

Spaceport News



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STS-116 crew members prepare for December launch

Mission will provide space station with major electricity boost

By Elaine Marconi
Staff Writer

With a complex mission ahead of them, the seven crew members of upcoming space shuttle mission STS-116 were at Kennedy Space Center on Oct. 11 through 13 to participate in the Crew Equipment Interface Test. The astronauts had an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the orbiter controls and its payloads before Discovery's scheduled launch in December.

Discovery has completed more than 30 successful missions, surpassing the number of flights made by any other orbiter in NASA's fleet. The shuttle will deliver another truss segment and a

SPACEHAB element to the International Space Station.

During two spacewalks, astronauts will completely rewire the electrical system that will supply the station with a permanent power-generating source.

Leading the team is Commander Mark Polansky, who previously served as a pilot for Atlantis on mission STS-98 in February 2001. William Oefelein will make his first journey into space as the pilot for the STS-116 mission.

Mission Specialist Robert Curbeam is a veteran of two space shuttle flights. He served as the robotic arm operator on STS-85 in August 1997 and logged more than 19 hours during three spacewalks on STS-98. Joan Higginbotham, mission specialist, will operate the station's robotic arm to assist with the construction of the space station.

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STS-116 CREW members get a close look at the underside of the orbiter Discovery in the Orbiter Processing Facility. The astronauts are, from left, Commander Mark Polansky, Mission Specialists Joan Higginbotham and Nicholas Patrick, Pilot William Oefelein, and Mission Specialists Christer Fuglesang, who represents the European Space Agency, and Sunita Williams. The crew was at KSC for a Crew Equipment Interface Test.

Vehicle Assembly Building doors getting a face-lift

By Linda Herridge
Staff Writer

The Vehicle Assembly Building's massive steel doors tower over the Launch Complex 39 area, serving as beacons that remind us of our past and beckon us toward the future.

After 40 years of wear and tear, the facility's vertical lift doors are undergoing restoration to support the remaining space shuttle launches and the next generation of launch vehicles.

The restoration project began in 2003 with a thorough inspection of the vertical lift doors and openings, followed by a detailed engineering package with specific recommendations, according to

Mark Sortman, a project manager with United Space Alliance Infrastructure Program Management.

A subcontractor was hired in 2004. While work on the north transfer aisle doors began, a huge vertical lift door work platform was created and put in place in order to begin work on high bay 1. The work platform will be transferred to high bay 3 next month.

The ongoing work includes repairing, sandblasting and painting seven vertical lift doors in each of high bays 1 and 3, and replacing siding, buffers and limit switches. Refurbishment of wind rollers and bearings will also be completed. New siding will be

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A DOOR on the south side of the Vehicle Assembly Building is removed for repairs. Approximately 110 employees have worked on the project.



Jim Kennedy
Center Director

The Kennedy Update

I have participated in many exciting NASA events, but the upcoming STS-116 mission to the International Space Station will hold a very special place in my heart as it will be my last space shuttle mission while serving as your center director. The STS-116 crew recently visited the center and completed the Crew Equipment Interface Test with great success. The teamwork displayed by both the crew members and the employees who worked alongside them was another fine example demonstrating the best of our core values.

Led by Commander Mark Polansky, the seven astronauts familiarized themselves with the

tools and equipment they will need to rewire the station. For the past eight years, the station has been operating under a temporary electrical system. Using the newly attached P3/P4 solar array panels from the STS-115 mission, the STS-116 crew will conduct two spacewalks to switch the power to the permanent system.

In other shuttle-related news, the dates for the first three launches in 2007 are being assessed by the team. Atlantis and the STS-117 crew are targeting launch no earlier than March 2007, followed by Endeavour and the STS-118 crew in June, and Atlantis and the STS-120 crew no earlier than September. Be sure to stay

tuned for the latest mission updates as we continue to move ahead with station assembly.

At the time of this writing, another exciting NASA science mission was scheduled to begin earlier this week with the launch of the STEREO spacecraft aboard a Boeing Delta II rocket from Launch Pad 17-B at the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. Consisting of two identical spacecraft, STEREO will help scientists better understand how space weather impacts communications on Earth.

“Atlantis and the STS-117 crew are targeting launch no earlier than March 2007.”

As the world’s dependence on advanced communication technology continues to grow, NASA’s research should help to provide guidance to the industry on how to avoid the major interruptions that can cost businesses billions of dollars each year.

