



# DUST TESTING STANDARD OVERVIEW

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## **NASA-STD-1008**

# **Classifications and Requirements for Testing Systems and Hardware to be Exposed to Dust in Planetary Environments**

# Purpose



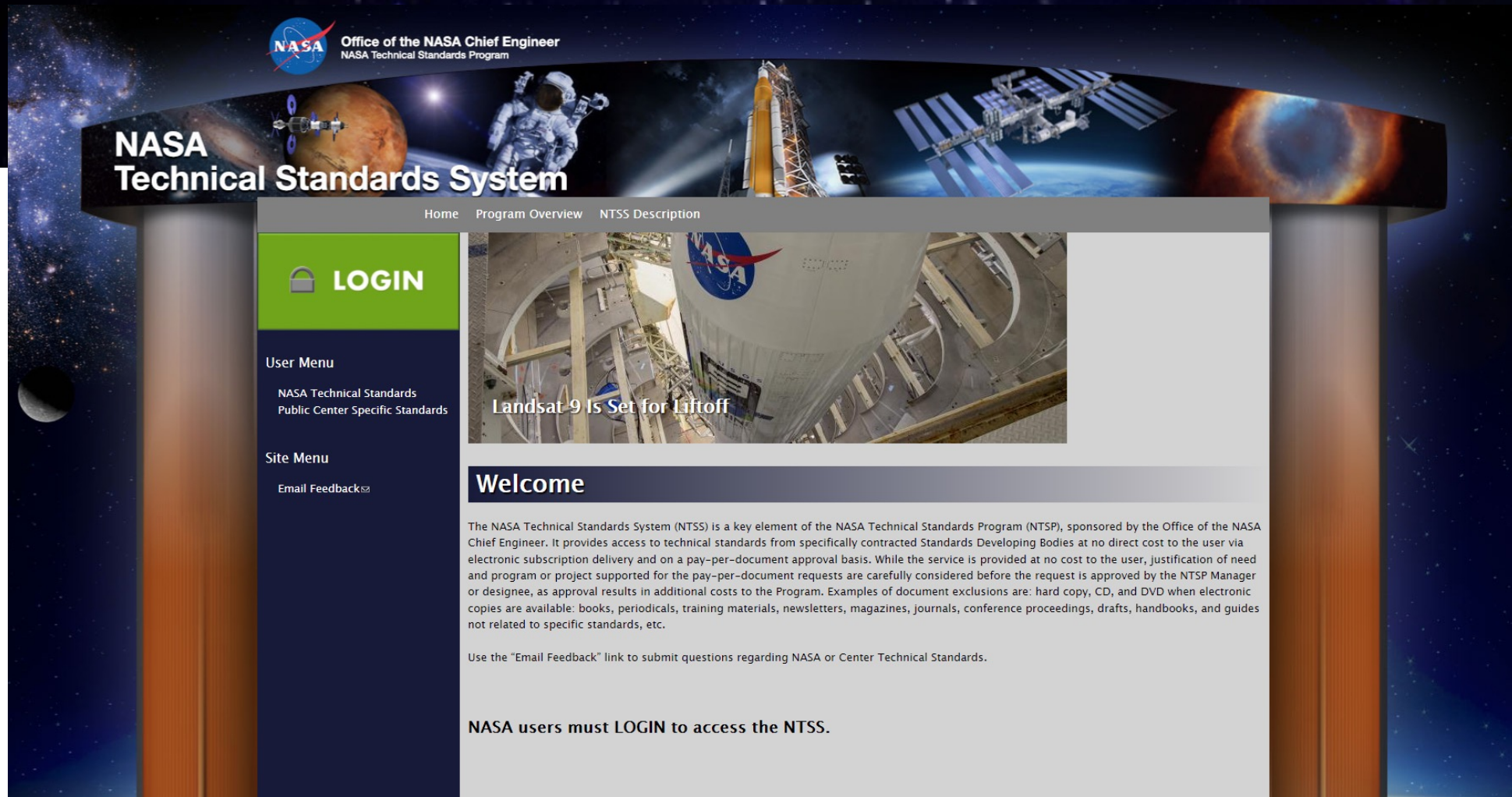
- Establish the minimum requirements for testing with dust
- Provide general guidance for testing methodologies and best practices
- Provide developers and end-users with information that will guide testing of systems and hardware for exposure to dusty environments
- Facilitate consistency and efficiency in the testing of space systems, subsystems, or components with operations and missions in dusty environments



# Current Status



- Document went through agency-wide review.
- **It was approved on Sept 21st and is available on <https://standards.nasa.gov/standard/nasa/nasa-std-1008>**



Document is available publically at **[standards.nasa.gov](https://standards.nasa.gov)**

*Click on “NASA Technical Standards,” click “1000” link, then click on the document number. You will see the Summary Page. Scroll down to “Download Current Revision” and click the link below it.*

*Or go directly to: <https://standards.nasa.gov/standard/nasa/nasa-std-1008>*

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NASA TECHNICAL STANDARD

Office of the NASA Chief Engineer

NASA-STD-1008

Approved: 2021-09-21


**CLASSIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR  
TESTING SYSTEMS AND HARDWARE TO BE EXPOSED TO DUST  
IN PLANETARY ENVIRONMENTS**

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# Document Overview



METRIC/SI (ENGLISH)	
 NASA TECHNICAL STANDARD Office of the NASA Chief Engineer	NASA-STD-1008
Approved: 2021-09-21	
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## SECTION 4.

