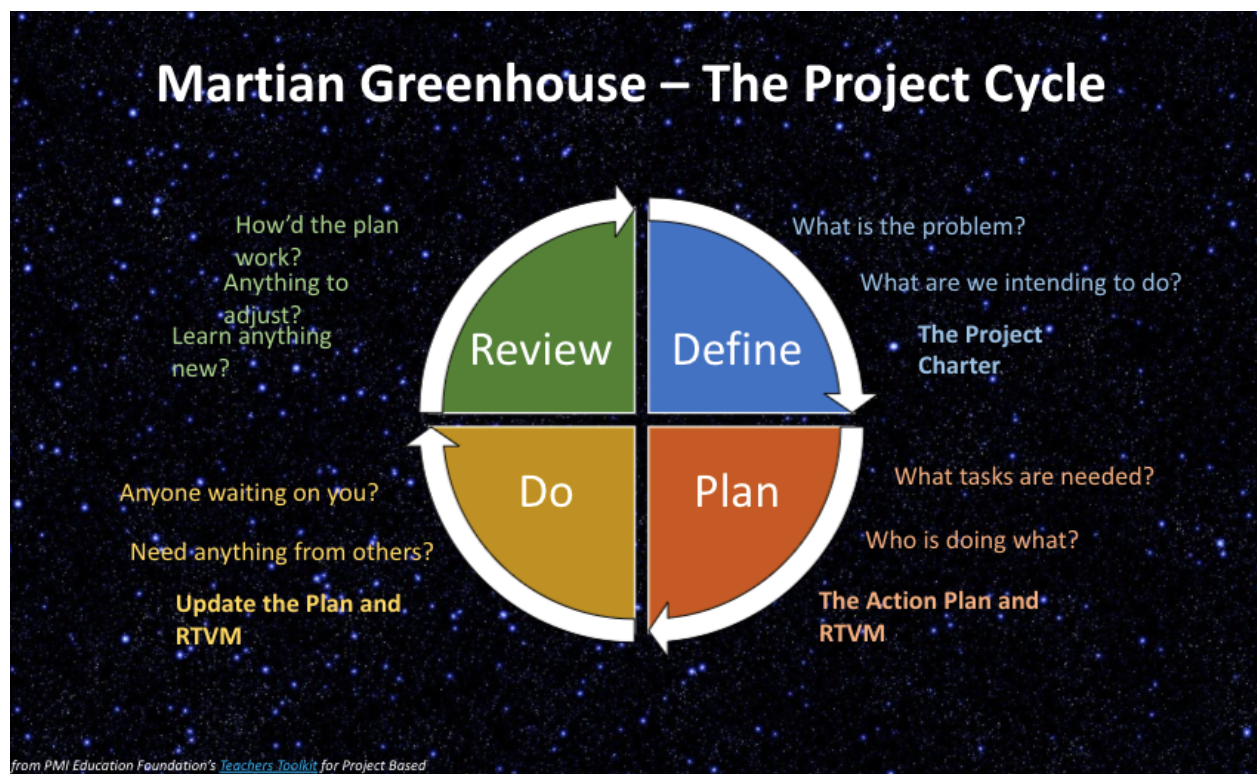
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmw1hdITnPFil0Zft_C-cvw

Could the "The Martian" Really have Grown Potatoes for Food?

Examples from MG 2.0

PPT [LINK](#)

Descriptive Paper [LINK](#)



Martian Greenhouse Project Management [Video Link](#)

Martian Greenhouse

[TEAM NAME HERE]

PROJECT CHARTER

1. General Project Information

Team Name:

Team Mentor(s):

2. Project Team

Name

Phone

Email

3. Stakeholders (those with significant interest in the project or will be impacted by project)

4. Project Scope

Purpose (describe the need this project addresses)

Objectives (describe the measurable outcomes expected of the project)

Scope

IS (what the project deals with)

IS NOT (elements outside the project)

Scope

IS (what the project deals with)

IS NOT (elements outside the project)

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Deliverables (describe the high-level "products" to be created as part of the project)

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|---------|---------|
| 1. | 5. |
| 2. | 6. |
| 3. | 7. |
| 4. | 8. |

Milestones (major phase dates such as start, plan, design, work, deliver, review)

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Constraints (any limiting conditions on resources, personnel, schedule, etc.)

