The Mars Society Polska (MSP) actively participates in the creation of Polish space industry. Since this sector is still in development, we use the opportunity to create a new Mars-based component of the nation’s economy. The first project was the Polish Mars MPV design. Some hardware was created. Still it enabled the development of the society itself, together with some educational actions in Polish schools. Then co-organizing of the Polish edition of Red Rover Goes to Mars contest followed, organizing of a Mars colonization simulation game (Columbus Missional Notation). Two Polish scientists were members of habitat crews (Tadeusz Zawalski-Andrzejewski - MD/RS and Białej Błoniowskiego - MARS). In 2007 MSP organized first Mars Festival, 2-day event with 600 visitors, and Discovery Channel as the main sponsor. Mars Festival 2008 was smaller due to large effort put to other projects, especially Polish URC rover, Skyshuttle. MSP supported the team of students from Warsaw University of Technology, who participated in URC 2009, as the only European team. But the flagship MSP project is the Polish habitat, based on a design by Janek Kozicki. It has 3 annular modules attached, and usage surface of ca. 500 m². It is going to be located close to a large town. So besides creating a testing site, mainly for materials and design, it will be accessible for wide public and media. Joanna Kuczkowska and Magda Sławska are two other architects working on solution for Mars. We have established constant presence in the main Polish media, and we are working on a documentary about MSP. We also develop software project - IT cytonas for the frame habitat, with virtual Mars Base and remote access. Tomasz Rady from MSP created RODM software for 3D modeling of the Mars surface based on images from Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter. RODM is currently tested by NASA and ESA. Besides our website we publish Mars Information (polish and english) and other bibliographic resources ("Mars Library" in development).

Mars Society UK

The Mars Society UK is the oldest Mars Society outside of the United States. It held its first public meeting on July 4th, 1997, in London, England. President Colin Pillinger, head of the Beagle 2 project was the Guest Speaker, and the event marked the first time Beagle 2 had been presented to the general public in the UK. From 1998 through to 2001, the Mars Society UK (MSUK) continued to support Beagle 2, providing numerous public events at which members of the Beagle 2 project team could speak, and the Beagle 2 model could be displayed. Highlights of the MSUK’s history include:

1999
- UK speaking tour by Robert Zubrin, covenues from London to Scotland which included numerous media events.
- Hosted the first Mars Society European Leaders Meeting, with representatives from France, Germany, Poland, Spain and The Netherlands.

2000/1
- Challenged by Robert Zubrin to initiate a project to establish the first European Mars Analogous Research Station – the project which became known as Euro-MARS.
- Attended the first Euro-MARS meeting, hosted by the Mars Society Netherlands, in September 2001.
- Secured sponsorship of £70,000 (US$100,000) for the Mars Society UK/European projects.

2002
- Hosted the first UK Mars Day, attended by some 200 members of the public and covered by all the UK’s leading television media (BBC, ITN, Sky News).
- Awarded £64,000 (US$100,000) to the Mars Society USA for the construction of the prototype Euro-MARS habitat.

2003
- Had white papers accepted and published by the UK government as part of a review of UK Space Policy.
- Actively lobbied for UK involvement in human space flight endeavours.

2004/5
- Hosted the 4th European Mars Conference in 2004.
- Hosted the 4th European Mars Conference in 2004.
- Stepped up to host the 4th European Mars Society Conference in 2005, when Spain was unable to host the event.

2006-2009
- Helped establish the Air Force Space Academy project in Spain.
- Helped establish the Inter Air Force Clarke Space Academy project in Poland.

The ASF (Österreichisches Weltraum Forum, OeWF) is a national network for aerospace specialists and space enthusiasts, being the Austrian chapter of the Mars Society. The Forum serves as a communication platform between the space sector and the public; it is embedded in a global network of specialists from the space industry, research and policy. Hence, the OeWF facilitates a strengthening of the national space sector through showcasing the public visibility of space activities, technical work, papers and conferences as well as Forum-related projects.

Our research focus is Mars Analogical Research, e.g. the AustrianMars mission with roughly 130 volunteers supporting a mission simulation at the Mars Desert Research Station and the ongoing PoleMars multi-year research program which encompasses the development of a Mars analogue rover system and a novel spacecraft prototype dubbed "AcidusX", culminating in an Arctic expedition in 2011.

The Forum has a small, but highly active, pool of professional members contributing to space endeavours, mostly in cooperation with other nations as well as international space organizations. The spectrum of our activities ranges from simple classroom presentations to 15,000-visitor space exhibitions, from expert reports for the Austrian Federal Ministry for Technology to space technology transfer activities for international applications.

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The Dutch Chapter of the Mars Society (Mars Society Nederland) started with its highly successful website in 1999. The MS NL is registered in the Netherlands as a non-profit organization (“stichting”). Registered members pay a yearly membership fee. The activities of the MS NL are focused on outreach through conferences (national and European), exhibits, events, and media campaigns.

