

Reaching for the Skies



Thank you for flying with Japan Airlines. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Apollo program, a historic human spaceflight program which ended in 1972. Three years earlier on July 20, 1969, man first touched down on the moon's surface, achieving what is considered to be, even now, a momentous feat for humankind. I was in second grade of elementary school at the time and I was struck by how amazing the astronauts and landing module on the moon looked on TV. From then on, I wouldn't stop talking about the Apollo moon landing with my family and friends. When however, I learned that the Apollo program was going to end, I remember feeling deflated and disappointed. Since then, no human has set foot on the moon, but after half a century, there has been a growing movement around the world to return to the lunar surface. As well as the Artemis program in the United States, many countries around the world, including Japan, are pushing hard with their missions to land on the moon. The difference however from 50 years ago is that, rather than simply trying to reach and learn about the moon, now we have more specific and realistic objectives, such as developing the moon's resources and energy, and building a base for further space exploration.

This November will finally see the space startup, ispace launch its Mission 1 (M1) lunar lander to the Moon (as of October 7, 2022). This will be the first private, commercial mission to be launched by Japanese company. The lunar lander will be launched on a Falcon 9 rocket by SpaceX, a privately-owned American spacecraft company, when, after a three to five month voyage, it is scheduled to land on the moon's surface. During Mission 2, currently planned for 2024, ispace will send its own lunar surface exploration rover, marking the start of more frequent lunar landings and rover expeditions. The lunar lander test model was assembled in JAL's engine maintenance facility in Narita where our technicians helped to build and test it. When this lunar lander is launched into space, it will take off with JAL's iconic



PRESIDENT
AKASAKA Yuji

Born in Sapporo, Hokkaido in 1962. Joined Japan Airlines on the technology side in April 1987. Vice President of Corporate Safety & Security and Customer Relations in 2009. By 2014 was General Manager of Engineering & Maintenance, and President of JAL Engineering Co., Ltd., becoming Managing Executive Officer, General Manager of Engineering & Maintenance in 2016. Appointed President in April 2018, taking up current position in June of the same year. Akasaka's most beloved airplane is the Boeing 747. He enjoys making model airplanes, going skiing with his family and watching sports (especially baseball).

赤坂祐二 1962年出生于北海道札幌市。1987年4月加入公司(技术人员)。2009年,就任安全推进部部长(兼)灾难受害者咨询部长,2014年就任执行董事机务本部长,并担任JAL Engineering Co., Ltd.的代表取締役社长,2016年就任常务执行董事机务本部长。2018年4月就任社长执行董事,并于同年6月开始担任现职。最喜欢的飞机是波音747。爱好是制作飞机的塑料模型、和家人一起滑雪、看体育比赛(尤其是棒球)。

crane logo attached.

Learning more about the universe and taking on new challenges like this will surely help us to protect our one and only earth. Indeed, this dream journey to the moon, with the beautiful appearance of the Apollo spacecraft and astronauts on the moon's surface, which I saw for myself when I was a child, may come around again sooner than I imagined. JAL may well have to start offering special moon round trip tickets and tourist packages too, so you can experience something similar. I look forward to welcoming you on board with us again soon.

向宇宙挑战

感谢您乘坐本次航班。

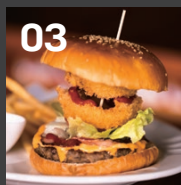
1972年,载人登月任务“阿波罗计划”宣告结束,至今已50年了。1969年7月20日,人类首次登陸了月球,现在看来这都是一个难以置信的冒险。当时我只有小学2年级,看着电视中矗立于月球表面的登月舱和宇航员的飒爽身姿,感到激动又震撼。在那之后,我几乎每天都和家人朋友讨论阿波罗任务的话题。但没过多久阿波罗计划就结束了,我至今记得当时遗憾的心情。此后,人类便没有再登陸过月球,但经过半个世纪,现在世界各地又兴起了再度登月的计划。以美国的“阿提米丝计划”为首,日本和世界各国都争先恐后地开展登月任务。与50年前不同,现在的登月计划不仅追求抵达月球和了解月球,更重要的是开发月球资源和能源,乃至建设宇宙探测基地等更加具体、现实的目的。

今年的11月,新兴企业 ispace 将作为日本民间私营企业,首次发射登月飞船(截至2022年10月7日)。登月飞船将由美国太空探索技术公司 SpaceX 的火箭搭载升空,计划在经过3~5个月左右的航行后着陆月球发送月球探测车,开启真正的探测行动。这次登月飞船的测试,其实是在成田的 JAL 发动机维修工厂中组装的,我们公司的机务人员也参与了相关制造和检查。而且登月飞船上还有幸印上了 JAL 的标志“鹤丸”。

通过不断迎接新的挑战 and 加深对宇宙的理解,可以帮助我们保护独一无二的地球和环境。阿波罗宇宙飞船和宇航员在月球上的美丽身姿,这些小时候在电视上看到的梦幻般的“月球旅行”,可能很快就可以亲身体验了。我觉得 JAL 集团也差不多该开始准备“月球往返票”和“月球旅行商品”了。

衷心期待您继续选乘日航航班。

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Magazine information is subject to change.