### Dust Requirements & Standards

#### 4.1 Dust Impact Assessment Process

#### 4.2 Sources of Dust

- a. Planetary External (PE)
- b. Planetary Pressurized (PP)
- c. In-Space Pressurized (SP)
- d. In-Space External (SE)

## SECTION 5.

### Testing Methodologies & Best Practices

- 5.1 Simulant Prep & Storage
- 5.2 Simulant Loading Definitions
- 5.3 Testing Practices & Categories
- 5.4 Simulants
- 5.5 Facilities

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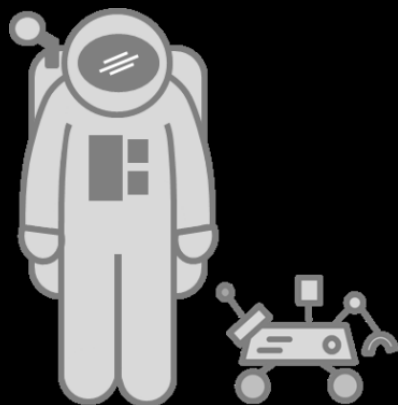
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# Working Environments Classification



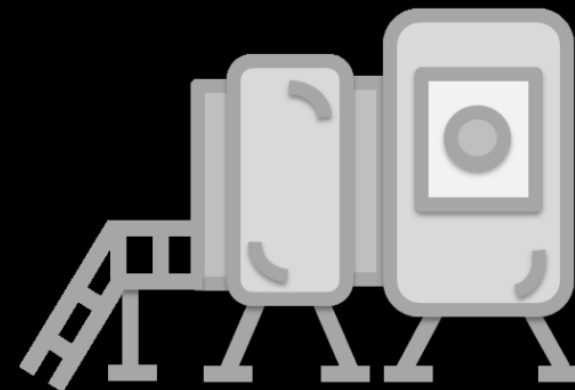
## Planetary External (PE)



outside pressurized vehicle

w/ gravity

## Planetary Pressurized (PP)



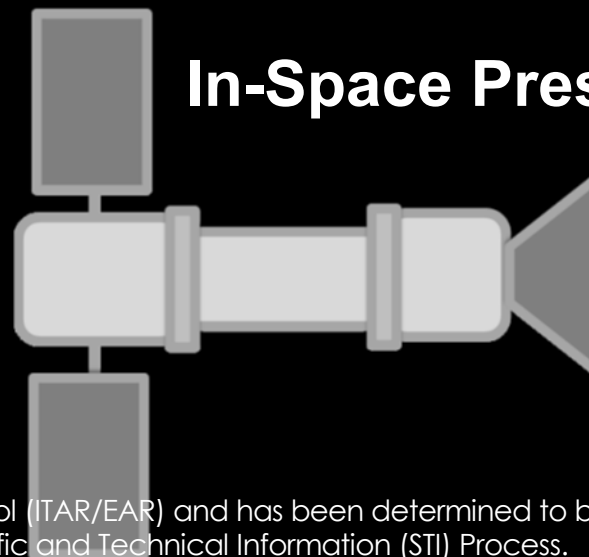
inside pressurized vehicle

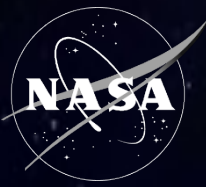
## In-Space External (SE)



