

Replacement Human Operated Vehicle (RHOV)

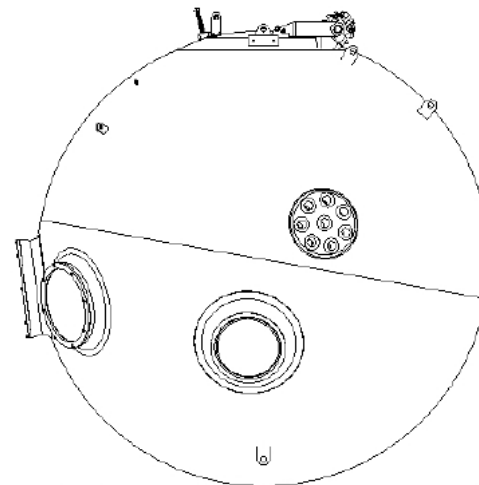
Project Update – April 2007



Personnel Sphere

- Titanium 6Al-4V ELI ingot material (~ 41,000 lbs) received
- Kick-off meeting conducted with Ladish Co. (Cudahy Forging) of Cudahy, WI. Forging subcontract between SwRI and Ladish to be in place in next few weeks.
- Detailed sphere design to be completed July 2007.
- Actual forging to start in Fall '07 after completion of design/fabrication of dies/fixtures.

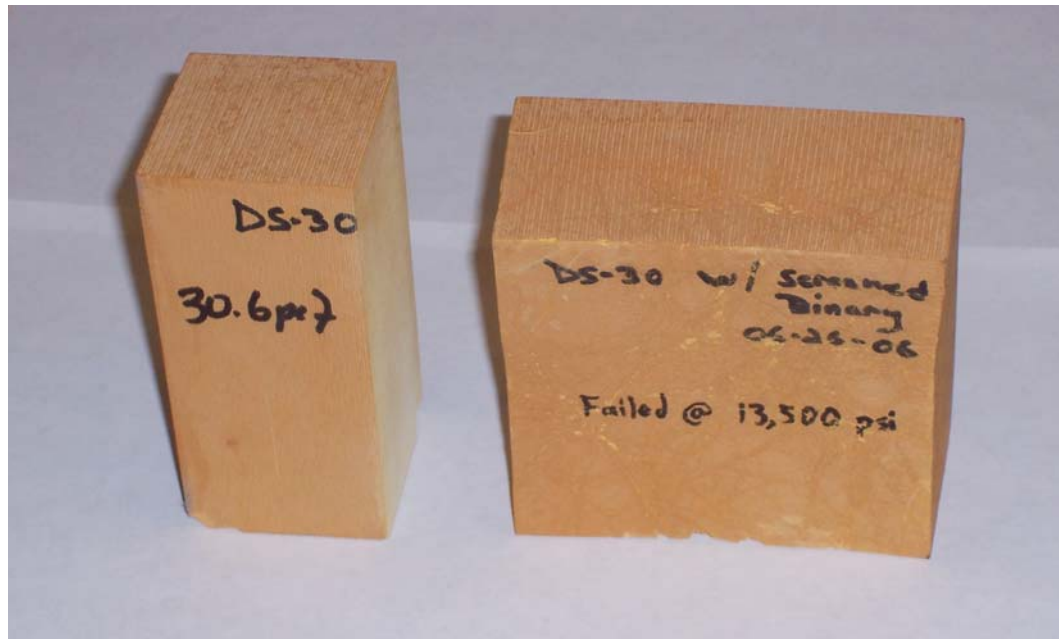
Ti ingot



Syntactic Buoyancy Foam

- Potential vendors (2) have developed a 32.5 lbs/cuft and 34 lbs/cuft foam. Either would be adequate for current vehicle concept design.
- Both vendors have recently developed/procured new microspheres that may enable development of target 30 lb/cuft foam. Testing to be completed by end of May '07. These lighter weight foams will provide more flexibility/margin in vehicle design.

Pre-tested
block



Post-tested
block



Vehicle

- Responses due for vehicle design/fabricate Request for Proposal on 20 April '07 (between 2 and 4 responses anticipated)
- Source selection process to take place week of 30 April '07
- Anticipated to have prime contractor under contract by 1 July .



Vehicle



As of 17 April 2007

Schedule for the Replacement HOV

