



KSC Countdown

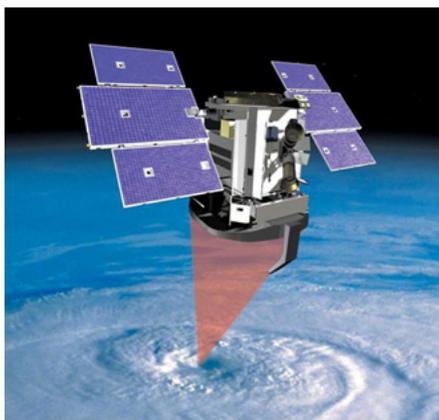
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Dual satellites to launch from Vandenberg April 20

◆ **ELV Update:** With the successful launch last week of Space Technology 5, the Expendable Launch Vehicle program now looks to the next spacecraft, the duo CALIPSO/CloudSat, scheduled for launch April 20 from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. (An artist's drawing of the CloudSat satellite is shown below.)



CloudSat and CALIPSO will provide a new, 3-D perspective on Earth's clouds and airborne particles called aerosols. The satellites will answer questions about how clouds and aerosols form, evolve and affect water supply, climate, weather and air quality

◆ **NASA Update:** NASA has authorized contract extensions for development of the agency's new Crew Exploration Vehicle. The companies -- Lockheed Martin Corp.,

and a team of Northrop Grumman Systems Corp. and The Boeing Co. -- were selected as CEV Phase 1 contractors in June 2005. They have been working with NASA to define requirements and develop conceptual designs for the agency's next-generation vehicle for human space flight.

The new contract extends Phase 1 work from March 31 until Aug. 31 and adds options for a pair of two-month extensions for each contractor. The first option would extend Phase 1 work to Oct. 31. The second option would extend Phase 1 work to Dec. 31. The new spacecraft is expected to carry up to six astronauts into Earth orbit soon after the space shuttle is retired in 2010 and then on to the moon by 2018. The Crew Exploration Vehicle is a key element of the Vision for Space Exploration, which returns human explorers to the moon, Mars and beyond.



Pilot Bob Crippen, at 3 p.m. April 6 in the Training Auditorium. This year is the 25th anniversary of the historic first launch of Space Shuttle Colum-

NASA extends contract to develop shuttle replacement

bia on April 12, 1981, from launch pad 39A. This presentation will also be shown on NASA TV (channel 7) and the NASA channel of your local TV cable company.



■ **Path Redirected at Headquarters** — Beginning at 8 a.m. today through August, the center automatic doors and the west

manual doors of the Headquarters lobby are closed. **The two manual doors east of the lobby center automatic doors will remain open and unobstructed at all times.**

All pedestrian access to Headquarters via the north lobby doors will now be routed across the new east sidewalk and across 1st Street. For your own protection, please stay within the designated walk path. Please be cautious and aware when entering and exiting the facility. This is a congested and tight area around the Headquarters Building and will require everyone's attention and cooperation. Work hours for this project are 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

■ **Did You Know?** April 12 is the 25th anniversary of the launch of Columbia on the first shuttle mission, STS-1. For a look at the activities at KSC surrounding that mission, including the launch, go to the Media Gallery at <http://mediaarchive.ksc.nasa.gov/index.cfm> and click on the fourth photo category shown.