

Momentum Announces First Rideshare Mission to Moon

New Ardoride vehicle will pave the way to regular rideshares to orbits beyond LEO

December 01, 2020 – Santa Clara, CA — Momentum Inc. (“Momentum” or the “Company”), a commercial space company providing in-space infrastructure services, signed a deal with Canadensys Aerospace Corporation to deliver a payload to low lunar orbit (LLO). Canadensys will be the first customer to book [Ardoride](#), Momentum’s next-generation rideshare service vehicle.

The agreement signed with Canadensys will deliver a 50 kg spacecraft to LLO in the 2023 to 2024 timeframe. With the signing of the deal, principals from both companies hailed the international and commercial cooperation that will further the development of in-space infrastructure services enabled by Ardoride, an entirely new class of vehicle.

“We are delighted to continue our collaboration with Momentum on Ardoride,” said Canadensys Aerospace CEO Christian Sallaberger. “The next decade is set to witness a dramatic increase in the level of infrastructure deployed beyond Earth orbit, and the next five years will feature unprecedented demand for services on and around the moon, from scientific reconnaissance to communications and navigation. Ardoride takes Vigoride’s delivery capability to the next level and will enable us to offer game-changing options for in-orbit services”.

Currently in development as Momentum’s next generation transport and service vehicle, Ardoride will unlock high-altitude orbits like medium Earth orbits (MEO), geosynchronous orbit (GEO), highly elliptical orbits (HEO), or even lunar orbits for small- and medium-sized satellites and cargo. This revolutionary new vehicle is being designed for high delta-V missions of up to 5 km/sec, which will allow small and mid-sized satellites to access orbits at a very low cost.

Fully reusable, Ardoride will be refueled after its initial mission and continue to conduct multiple, subsequent missions in space. The vehicle is being designed to deliver up to 1,200 kg to GEO and up to 800 kg to LLO. To enable low-cost rides to these orbits for nano and microsatellites, Momentum is announcing a regular rideshare program with annual and semi-annual Ardoride shuttle services beginning in 2023.

“Canadensys has been a key partner in the development of our last-mile delivery systems and we are delighted to extend this collaboration to lunar exploration, where they bring unique expertise and flight-ready systems for the new era of rapid, low-cost missions beyond Earth’s orbit,” said Momentum CEO Mikhail Kokorich. “Canadensys has been preparing for extended missions on the lunar surface long before the current wave of lunar interest, and their support has been crucial to Momentum in helping us move mountains in terms of our aggressive schedule.”

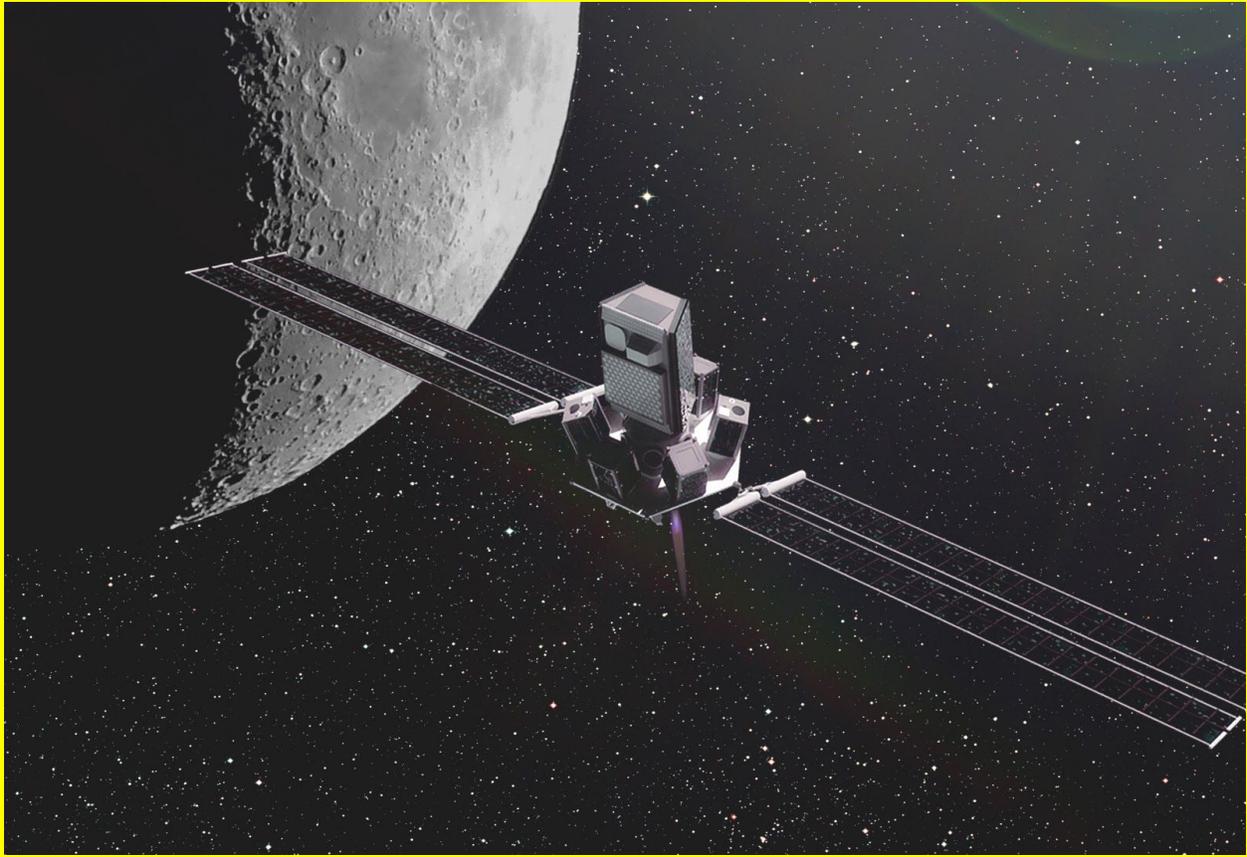


Image Subhead to read: *Momentum' Ardoride, which has an anticipated payload capability of 500-4,000kg, 5km/s of delta-V, and capabilities within MEO, GEO, HEO*

About Momentum

As a first-mover in building in-space infrastructure technology, Momentum is at the forefront of the commercialization of space. With an experienced team of aerospace, propulsion, and robotics engineers, Momentum has developed a cost-effective and energy-efficient in-space transport system based on water plasma propulsion technology. Momentum has in-place service agreements with private satellite companies, government agencies, and research organizations.

<http://www.momentum.space/>

About Canadensys:

Canadensys Aerospace is a space systems and services company with a focus on low-cost, high reliability missions from Earth orbit out to cislunar space and beyond. Headquartered in Toronto, Canadensys supports both government and commercial missions with small, low-cost systems specifically tailored for extended performance and longevity in the lunar environment, from long-range mobility and enhanced situational awareness to lunar night survival and shadowed region operations.

<http://www.canadensys.com>