



Hot-fire tests under way on Discovery at the pad

News videos air on NASA TV three days per week

▲ Return to Flight Update:

Last weekend, technicians finalized work on **Discovery** to prepare for loading the hypergolic propellants for flight. This process includes loading the propellants, monomethyl hydrazine and nitrogen tetroxide, into the Orbiter Maneuvering System and the Forward Reaction Control System. Saturday, the Rotating Service Structure will be rotated away from Discovery in preparation for hot-fire tests of the Auxiliary Power Units and the right-hand Solid Rocket Booster Hydraulic Power Unit.

The payloads have all been installed in the Payload Transportation Canister in the SSPF and moved to the Rotation Facility. The canister will be raised to a vertical position to transfer the payloads to the pad. The canister will be lifted into the Payload Changeout Room so the payloads can be moved into and installed in Discovery's payload bay.

On **Atlantis**, scheduled for the second Return to Flight mission, STS-121, orbiter system testing is more than 60 percent complete. Last week, technicians finished installing the engines' dome-mounted heat shields, the two semi-circle-shaped sections of Thermal Protection System tile that fit around the engine interfaces. The interface verification test continues on the right-hand Orbiter Maneuvering System pod. Following the installation of the new

landing gear door thermal barrier seal, the nose landing gear was retracted for seal compression checks.

▲ **Kennedy Showcase:** KSC employees are invited to view a news video feature compiled for our internal KSC audience. This half-hour collection of videos produced by KSC Media Services airs on KSC/NASA TV Channel 7 at 10 a.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday with new features compiled every two weeks.

■ **Recycle Old Phone Books** — The new Talking Phone Books and the BellSouth Telephone Books should be distributed throughout KSC soon. All KSC employees are encouraged to recycle their old phone books. Through May 6 you can participate in the Centerwide telephone book recycling program by placing your telephone books in the outgoing mailboxes within your office. They will be picked up by the mail carriers. If you have more books than your outgoing mailbox can hold, please place them in a neat stack on the floor, table or desk next to the mailbox.

■ **The KSC Fitness Centers** invite you to celebrate this year's National Employee Health and Fitness Day from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 4 in the O&C Mission Briefing Room. Free health screenings, massages, blood pressure screenings, prizes, food

samples, T-shirts, and much more will be available! Also, you can bring your health questions and concerns. Men, stop by and meet with representatives from the Men's Health Network. Ladies, meet between 1 and 2 p.m. in a private room (O&C room 1055) with representatives from the American Cancer Society for questions about breast cancer and women's health issues. Contact Rachel Alvarado, 867-7829, at the Fitness Center with any questions.

■ **Did You Know?** Webster University offers a Professional Graduate Certificate in Government Contracting. The certificate consists of six graduate courses beginning in the summer semester that runs from May 28 to July 29. Webster offers master's degrees in business administration, management and leadership, procurement and acquisitions, business, computer resources and information management, business and organizational security, and human resources. If you are interested in pursuing this certificate or any other degrees, send an e-mail to Carol A. Marx at marxc@webster.edu with your name, address and phone number, or call 449-4506 for more information.

Go to the Web site at www.webster.edu/spacecoast for further information about Webster University, or call 449-4500.