Many of the outstanding small and large businesses that help NASA accomplish so much participated in the Business Opportunities Expo 2006 held at

Port Canaveral. As I walked through the vendor areas, I could sense the enormous amount of pride these business owners and employees felt as they talked about their work with NASA and their interest in contributing to the success of the Vision.

And with the transition from shuttle to Constellation already in progress, we should certainly appreciate the valuable and innovative contributions of small business more than ever.

I also highly value the contributions of our own work force, and

I hope you were able to take advantage of the “Stress Out Day” that was offered to help you cope with

the pressures that may come your way. Judging by attendance figures, a large number of you did participate in the event, and I am sure you picked up some excellent pointers on how to live a healthier lifestyle.

Remember, the end of daylight saving time is this Sunday. With Halloween on Tuesday, it will certainly be dark earlier, so be sure to drive carefully when children may be present near roads.

Employees learn various techniques to avoid stress

By Jennifer Wolfinger
Staff Writer

Kennedy Space Center workers have important and unique responsibilities weighing on them daily, so the Employee Assistance and Health Education and Wellness programs sponsored the first “Stress Out Day” on Oct. 19 to provide tips and methods to manage tension.

Workers visited the Operations and Checkout Building’s mission briefing room throughout the afternoon to participate in several wellness activities. Participants could receive a quick massage, register for a meal-planning service, discover the benefits of feng shui, learn about business coaching offered by NASA, schedule a financial planning session, plan a vacation and so much more.

“I’m here to learn how to relieve stress in my daily life,” said



EMPLOYEES RECEIVE advice during the first “Stress Out Day” held Oct. 19 in the Operations and Checkout Building’s mission briefing room.

the Procurement Directorate’s Jaime Dempsey. “I’m really excited about getting a massage so I can return to work recharged.”

Many employees were brave enough to try new experiences. The center of the room was filled with dance instructors teaching

employees new ballroom and jazz moves. Some participants even tried acupuncture, a Chinese healing technique that involves inserting needles at specific body points.

“In the beginning, you can feel some twitching from the needles,

and some more than others. Then it became very relaxing. It’s weird, because I wasn’t expecting it to really work and I wouldn’t mind doing it again,” said Rosaly Santos-Ebaugh, a Center Operations employee who tried acupuncture in her ear to eradicate stress.

Attendees competed for eight door prizes and early birds received miniature golf coupons. But for some employees, the knowledge they gained was more exciting than tangible gifts.

“I learned many techniques to relieve stress, and also that Human Resources will help organize your office,” said Janice Everett of Center Operations.

“This was a very good event and an eye opener. I got to meet new people, discover interesting concepts, and I’m glad I attended.”

The Stress Out Day team would like feedback from participants. Please e-mail input to Lauren.Ratner@jbsoc.ksc.nasa.gov.

Myers proud of Society of Women Engineers award

The Society of Women Engineers recently named Kennedy Space Center employee Harmony Myers a recipient of the organization's 2006 Distinguished New Engineer Award.

Myers was recognized for her contributions to ensure the safety of the space shuttle, for local and regional leadership in the Society of Women Engineers (also known as the SWE), and for providing guidance and support to the group's collegiate members.

Myers is a reliability and safety engineer for NASA. She implements and manages program and project safety initiatives for government and contractor activities. She also assists in making safety decisions for the shuttle program, as well as reviewing and managing government contracts to ensure safety requirements and procedures are met.

"Harmony has demonstrated a breadth of problem-solving and leadership capabilities throughout

her safety and reliability initiatives for the space industry," said Jude Garzolini, president of the SWE. "These skills are imperative for success in the space program, where safety and reliability are paramount."

Myers began her engineering career as a telecom engineering co-op at Harris Corp., where she researched wireless service capabilities through the Harris Headquarters. Myers later took on the role of sensor IPPT engineering intern at Lockheed Martin Co., where she researched cameras, heat detection, voice detection, satellites, television and other equipment to implement into military vehicles.

Myers then worked for United Space Alliance at KSC for five years. During this time, she was a system design engineer on the integrated electronics assembly for the solid rocket booster, and a shuttle reliability engineer who performed analyses for the shuttle program.

In addition to her professional

responsibilities, Myers has been very active within the SWE for nearly 10 years.