w/ out gravity

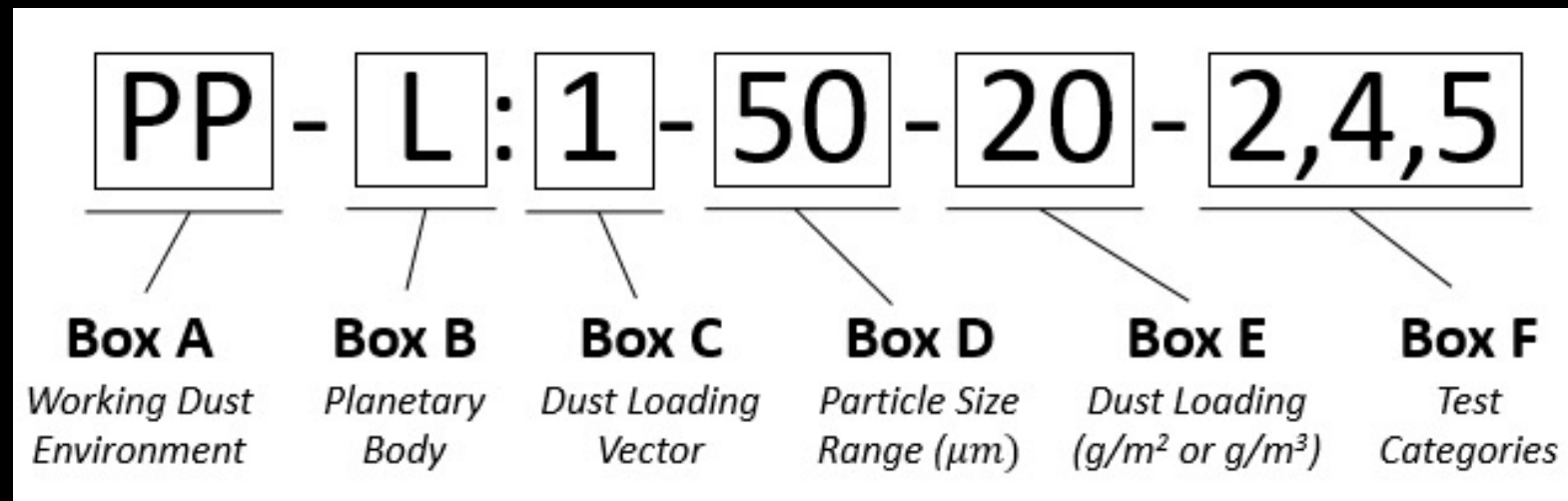
## In-Space Pressurized (SP)