The main means of communication with members and the general public is still the MS NL Website (www.marsociety.nl) with information on Mars and related space subjects. In cooperation with the Netherlands Space for Aerospace (NVR), MS NL strives to educate youth in ‘kids for space’, and the ‘RunniteWijis’ program, giving lectures about Mars all over the Netherlands. Lectures on Mars are also given under auspices of the Dutch Astronautical Society. MS NL cooperates with The Planetary Society in Mars events.

The MS NL has been involved with international projects of TMS from the start. MS NL is a strong proponent of European cooperation in space endeavours. The European Mars Analogue Research Station (EuroMARS) is one of the European projects that MS NL participates in putting in a lot of thought in the interior design of this Hab. Artemis Westenberg, president of MS NL, after having been involved with mission support for the TMS Habitats for several years, serves since 2008 as Mission Director, managing all aspects of the Mars Desert Research Station in Utah.

The Mars Society French chapter was established in 1999 as “Association Planète Mars”, a non-profit organization with its headquarters in Paris. Its founder and president is Richard Heidmann, a space propulsion engineer, who participated in the founding convention of the MS in August 1998 and is a member of the MS Steering Committee.

While fully supporting the ideas and actions of the MS, it considers that those must be adapted to the specific cultural and political context of France and Europe.

The main activities of Association Planète Mars are devoted to public communication, through conferences, exhibits, events, media appearances (TV, radio, magazines...). It also acts occasionally as an adviser for journalists or film makers.

Whenever possible, it cooperates with other associations or science outreach organisations, which permits to reinforce its action and reach a wider public. Association Planète Mars makes a special effort to draw youth interest. 25% of its paid members are under 25. It develops experiences of proposing and tutoring Mars related projects to engineering students. The association encourages the formation of working groups on miscellaneous topics. Today, three groups are active, respectively on Mission Safety, Martian Architecture and Medical Aspects. It participated to several MDRS and FMARS missions, bringing a prototype of “Cliff Exploration Vehicle”.

Another major field of action is the lobbying, both within the political and institutional personnel, in France and at the European level (EC, ESA). In doing so, it relies on the networks established by some of its managers. On the occasion of most critical events, it publishes political documents to support its views, which are distributed both to decision makers and to the press. This has been the case in June 2004, in the wake of the US Space Exploration Initiative, and, in September 2008 in preparation of the ESA ministerial council.

The German Chapter of the Mars Society (Mars Society Deutschland MSZ) was founded in 2001 based on the Founding Declaration of the Mars Society of the USA from 1998. The MSZ is registered in Germany as a non-profit association ("eingetragene gemeinnützige Verein"). Registered members pay a yearly membership fee. The activities of the MSZ are focused on technical-scientific projects such as the Mars Balloon Probe ARCHIMEDES as well as on all Mars Exploration and general manned space matters. The main means of communication with members and the general public is the MSZ Website (www.marsociety.net) with information on the ARCHIMEDES project, publications on Mars and other space subjects, the regular News, which can be commented by visitors of the website, and the Space Forum.

The MSD Board comprises of five members. Since June 2009 its president is Dr. Michael Daniellides, he is a Space Physicist (Address: Kleinstr. 10, D-85521 Ottobrunn, Germany).

The development of ARCHIMEDES is led by Dipl.Ing. Hannes Griebel, who is also a member of the MSZ Board and prepares his doctorate thesis on ARCHIMEDES. ARCHIMEDES is presently under development and the major project of the MSZ since 2001. Starting in 2006, flight tests have been undertaken for testing the innovative balloon system in low-gravity environment. Test carriers were so far the Airbus A-300 for short duration parabolic flights and the sounding rocket test campaigns REXUS/REGINA and REXUS4/MIRIAM for longer duration flight tests under free space conditions. Further flight tests are planned for the coming years with the objective of qualifying ARCHIMEDES for its Mars mission by 2018. ARCHIMEDES will be carried to Mars onboard an AMSAT Mars probe or a similar satellite. ARCHIMEDES is developed by the MSZ with the support of the University of the Armed Forces in Neuburg near Munich, of the AIR4G in Ottobrunn, the DLR-MORABA for rocket flight opportunities, other universities, and several industrial companies supporting specific technical areas.

The Mars Society Italian chapter (Italian Mars Society) was founded in 2005. Its headquarters are in Curro (Bergamo), near Milan, and its president is Antonio Del Maestro, entrepreneur and owner of Aldoebra, an engineering consulting company.

The Italian Mars Society carries out scientific divulgation activities related to the Red Planet. It cooperates with the other European Mars Society chapters to build a knowledge network whose aim is to develop the interest of European people towards Mars exploration. It’s the promoter and organizer of the IX European Mars Society Convention (EMC9), taking place from 15 to 17th October 2009 in Bergamo, the first Mars Society convention in Italy.

The Italian Mars Society has just edited and released the Italian version of Robert Zubrin’s well-known nonfiction science book The Case for Mars, first published in 1996. The book details Zubrin’s “Mars Direct” plan to carry out the first human landing on Mars. The plan focuses on keeping costs down using automated systems and available materials on Mars to manufacture the return journey’s fuel in situ. The book also reveals possible colony designs and weighs the prospects for a colony’s material self-sufficiency and the terraforming of Mars.