Myers has made some significant accomplishments during her short career. She was the recipient of the Quest Performance Award in 2002, named Central Florida's Young Engineer of the Year in 2003 and National SWE Nominee for New Faces of Engineering in 2006.

The Distinguished New Engineer Award honors women engineers who have been actively engaged in engineering, demonstrated outstanding technical performance, and have had no more than 10 years of cumulative engineering experience as of Dec. 31 of the past year. Each advanced engineering degree obtained on a full-time basis counts as



HARMONY MYERS was honored with the 2006 Distinguished New Engineer Award from the Society of Women Engineers.

one year of experience.

The Society of Women Engineers, founded in 1950, is a non-profit educational and service organization that helps to establish engineering as a highly desirable career aspiration for women.

Bolger becomes director of Information Technology

By Jennifer Wolfinger
Staff Writer

Mike Bolger left Indiana's frigid weather to pursue his love for computer science through a NASA co-op position on the sunny Space Coast 22 years ago, and he has advanced to become Kennedy Space Center's Director of Information Technology and Communications Services.

As director, he leads strategic planning for the organization, manages resource allocation, cultivates the work force, and represents the directorate with other center and agency stakeholders.

Bolger also serves as KSC's chief information officer, or CIO. In that role, he ensures that KSC's asset acquisition and management follow federal policy and regulations. He also partners with the agency's Office of the CIO and other NASA center CIOs to

guarantee KSC's IT policy and systems are aligned with the rest of the agency.

Prior to his appointment, he worked in various technical, business and leadership positions. He developed shuttle processing ground software, managed software configuration for the firing rooms, helped lead the Checkout and Launch Control System project, managed the J-BOSC contract, supported the 2004-2005 hurricane recovery effort and performed a detail with the chief financial officer.

"Wherever I've worked, I'm proud of the positive relationships that I've developed with subordinates, peers, contractors and senior managers as together we've established an environment of trust and accountability with one another," he shared.

"The in-place IT leadership team is experienced and savvy. The engineers, IT professionals and business support personnel are

talented and enthusiastic. My real challenge is to be an effective advocate for all the great ideas that people have," said Bolger, who sees information technology becoming so integrated into our environment that it will seem transparent.

The 140 government employees Bolger manages are working on several initiatives. The team is modernizing communication systems, developing new technology to support current programs and the Constellation Program, enhancing IT security processes across the center, strengthening the launch readiness process, improving contract surveillance methods and establishing ODIN as the desktop service provider of choice.

As a teen, he quickly grasped computer programming when his dad brought home a computer.

"I soon recognized the power of being able to write a program that endlessly scrolled disparaging remarks about my brother," he



MIKE BOLGER is director of Information Technology and Communications Services.

joked.

He spends his free time supporting Merritt Island youth sports with his wife of 13 years, Sami, and children: Alex, 11, Oliver, 10, and Anna, 6. He also enjoys golfing and fishing.

STS-116 crew participates in Crew Equipment Interface Test

CEIT . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

Making his shuttle flight debut is former flight instructor and member of the 1998 astronaut class, Mission Specialist Nicholas Patrick. Christer Fuglesang, a mission specialist from the European Space Agency, is also making his first shuttle voyage.

Flight Engineer Sunita Williams will stay on the station with the Expedition 14 team after arriving there on Discovery. The crew members of STS-116 have been training long and hard for this flight, and their days at Kennedy will keep them sharp for the challenging mission ahead.

For the latest updates on the STS-116 mission, visit <http://www.nasa.gov/shuttle>.



INSIDE THE SPACEHAB Payload Processing Facility, mission STS-116 crew members inspect flight hardware during the Crew Equipment Interface Test. From left are Mission Specialists Joan Higginbotham, Nicholas Patrick, Sunita Williams and Christer Fuglesang, who is with the European Space Agency. Behind Fuglesang is Mission Commander Mark Polansky.



FROM A platform in the Orbiter Processing Facility, STS-116 Commander Mark Polansky (left) and Pilot William Oefelein look at one of Discovery's reinforced carbon-carbon wing leading edges.



FROM LEFT, at the Shuttle Landing Facility, Deputy Director William Parsons and Discovery Flow Director Stephanie Stilson greet STS-116 Mission Specialists Robert Curbeam and Nicholas Patrick after they arrive for the Crew Equipment Interface Test.