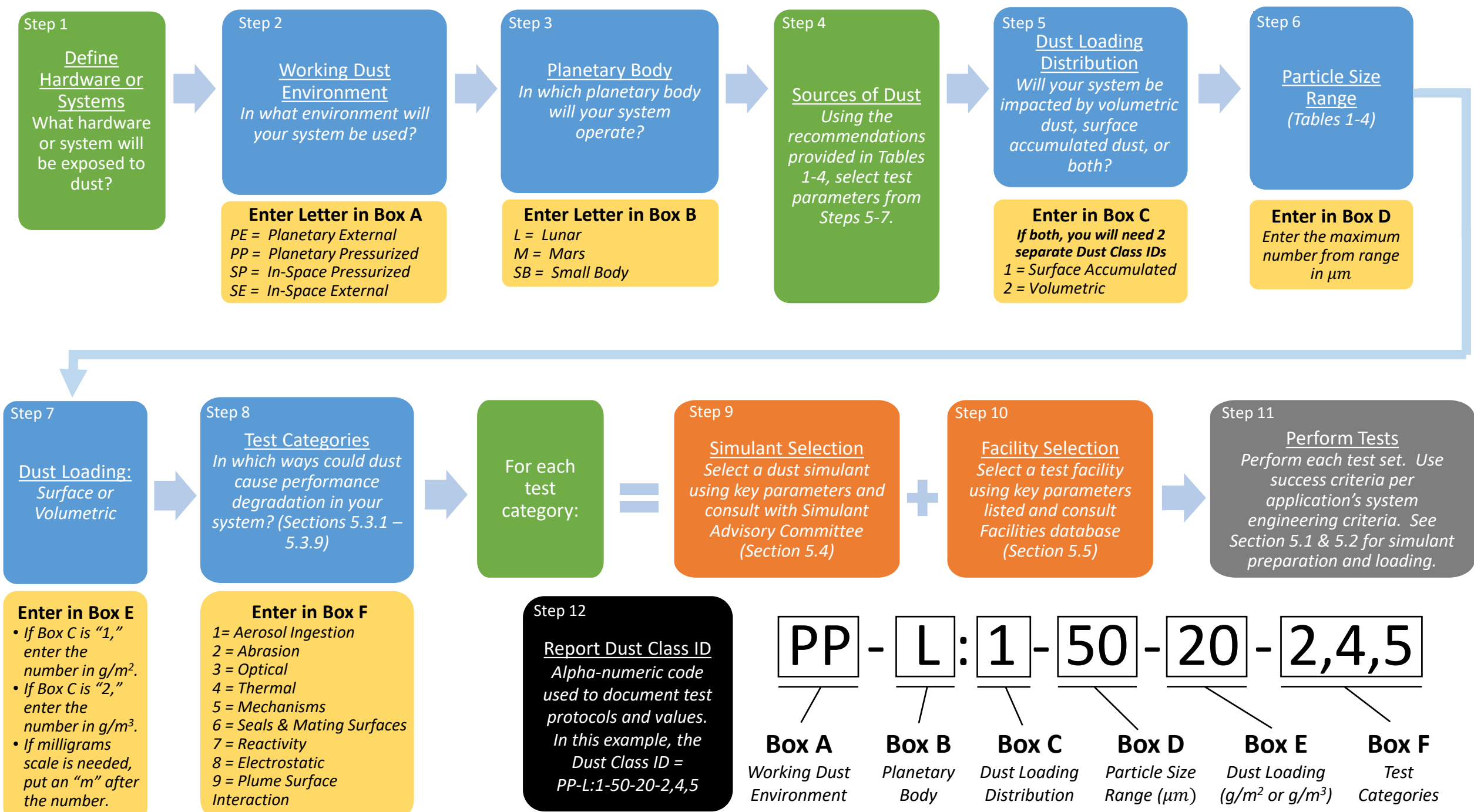




# Dust Class ID

User may assign alpha-numeric code to identify protocol to which they validated their hardware







Step 1  
Define Hardware or Systems  
What hardware or system will be exposed to dust?



Step 2  
Working Dust Environment  
*In what environment will your system be used?*



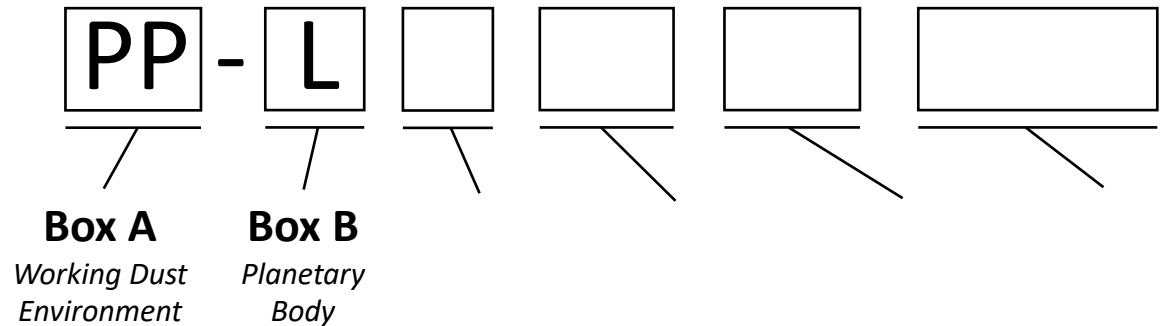
Step 3  
Planetary Body  
*In which planetary body will your system operate?*