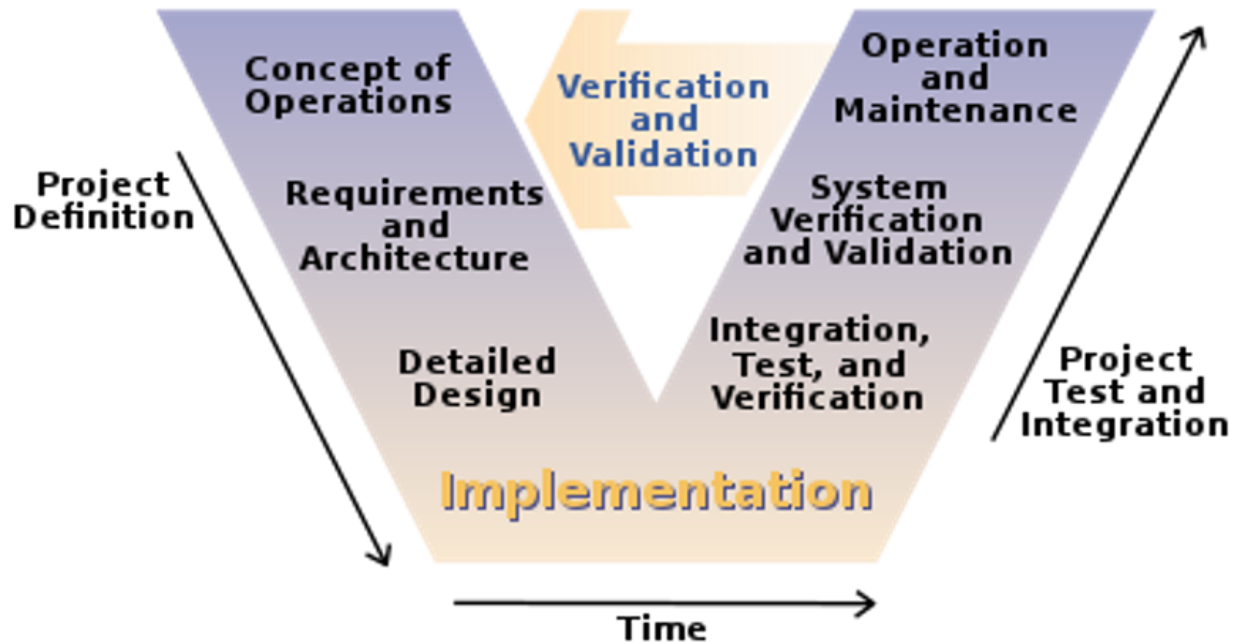
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5. Communications (frequency and type of communications)

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6. Other Notes

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Telling the Story

ConOps (Concept of Operations)

From Dr. Matula:

These are used a lot in the aerospace industry (especially the space industry!) to describe how a system or technology is going to work during a mission. You can think of them like a story, it tells the audience how something is going to work or how it will be used during its activity.

Spaceflight Example

Below is a concept of operations of how NASA was going to test an emergency abort system for a crew capsule using parachutes.

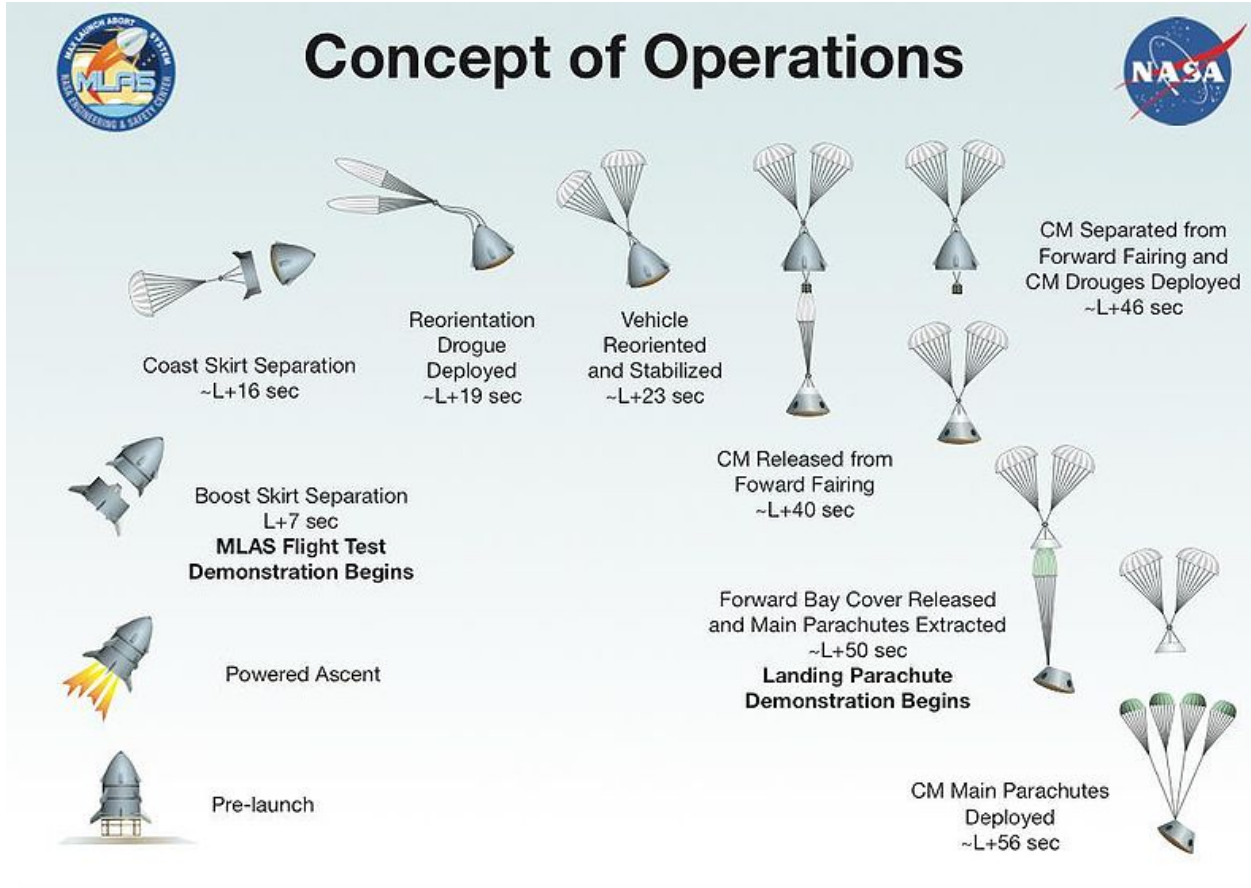
The story it tells is:

The abort system will be loaded onto a rocket, and launched.

The abort system will separate from its launcher and the top 2 parachutes will deploy and start to slow down the abort system connected to the crew capsule.

After the crew capsule is slow enough, the abort system will release the crew capsule.

The crew capsule will start to land using its own 2 parachutes, release them, and finally land using its 4 parachutes



Everyday Example

When I am coming up with a concept of operations, I like to imagine how I would use the technology
 Ex: A canvas grocery bag design



My story:

When I leave my house to go to the grocery store, I need to take something with me to carry my groceries in.
 I grab my canvas grocery bag and put it in my car.
 I get to the store, take my bag in with me, pick out my watermelon, and pay for the melon.

I put the melon in my bag and I walk out of the store to my car carrying the bag by its handles

Why we use ConOps

We will use ConOps to not only tell others what we are going to do, but also helps us think about what we expect our system to do, if we are forgetting anything in our design, and to make sure our design meets all our requirements.

My bag design

- Big enough to hold a melon
- Strong enough material to hold a melon
- Light enough for me to carry around in the store
- With handles for easy grabbing

Make a ConOps diagram that either describes

- How your greenhouse will be built/deployed
- How astronauts will plant, tend, harvest plants using your greenhouse systems
- How one of the systems in your greenhouse will operate/interact with the other systems in the greenhouse

Good luck and we look forward to having you share your ConOps diagrams with the other teams.

Great CONOPS Resources

[CONOPS Diagrams](#)

PDF for the [GOES-R progra](#)

Presenting Tips for Slides

(from Eric Wilson - The SLIDE master!)

Identify the key message(s) on each slide

1. Each slide should have 3-4 key points at most. If it's an important element of your project – like your greenhouse drawing/model – I'd say just that one key point on a slide is great.
2. A key message can have supporting bullet points below it. But those shouldn't be read to the audience. They can read faster than you can talk so just touch on the header key points on the slide then move on.
3. If the slide is strictly pictures or graphics, make sure to have your speaker notes handy. Doesn't need to be a script you read – you'll come across as a better presenter with more natural speaking. But keeping your 2-3 key bullet points on a note you can see during the presentation will help keep you focused and moving through the content.

Look for ways to combine slides

1. If there are commonalities in key points on three slides, can the supporting text be deleted? Pictures combined?
2. While you can certainly leave the three slides in place and talk to each one for 20 seconds, it is often more effective to make one slide and talk for 45 seconds. Just saved 15 seconds!

Practice presentation timing

1. Create the slide deck, use 1 minute per slide as guidance.
2. When you practice the speaking portion, target 30-45s per slide. if you find yourself going over that by a lot, look for ways to delete content. You practice at less than your planned minute per slide because most times you'll be excited during the live session and will talk more.

Words of Wisdom from Design Team Member Jim Christensen

[Spit Shine 90 Seconds of Wisdom from Jim Christensen](#)

[Martian Greenhouse: Jim's Reflection](#)