INSIDE THE SPACEHAB Payload Processing Facility at Port Canaveral, STS-116 Mission Specialists (from left) Joan Higginbotham, Sunita Williams and Nicholas Patrick look over flight hardware during the Crew Equipment Interface Test.



STS-116 CREW members are briefed on the cameras they will be using during the mission. The astronauts are, from left, Mission Specialists Robert Curbeam and Christer Fuglesang and Pilot William Oefelein.

See Discovery at pad during Family Day 2006

By Linda Herridge
Staff Writer

Employees at Kennedy Space Center and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station will have a chance to share the excitement of their workplace with family members during Family Day 2006, set from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 18. The theme for this year's event is "Launching the Future Together: A Family Celebration."

Family Day 2006 is an opportunity for all badged KSC/CCAFS civil servant and contractor employees, and workers from the 45th Space Wing who possess a Common Access Card, to bring family members on center in their personal vehicle (no larger than a seven-passenger van). Badged workers must escort family and guests at all times.

Workers planning to bring a foreign national as a guest will be held totally responsible for their actions and for escorting them. For further information concerning foreign national visitors and clearance issues, please contact Sheila Perry (KSC) at 867-2452 or e-mail her at Sheila.M.Perry@nasa.gov, or Wayne Davis (CCAFS) at 494-8563 or e-mail him at 45swxpi@patrick.af.mil, by Nov. 14.

KSC main attractions will include a viewing of Space Shuttle Discovery on Launch Pad 39B (the rotating service structure won't be rolled back), orbiter Endeavour in Orbiter Processing Facility bay 2,

the Launch Control Center, the Apollo Saturn V Center, the International Space Station Center and the Space Shuttle Main Engine Processing Facility. Aircraft and convoy vehicles will be on display at the Shuttle Landing Facility.

CCAFS main attractions will include the Air Force Space Museum (including Complex 5-6), Complexes 37 and 41 and the Hangar AE Mission Director's Center for NASA's expendable launch vehicle missions.

Special exhibits will be located in the Operations and Checkout Building mission briefing room and astronaut appearances will take place at various locations. The cafeterias in the Multi-Function Facility, O&C Building and the Space Station Processing Facility will serve a special lunch menu from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Snack Bar will be open in the Launch Control Center and three mobile refreshment trailers will be located around the Launch Complex 39 area. At CCAFS, the Cape Cafeteria will serve lunch from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., and the Navy Greenhouse will serve lunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Exchange Stores in the O&C, SSPF and OSB will be open at KSC and at Complex 14 at CCAFS, as well as the Visitor Complex Space Shop and the Apollo Saturn V Center.

A map of the tour route and a complete list of facilities, exhibits and highlights will be available



SPACE SHUTTLE Discovery, shown with the rotating service structure rolled away, will be on Launch Pad 39B during Family Day 2006.

for download and printing on the KSC Web site soon. The Web site link will be advertised in the KSC Daily News as soon as it becomes

available. For more information, call the Family Day hotline at 867-2343.

DOORS . . . (Continued from Page 1)

installed on the door openings. The work is scheduled to be completed by November 2007.

Additional work on high bay 1 includes building four new horizontal doors and installing electrical actuated louvers. In both high bays 1 and 2, the horizontal door canopy siding will be replaced with a Kynar-coated aluminum siding and the steel structures will be repaired, cleaned and painted. Kynar is a superior coating that helps protect paint from the harsh rays of the sun and the center's saltwater environment.

"This project, in conjunction with several other ongoing and future infrastructure projects, will help preserve the functionality of the building and ensure the Vehicle Assembly Building is available to serve NASA and the space program for decades," Sortman said.

The work is not without its challenges. Sortman noted it has to be completed on a non-interruptive basis to shuttle launches. When high

bay 3 was needed for shuttle stacking in August 2005, the workers transferred to high bay 1 and continued work.

"The doors are a major part of the building's functionality. It's very important that they work properly," said Lauren Price, a NASA system engineer for cranes, doors, platforms and heavy equipment in the Engineering Directorate.

Price said refurbishment work will begin soon on high bays 2 and 4 with completion by mid-2009.

Approximately 110 employees, comprised of ironworkers, painters, general laborers, security escorts, field construction managers and foremen, are working on the door refurbishment project.

"The refurbishment is essential to the current and future space programs," Sortman said. "The building is not only historically valuable, but it is a true monument to American ingenuity and an inspiration to millions of visitors."