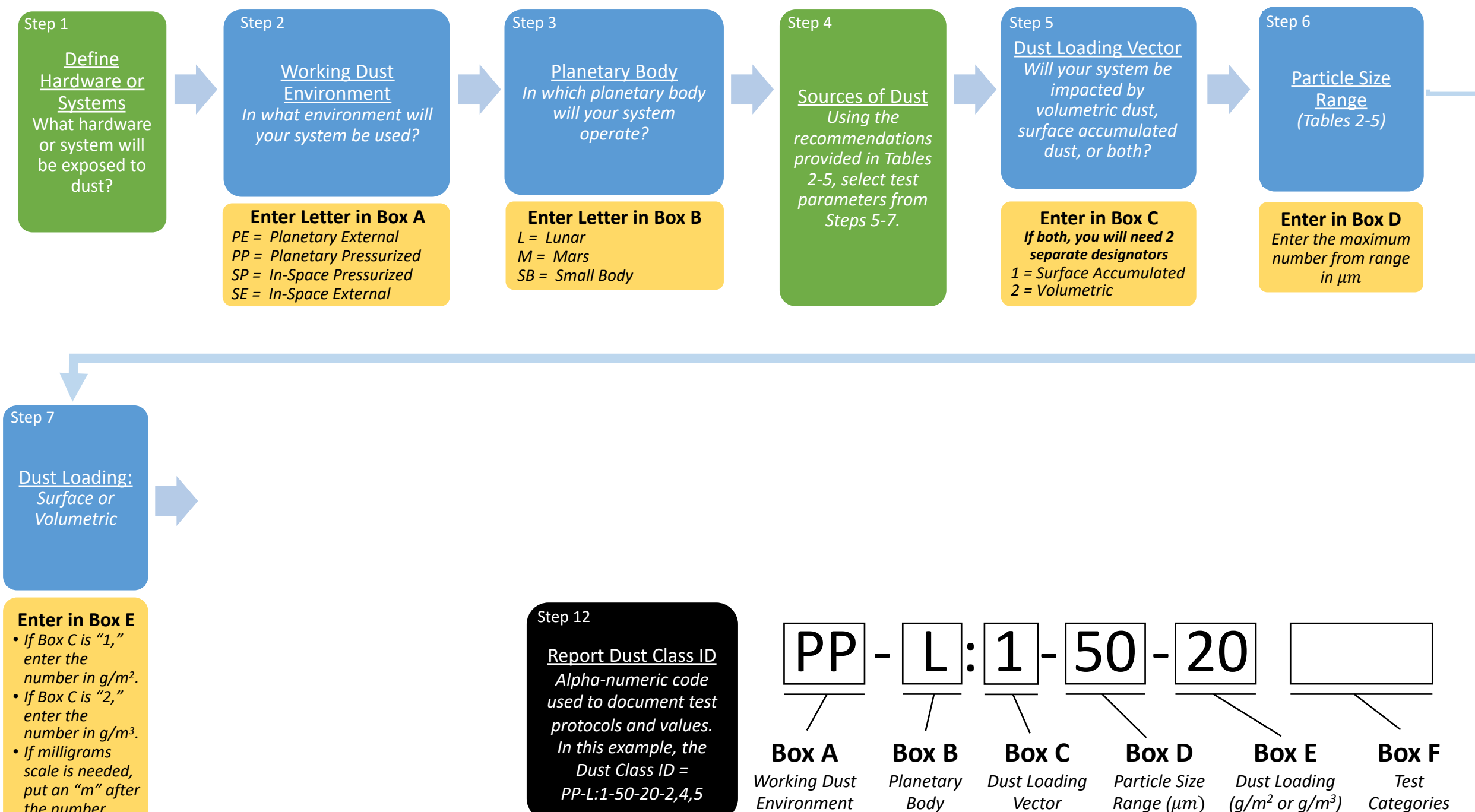


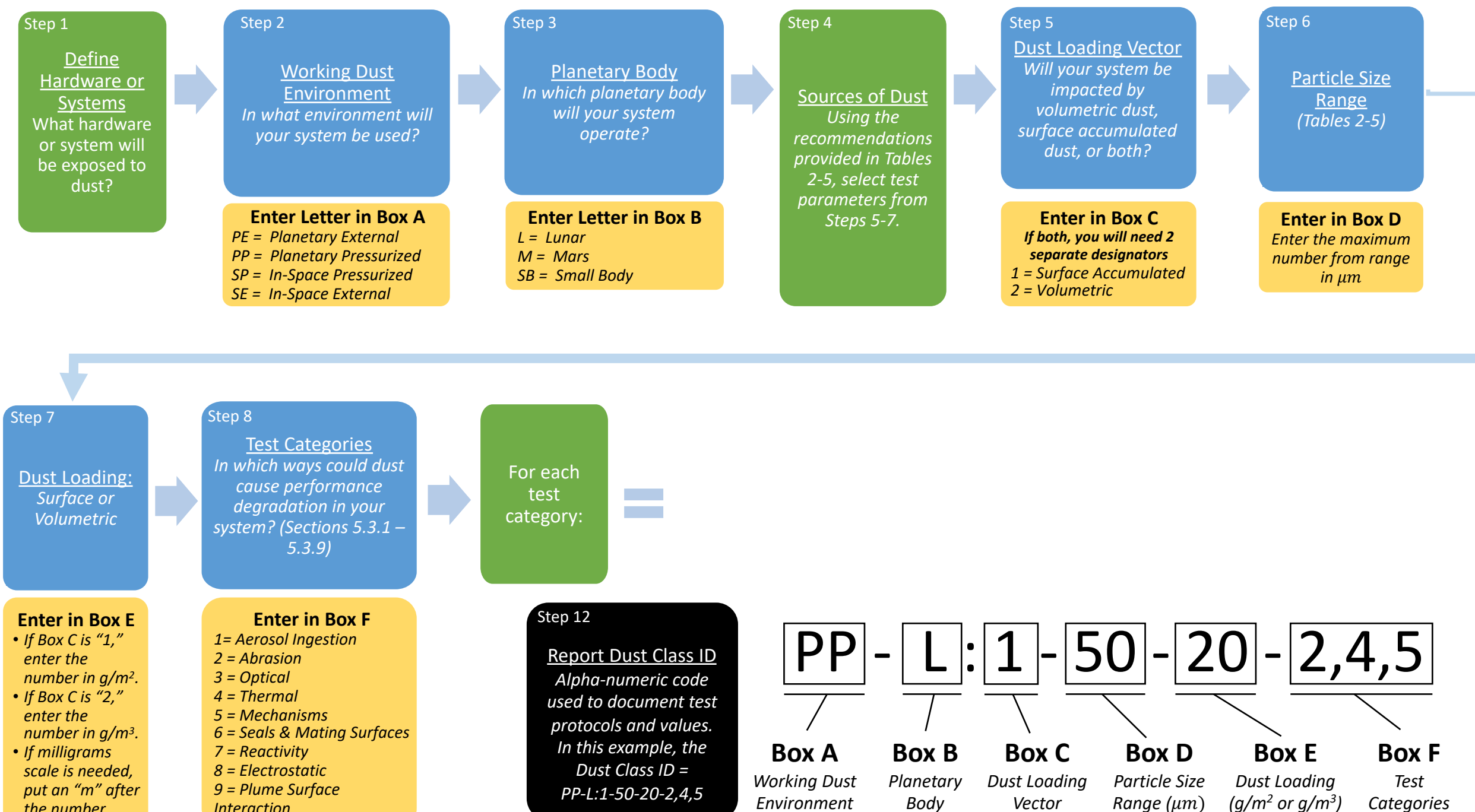
**Enter Letter in Box A**  
*PE = Planetary External  
PP = Planetary Pressurized  
SP = In-Space Pressurized  
SE = In-Space External*

