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Tracie Prater is an engineer in the Materials and Processes Laboratory at the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama, where she is currently the laboratory lead for the in-space manufacturing (ISM) project. ISM is tasked with developing the materials, processes, and design practices to enable manufacturing off-world. The project includes technology development in recycling, metal additive manufacturing, printed electronics, and in-process monitoring. The International Space Station (ISS) serves as a critical test bed for evaluating the utility of manufacturing technologies to meet needs for sparing and repair on space missions.

Tracie Prater also serves as a subject matter expert for NASA's Centennial Challenges prize competition program and helped to develop the 3D Printed Habitat Challenge. She has a Bachelor of Science in Physics from Eastern Kentucky University and a Master of Science and Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from Vanderbilt University. Tracie Prater is also a senior member of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.



