



New Horizons testing on track, Atlas V to get tanking test

▲ **ELV Update:** The Applied Physics Lab team continues to perform additional testing of the autonomy software system to confirm that it would take appropriate safing actions if an onboard fault or unplanned conditions occurred after New Horizons is far away from the Earth. The scope of this testing has expanded, requiring additional days for ground processing to ensure a successful mission. As a result, encapsulation is six days behind schedule, but the Jan. 11 launch date has not been disturbed. Encapsulation of New Horizons into the vehicle fairing is scheduled for Dec. 12, followed by transportation to Launch Complex 41 for mating to the Atlas V on Dec. 16.

The fifth and final solid rocket booster has arrived at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station and was mated to the Atlas V at the Vehicle Integration Facility Tuesday.

Boeing's delivery of the third stage to the Payload Hazardous Servicing Facility is on schedule for today. Mating with the New Horizons spacecraft is scheduled for Dec. 9. Hydrazine fuel for attitude control and course-correction maneuvers is scheduled to be loaded aboard the spacecraft on Sunday, followed by a "wet" spin-balance test with fuel aboard on Dec. 6-7. A tanking test of the Atlas V launch vehicle is scheduled for Dec. 5.

Web-based Shuttle Safety Hotline launches

▲ **Shuttle Safety Hotline:** The Space Shuttle Program Safety and Mission Assurance Office has launched a new Shuttle Safety Hotline web site at <http://sma.jsc.nasa.gov/sirma/hotline/> that outlines the multiple routes available for personnel to discuss and resolve program safety concerns. Members of the work force are encouraged to resolve safety issues themselves, discuss concerns with management or contact individuals identified on the Web site.

The link to the Shuttle Safety Hotline is located on various web sites, such as <http://sspweb.jsc.nasa.gov/>, <http://sspweb.jsc.nasa.gov/mx/> and <http://sma.jsc.nasa.gov/sirma/>.

■ **Sally Ride Science Festival at Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex** — On Saturday, the KSC Visitor Complex is hosting a Sally Ride Science Festival, bringing together hundreds of girls in fifth through eighth grades for a day of science and socializing. Parents and teachers are welcome too.

Featuring a talk by Ellen Ochoa, the first Hispanic female astronaut, the Sally Ride Science Festival also includes workshops for girls provided by local scientists and engineers; workshops for parents and teachers on ways to support girls' interests in science and math; and a street fair with hands-on activities, booths and

food. The cost is \$18 in advance and includes lunch, and all festival activities and materials. Advance registration is required and there is no on-site registration. For more information about the festival and to register, visit <http://www.SallyRideFestivals.com> or call 800-561-5161. If you are interested in volunteering for the event, please contact Becky Decker at deckerb@kc.rr.com.

■ **KSC Holiday Coffee for Second- and Third-Shift Employees** — Center Director Jim Kennedy will host a Holiday Coffee on **Monday** for all KSC employees working second and third shifts. Refreshments will be served in the LCC Lobby from 10 p.m. to midnight.

■ **Did You Know?** On Tuesday, all civil service and contractor employees are invited to the annual KSC Holiday Coffee from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Headquarters Bldg. Refreshments will be provided on the lobbies of **every floor**. As parking may be limited, the regularly scheduled shuttle buses will be available in the Industrial Area. In the LC-39 Area, in addition to the regular shuttle buses, a dedicated shuttle bus will provide continuous transportation every 30 minutes from 8:15 a.m. to noon servicing the Logistics Facility and the old Saturn V tour stop in front of the OSB.