**Enter Letter in Box B**  
*L = Lunar  
M = Mars  
SB = Small Body*

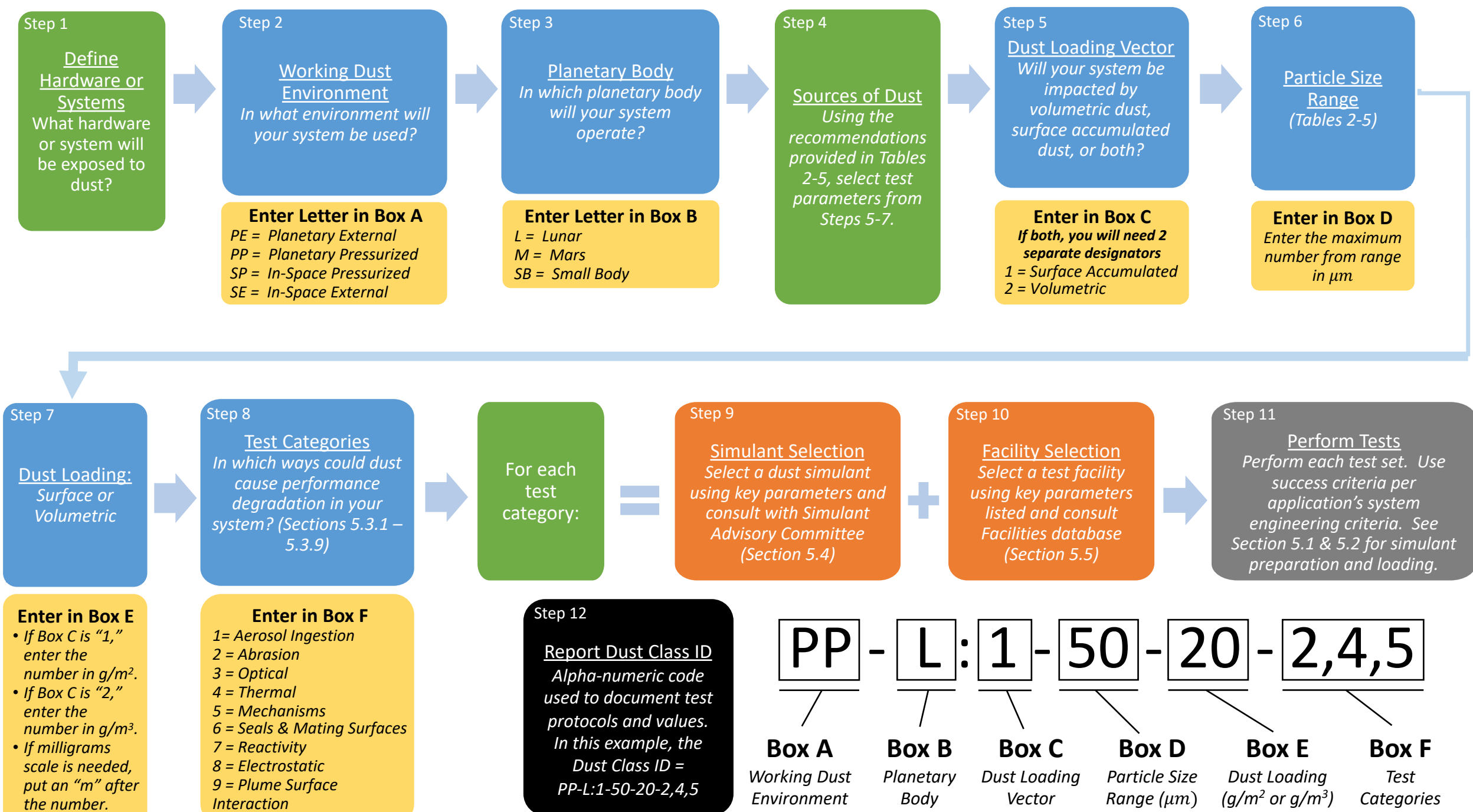
Step 12  
Report Dust Class ID  
*Alpha-numeric code used to document test protocols and values.  
In this example, the Dust Class ID = PP-L:1-50-20-2,4,5*