NASA seeks input on Constellation Program's impact

By Linda Herridge
Staff Writer

With Constellation Program activities moving forward, NASA is pondering what kind of environmental impacts the development and launch of the Ares and Orion vehicles could have on the Earth's environment.

The agency is looking for input from space workers, the aerospace community and the general public in order to write an environmental impact statement for the program.

As part of the agency's scoping process, Kennedy Space Center employees provided feedback on the impact statement on Oct. 17 in the mission briefing room at the Operations and Checkout Building.

"The public does have a stake in the environmental decisions that NASA makes," said Ken Kumor, the NASA National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) coordinator and federal preservation officer.

A limited number of long-lead activities that could affect the environment need to be initiated before the impact study can be completed.

Separate NEPA documents will be required for the development of the Crew Exploration Vehicle Orion, the proposed NASA Launch Abort System Test Program, and proposed new construction and modification to existing facilities to support early testing of Ares-I and Orion at KSC.

Alternatives to be considered in the impact statement will

include other launch vehicle systems, other means to support the International Space Station and alternative Orion landing regimes and sites.

Two scoping meetings were held at the Florida Solar Energy Center in Cocoa on Oct. 18, one in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 20, and one in Salt Lake City on Oct. 24. The public scoping period closes on Nov. 13.

Potential environmental impacts to be addressed for the Constellation Program's normal operations and accident situations include air and water quality, plant and animal life, noise and vibration, historic and cultural resources, sonic booms and other Earth-return impacts, and socio-economic factors.

At KSC, potential environmental impacts include wetlands, floodplains, coastal zone management, the Cape Canaveral National Seashore, Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, migratory birds and marine mammals.

Kumor said the input will help in creating a Draft Environmental Impact Statement that will contain suggested alternatives and the proposed mitigation measures.

John Connolly, with the Constellation Program at Johnson Space Center, presented an overview of the flight vehicles, launch vehicles and mission architecture. Connolly said the combination of the new Orion capsule, its launch escape system, and the Ares launch vehicle will greatly improve the safety and reliability of NASA's crew launches. The heavy-lift Ares V launch vehicle will lift larger



INSIDE THE Operations and Checkout Building mission briefing room, Ken Kumor (far left), the NASA National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) coordinator, spoke to KSC workers about the Constellation Program NEPA process. The panel included John Connolly and Dr. Jennifer Ratigan, with the Constellation Program at Johnson Space Center, and Ruth Gardner, with KSC's shuttle ground operations.

payloads into orbit than the Apollo program's Saturn V.

Connolly said the exploration of the moon will include additional regions that were inaccessible during the Apollo program. "We may revisit some of the

Apollo sites," Connolly said. "But we will also have the ability to explore newly discovered scientific sites such as the lunar poles and the South Pole-Aitken basin on the far side of the moon."

NASA's STEREO to study space weather for two years



AT PRESS time, launch of NASA's STEREO spacecraft was scheduled for Oct. 25 aboard a Boeing Delta II rocket from Pad 17-B at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. STEREO consists of two spacecraft that together comprise the first mission to take measurements of the sun and solar wind in 3-D. This new view will improve our understanding of space weather and its impact on the Earth. During the two-year mission, the nearly identical spacecraft will explore the origin and interplanetary consequences of coronal mass ejections.



THE PANEL recently held a public workshop about the Constellation Program NEPA process at the Florida Solar Energy Center in Cocoa.

Remembering Our Heritage

40 years ago: Gemini 12 launch on Veterans Day was final mission in the program

By Kay Grinter
Reference Librarian

U.S. Navy Capt. James Lovell and U.S. Air Force Major Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin observed Veterans Day in 1966 in a way other members of the armed forces could only envy: launching into space atop a Titan II rocket on the 10th and final mission of the Gemini Program.

Commander Lovell was making his second space flight following Gemini 7 with rookie pilot Aldrin, an expert in orbital rendezvous with a doctorate in astronautics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Their mission was rendezvousing and docking with an Agena-D target vehicle and performing three extravehicular activities (EVAs), or spacewalks.

Since the tasks attempted during spacewalks on earlier flights proved difficult, NASA initiated a new approach to training for EVAs. Aldrin practiced using new overshoe-type foot restraints underwater in a pool in Baltimore. Dubbed the "golden slippers," they were designed by McDonnell Aircraft to hold an astronaut near his workplace.

