



KSC Countdown

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Micro-satellites to measure Earth's magnetic field

◆ **ELV Update:** The Space Technology 5 spacecraft, developed by Orbital Sciences, is scheduled for mating with its launch vehicle, a Pegasus XL rocket, at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California on Friday. The spacecraft comprises three micro-satellites that contain miniaturized redundant components and technologies. Each will validate New Millennium Program selected technologies, such as the Cold Gas Micro-Thruster and X-Band Transponder Communication System. After deployment from the Pegasus, the micro-satellites will be positioned in a "string of pearls" constellation that demonstrates the ability to position them to perform simultaneous multi-point measurements of the magnetic field using highly sensitive magnetometers.



Launch of the ST5 is scheduled for Feb. 28 from Vandenberg.

For more information about the mission, go to <http://nmp.jpl.nasa.gov/st5/>.

Discovery to carry new life support system to ISS

◆ **STS-121 Update:** A new environmental control and life support system for the International Space Station arrived at KSC last week and was moved to the Space Station Processing Facility. The life support system is part of the payload on the second return-to-flight test mission, STS-121, aboard space shuttle Discovery. The system will add to the station's oxygen-making capabilities and could provide enough oxygen for up to six people. Managed by Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala., the system was built by Hamilton Sundstrand Corp. in Connecticut.

■ **NASA Budget Briefing On TV** — NASA Administrator Michael Griffin will brief the media about the agency's FY 2007 budget at 1 p.m. Monday from NASA's auditorium in Washington. Griffin will be joined by NASA's associate administrators for the Space Operations, Science, Aeronautics and Exploration mission directorates for the 90-minute event. The news conference will be live on NASA TV.

Immediately following the press conference, KSC Director Jim Kennedy will conduct an all hands meeting with KSC employees on the KSC budget from **2 to 3 p.m. at the Training Auditorium**. A question-and-answer session will follow the meeting.

Seating allocations have been distributed through directorates and contractor offices. The event will be broadcast live on NASA TV, channel 7, and can be viewed at <http://www.ksc.nasa.gov/nasa-only/internal.html>. Employees unable to attend at the Training Auditorium can call in their questions during the Q&A period at 867-0111.

■ **GlobalFlyer Update** — The anticipated takeoff of the GlobalFlyer aircraft from the KSC Shuttle Landing Facility is no earlier than Monday.

■ **Reminder** — Beginning today through August, traffic in front of the KSC Headquarters Building is being limited to one-way driving **west-bound** on the north lane between C and D Avenues. Signs indicate the changes. Please do not park in the area designated by orange cones.

■ **Did You Know? Friday is National Wear Red Day for Women.** The American Heart Association encourages women to wear red – whether it is a red dress, a red dress pin or red lipstick – on Friday. Show the world you support Go Red For Women, the movement to improve women's heart health and save lives. American Heart Association materials will be distributed throughout the Spaceport clinics, cafeterias and fitness centers, as well as the monthly health education table on Feb. 9.

KSC Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday. Deadlines are 10 a.m. Mondays & Wednesdays.

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Find KSC Countdown on the Internet at <http://www.nasa.gov/centers/kennedy/news/countdown/countdown-toc.html>