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**Table provided for each section that contains guidance on particle size, surface accumulated loading, volumetric loading, dust velocity, and charge to mass ratio. It provides this information for various sources of dust depending on the environment.**

- a. PE – Human generated surface transported dust, rocket plume dust, natural charged dust transport, natural impact ejecta
- b. PP – EVA suit cross-hatch transported dust, hardware cross-hatch transported dust
- c. SP – micro-G free floating dust, micro-G surface adhering dust
- d. SE – rocket plume dust, natural charged dust transport, natural impact ejecta



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# Section 5. Testing Methodologies & Best Practices



## SECTION 5.

### Testing Methodologies & Best Practices

#### 5.1 Simulant Prep & Storage

##### 5.1.1 Particle Separation

###### 5.1.1.1 Sieve

###### 5.1.1.2 Cyclone Separation

##### 5.1.2 Bake-out

###### 5.1.2.1 Forms of Water

###### 5.1.2.2 Moisture Level Best Practices

###### 5.1.2.3 Moisture Considerations for Vacuum Testing

##### 5.1.3 Storage

#### 5.2 Simulant Loading Definitions

#### 5.3 Testing Practices & Categories

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# Section 5. Testing Methodologies & Best Practices



## SECTION 5.

### Testing Methodologies & Best Practices

#### 5.1 Simulant Prep & Storage

#### 5.2 Simulant Loading Definitions

##### 5.2.1 Surface Accumulated Loading

###### 5.2.1.1 Method 1: Pre-Load the Dust

###### 5.2.1.2 Method 2: Vacuum Chamber Dust Loading

##### 5.2.2 Volumetric

#### 5.3 Testing Practices & Categories

#### 5.4 Simulants

#### 5.5 Facilities



# Section 5. Testing Methodologies & Best Practices



## SECTION 5.

### Testing Methodologies & Best Practices

5.1 Simulant Prep & Storage

5.2 Simulant Loading Definitions

5.3 Testing Practices & Categories

5.3.1 Aerosol Ingestion

5.3.2 Abrasion

5.3.3 Optical

5.3.4 Thermal

5.3.5 Mechanisms

5.3.6 Seals & Mating Surfaces

5.3.7 Reactivity

5.3.8 Electrostatic Properties

5.3.9 Plume Surface Interaction

5.4 Simulants

5.5 Facilities



# Section 5. Testing Methodologies & Best Practices



## SECTION 5.

### Testing Methodologies & Best Practices

#### 5.1 Simulant Prep & Storage

#### 5.2 Simulant Loading Definitions

#### 5.3 Testing Practices & Categories

##### 5.3.1 Aerosol Ingestion

###### 5.3.1 Simulant Characteristics

###### 5.3.2 Facility Capability

###### 5.3.3 Methodology

###### 5.3.4 Best Practices

###### 5.3.2 Abrasion

###### 5.3.3 Optical

###### 5.3.4 Thermal

#### 5.3 Testing Practices & Categories (cont.)

##### 5.3.5 Mechanisms

##### 5.3.6 Seals & Mating Surfaces

##### 5.3.7 Reactivity

##### 5.3.8 Electrostatic

##### 5.3.9 Plume Surface Interaction

#### 5.4 Simulants

#### 5.5 Facilities

# Testing Categories

## 5.3.1 Aerosol Ingestion

*Aerosol ingestion testing supports the development and use of hardware/system(s) that have the potential to ingest dust. This section is applicable to hardware/systems(s) exposed to dust within any pressurized habitable volumes/compartments and surface atmospheric environments.*

## 5.3.2 Abrasion

*Abrasion testing supports the development and use of materials used in hardware/system(s) that frequently interact and wear over time. This section is applicable to soft goods, which are flexible materials (e.g., textiles or thin films of synthetic or natural materials) and hard goods, which are inflexible materials (e.g., rigid metals or ceramics).*

## 5.3.3 Optical

*Optical testing supports the development and use of hardware/system(s) that have the potential to have their properties and operation altered by dust. This section is applicable to optical equipment (e.g., solar panels, viewports, camera lenses, laser-based optical systems, all mirrors, wavelength filter lenses, and radiative measurement sensors) and relative navigation equipment (e.g., docking targets, reflectors.)*

# Testing Categories

## 5.3.4 Thermal

*Thermal testing supports the development and use of hardware/system(s) that have the potential to have their properties and operation altered by dust. This section is applicable to active thermal management components/systems, dust loading, and associated thermal impacts on hardware/systems. The primary focus is on radiators, as this is expected to be a key component directly impacted by dust buildup/coverage. However, consideration of other hardware/system(s) that generate heat (e.g., motors, power supplies) must be considered to determine potential impact to operational conditions.*