The target vehicle launched Nov. 11 at 2:08 p.m. from Pad 14. About 90 minutes later, Gemini 12 launched at 3:46 p.m. from Pad 19.

Before the docking took place,

a radar malfunction required the astronauts to consult intricate rendezvous charts, interpret the radar data themselves, and verify their computations with the spacecraft computer. Nevertheless, it was successful.

The first and third EVAs supported photography and housekeeping tasks, with Aldrin standing upright in the open hatch of the spacecraft.

The second EVA, however, was critical to demonstrating that work could be done in microgravity and required movement around the outside of the vehicles.

On this spacewalk, Aldrin connected the Agena to the Gemini spacecraft. Then he completed various tool-handling and dexterity tasks in work stations, called "busy boxes," stabilizing himself with the foot restraints and waist tethers.

The tasks included torquing bolts, cutting metal, and coupling and uncoupling electrical connectors. When a bolt and washer floated free, prophetic of the problems encountered by astronauts assembling the International Space Station, Aldrin guided the weightless hardware into a corner of the box, capturing one in each hand. Lovell asked him over the intercom if he was playing orbital mechanics, to which he replied, "Yes. I had to do a little rendezvous there."



GEMINI 12 astronauts James Lovell Jr. (right) and Edwin Aldrin Jr. are seated on a mock-up of the Gemini spacecraft.

BELOW, NASA astronauts James Lovell Jr. (left) and Edwin Aldrin Jr. receive an official welcome as they arrive aboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Wasp after their splashdown Nov. 15 at the end of the Gemini 12 mission.



The five hours and 26 minutes of EVA time completed on Gemini 12 made Aldrin the U.S. astronaut with the most time spent outside

an orbiting spacecraft. Lovell became the U.S. astronaut with the most space travel under his belt at 425 hours, 10 minutes.

Lovell, Aldrin to celebrate Gemini anniversary at Visitor Complex

Astronauts James Lovell and Buzz Aldrin will celebrate the 40th anniversary of their Gemini 12 flight at the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex on Nov. 11 during a dinner to benefit the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation.

Gemini 12 lifted off from Cape Kennedy on Nov. 11, 1966, and was the final flight for NASA's two-man spacecraft program. During the mission, Lovell skillfully maneuvered his Gemini spacecraft to dock with a target Agena vehicle, illustrating the art of rendezvous. Aldrin exited the capsule and performed a successful spacewalk, validating an activity that would be crucial for later lunar missions. Gemini 12 cleared the way for the ambitious Apollo flights that would take Lovell, Aldrin and 22 of their fellow astronauts to the moon.

These heroes, along with other space explorers, will talk with dinner guests and share their memories of flying on the last Gemini mission. Tickets to the dinner are now available at \$150 each by visiting www.AstronautScholarship.org or calling 321-269-6119. Corporate tables are also available.

The Astronaut Scholarship Foundation is a non-profit organization established in 1984 by the six surviving members of America's original Mercury astronauts. Its goal is to aid the United States in retaining its world leadership in science and technology by providing scholarships for exceptional college students pursuing degrees in these fields. The foundation funds eighteen \$10,000 scholarships annually and has awarded \$2.3 million to 211 students nationwide.

NASA, industry establish partnership at business expo

By Jeff Stuckey
Editor

During the opening ceremonies for the Business Opportunities Expo 2006, Kennedy Space Center Director of Procurement Dudley Cannon told the crowd the event is a prime example of partnership between KSC, the U.S. Air Force's 45th Space Wing and the Canaveral Port Authority.

