



KSC Countdown

April 13, 2006

www.nasa.gov

Vol. 11, No. 28

ELV launch on April 21 to study clouds and aerosols

Next Jason satellite to expand knowledge of ocean

◆ **ELV Update:** The CALIPSO/CloudSat spacecraft was delivered to the launch pad at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California last week. The Flight Program Verification, an integrated electrical and mechanical flight test involving the Delta II and the CALIPSO/CloudSat payload, was completed Wednesday. Installation of the launch vehicle ordnance will follow. CALIPSO/CloudSat payload closeouts are also scheduled and will be followed by installation of the fairing around the spacecraft.

◆ **NASA News:** NASA has signed an agreement with other U.S. and international agencies to launch the Ocean Surface Topography Mission in 2008. The satellite, named Jason-2, will increase our understanding of ocean circulation and improve climate forecasts and measurements of global sea-level change. The three- to five-year mission will extend the ocean topography measurements collected since 1992, first by Topex/Poseidon and now by Jason.

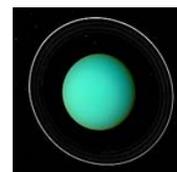
NASA will provide several of the

mission's science instruments, including an advanced microwave radiometer, laser retroreflector array and global positioning system payload receiver package. NASA will also provide launch services on a Boeing Delta II rocket.



■ **Slogan Contest** — A slogan contest has been announced for the third annual diversity event in September. Entries should reflect KSC's commitment to diversity, respect and inclusion for all, and a discrimination-free workplace. NASA and contractor personnel may enter; e-mail your slogan to KSCDiversity@kscems.ksc.nasa.gov by April 28, including your name, mail code and phone number. Be sure to include SLOGAN CONTEST in the subject line.

■ **KSC Technology Expo** — The IT Directorate invites you to stop by the O&C Mission Briefing Room between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on April 19 for the KSC Technology Expo. Complementary refreshments and free giveaways will be provided while supplies last. More than 35 exhibitors will be on hand demonstrating the latest in secure data solutions, electromechanical components, network operations services, information assurance, security, wireless computing, hardware/software, and much more!



■ **NASA Science** — This month, Venus can guide you to a naked-eye planet that ancient astronomers

inexplicably failed to see, a planet named George. Read the full story at http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2006/11apr_george.htm?list29875.

■ **Robotics Summer Camp For Girls** — The Society of Women Engineers (SWE) is hosting two robotics day camps, each a week long, starting July 3 and July 10 at Cocoa Beach High School. The camps are for girls in fifth through seventh grades. Registration details are on the Web at www.swe-sc.org/RoboticsCamp. Contact Judy Kersey at robotics06@swe-sc.org if you have questions.

SWE will also be conducting a one-day workshop for adults on July 8 and July 15 at Cocoa Beach High School for people interested in coaching a FIRST LEGO League Team. Hours are 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Information and registration information are available on the Web at <http://www.swe-sc.org/RoboticsCamp/AdultWS.htm>.

■ **Did You Know?** April 22 is the 35th anniversary of Earth Day. For information, go to <http://www.earthday.gov/>