## 5.3.5 Mechanisms

*Mechanisms testing supports the development and use of hardware/system(s) that have the potential to have their properties and operation altered by dust. This section is applicable to hardware with interacting surfaces in relative motion (e.g., bearings, gears, screws, and slip rings), mechanism casings and soft goods (i.e., lubricants and grease), and their seals at the system level. Other applicable mechanisms can include, but are not limited to: deployable appendages including solar arrays, retention and release mechanisms, antennas and masts, actuators, transport mechanisms, switches, rotating systems including momentum wheels, reaction wheels, control moment gyroscopes, motors, and roll rings.*

## 5.3.6 Seals & Mating Surfaces

*Seals and mating surfaces testing supports the development and use of hardware/system(s) that have the potential to have their properties and operation altered by dust contamination. This section is applicable to static seals for hatches, docking systems, space suits, habitation modules, and sample containers.*

# Testing Categories, con't

## 5.3.7 Reactivity

*Reactivity testing supports the development and use of hardware/system(s) that have the potential to have their properties and operation altered by dust contamination or chemical reactivity. This section is applicable to surfaces and organic and inorganic materials that have the potential to react with activated dust surfaces. This section is different than previous sections in that it serves to show how simulants may be altered to recreate the natural reactivity of lunar surface environment dust particle reactivity.*

## 5.3.8 Electrostatic Properties

*Electrostatics testing supports the development and use of hardware/system(s) that have the potential to have their properties and operation altered by the electrical properties of dust. This section encompasses electrostatic properties of granular materials, electrostatic discharge (ESD) circuit shorts from accumulated dust, and electrical arcing.*

## 5.3.9 Plume Surface Interaction

*Rocket engines produce gas plumes that interact with the planetary surface environment. When vehicles conduct near-surface operations (e.g., landing or take-off), gas plumes interact with planetary surfaces and may cause erosion, lofting, and/or heating of surface materials. Ejected dust may strike the vehicle producing the plume, hardware/system(s) in the vehicle's immediate vicinity or objects on orbit. PSI may cause dust loading or impact damage (e.g., media blasting). The nature of PSI effects depends on the target body's regolith, atmospheric, topographic, and gravitational properties; the vehicle's architecture, engine configuration and duty cycle, and the flight path of the landing vehicle; and the proximity of nearby hardware/system(s).*



# Section 5. Testing Methodologies & Best Practices



## SECTION 5.

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5.4 Simulants → *Document points to Simulant Advisory Committee*

5.5 Facilities → *Document points to LSIC Facilities Directory*

Simulants <https://ares.jsc.nasa.gov/projects/simulants/>

Facilities <https://lsic-wiki.jhuapl.edu/x/HINf>

# TESTING WITH DUST?

1. LOOK AT AVAILABLE DUST TESTING PAPERS & PUBLICATIONS  
[HTTPS://WIKI.JSC.NASA.GOV/FOD/INDEX.PHP/LUNAR\\_DUST\\_TESTING\\_LITERATURE](https://wiki.jsc.nasa.gov/fod/index.php/LUNAR_DUST_TESTING_LITERATURE)
2. REVIEW CURRENT DUST TESTING EFFORTS  
[HTTPS://WIKI.JSC.NASA.GOV/FOD/INDEX.PHP/LUNAR\\_DUST\\_TESTING\\_CAMPAIGNS](https://wiki.jsc.nasa.gov/fod/index.php/LUNAR_DUST_TESTING_CAMPAIGNS)
3. READ THE DUST MITIGATION BEST PRACTICES GUIDE (WHEN AVAILABLE)
4. UNDERSTAND THE NASA STANDARD FOR DUST TESTING  
[HTTPS://STANDARDS.NASA.GOV/STANDARD/NASA/NASA-STD-1008](https://standards.nasa.gov/standard/nasa/nasa-std-1008)
5. SELECT YOUR SIMULANTS (SIMULANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE)  
[HTTPS://ARES.JSC.NASA.GOV/PROJECTS/SIMULANTS/](https://ares.jsc.nasa.gov/projects/simulants/)  
[HTTPS://WIKI.JSC.NASA.GOV/FOD/INDEX.PHP/SIMULANT\\_ADVISORY\\_COMMITTEE](https://wiki.jsc.nasa.gov/fod/index.php/SIMULANT_ADVISORY_COMMITTEE)
6. IDENTIFY YOUR FACILITIES (LSIC FACILITIES DIRECTORY)  
[HTTPS://LSIC-WIKI.JHUAPL.EDU/X/HINF](https://lsic-wiki.jhuapl.edu/x/hinf)







For more information, please reach out to  
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