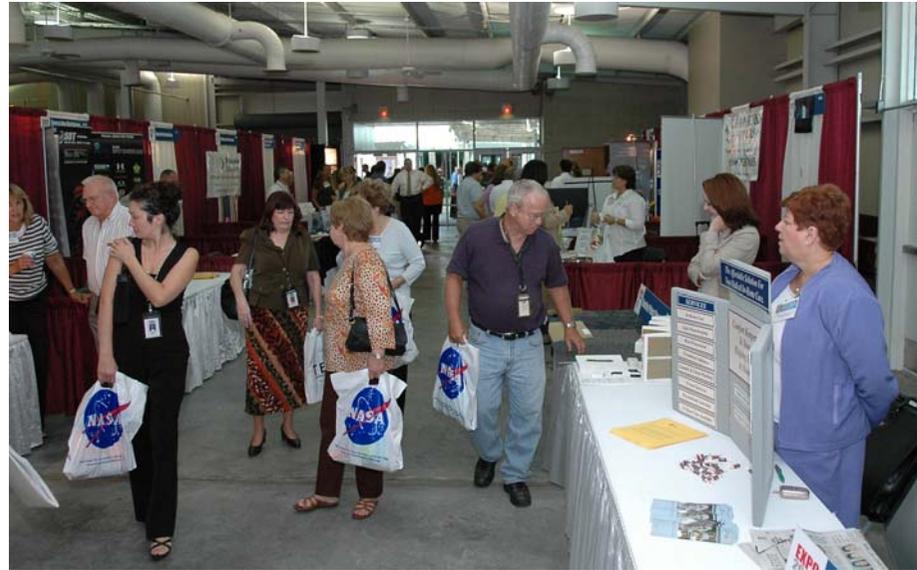
"It is also an example of the collaboration we have with industry, both large and small businesses, and has grown into a popular event," Cannon said at the Oct. 17 event at Cruise Terminal 4 at Port Canaveral.

"The expo is our premier event to reach out to all businesses and really helps to establish relationships. This event started out in a tent in the parking lot behind our Headquarters Building at KSC, so it has really grown into something great."

The annual expo, which was free and open to the public, drew more than 175 exhibitors.

During the opening ceremonies, KSC procurement employee Connie Wilcox announced the honorees for the KSC Contractor Awards for this fiscal year, including Advanced Business Services (Woman Owned Subcontractor), InDyne (Small Business Contractor), Waste Pro (Small Business Subcontractor), and Industrial Supplies Company (Industrial Supplies Company).

Glenn Delgado, associate



THE BUSINESS Opportunities Expo 2006 was held Oct. 17 at Port Canaveral Cruise Terminal 4, where more than 175 vendors set up booths to talk about their products and services. Below, Tom Niemyer of InDyne talks to an attendee at the expo. InDyne received the Small Business Contractor Award for 2006 from the Kennedy Space Center Small Business Council.

administrator for the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization at NASA Headquarters in Washington, told the audience small businesses must be creative as the agency transitions from the shuttle program to the next generation of space exploration. There will be a large amount of work in the research and development area and not much in the manufacturing areas, he said.

"I'm looking forward to working with all the small businesses that support NASA, as well as the partnerships with all of our large prime contractors," Delgado said. "I'm also looking forward to working with the procurement employees, because that's where the money hits the road."

KSC Director Jim Kennedy told the crowd there are ample opportunities for small businesses at the Spaceport. He said 23 percent of the center's procurement

dollars are spent with small businesses.

"These are exciting times at the Kennedy Space Center and that means this will also be a very active time, which means business opportunities are going to abound for all (sizes of) businesses," Kennedy said. "We had a goal of \$150 million of our direct procurement dollars going to small business, but the people who execute those contracts pulled in \$300 million of those procurement dollars — double the original goal. My commitment to you today is that we are here to help those of you who are a part of the small



business or start-up to thrive. The future of the space business in Florida is bright and we need you to accomplish the work ahead of us."

To contact a small/minority business specialist at KSC, e-mail Larry.M.Third@nasa.gov or Connie.h.Wilcox@nasa.gov.

Combined Federal Campaign continues for civil service

This year's Combined Federal Campaign is in full swing until Nov. 7. If you are a NASA civil servant and have

not already contributed, please log into WebTADS to donate. You will automatically be entered into a prize drawing.

Combined Federal Campaign



At press time, NASA KSC employees had contributed over \$216,000, which represents 54 percent of the \$400,000 goal. After you access the site, you can search the many charities and make your final selections. Visit <http://www.cfc.ksc.nasa.gov>.



John F. Kennedy Space Center

Spaceport News

Spaceport News is an official publication of the Kennedy Space Center and is published on alternate Fridays by External Relations in the interest of KSC civil service and contractor employees.

Contributions are welcome and should be submitted two weeks before publication to the Media Services Branch, IDI-011. E-mail submissions can be sent to Jeffery.Stuckey@ksc.nasa.gov.

Managing editor..... Bruce Buckingham
Editor..... Jeff Stuckey
Copy editor..... Corey Schubert

Editorial support provided by InDyne, Inc. Writers Group.
NASA at KSC is located on the Internet at <http://www.nasa.gov/centers/kennedy>
USGPO: 733-049/600117