



countdown

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Discovery one step closer to launch on May 31



◆ Shuttle Update:

The Terminal Countdown Demonstration Test was completed on Friday and the crew for the STS-124 mission returned to Houston. Space shuttle Discovery's payload bay doors were closed on Saturday.

◆ **ELV Update:** NASA management currently is targeting no earlier than June 3 for the liftoff of GLAST atop a Delta II rocket. The launch window extends from 11:45 a.m. to 1:40 p.m.

At Pad 17-B on Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, a cryogenic test of the Delta II first stage was conducted May 7. This test included a countdown and the loading aboard of liquid oxygen as a leak check of the first stage. May 8, a Simulated Flight Test was performed exercising the onboard vehicle systems of the Delta II from liftoff through spacecraft separation. At Astrotech, the spacecraft is in the hazardous processing facility and was fueled over the weekend.

■ **NASA News** — Kennedy Space Center has awarded a contract to a local Florida company, Hensel Phelps of Orlando, for the construction of the Ares I mobile launcher for the Constellation Program. The mobile launcher will support the Ares I and the vehicle's associated ground support equipment. It will be used in the assembly, testing and servicing of the Ares I at existing Kennedy facilities.

The mobile launcher will also transport the Ares I rocket to the launch pad and provide ground support for launches. The mobile launcher consists of the main

support structure that comprises the base, tower and facility ground support systems, which include power, communications, conditioned air, water for cooling and wash-down, and ignition over-pressure protection.

The tower of the mobile launcher will have multiple platforms for personnel access and will be approximately 390 feet tall.

Construction will take place at the mobile launcher park site area located north of the VAB.

If interested, employees can see artist renderings of the mobile launcher with and without the Ares in the MultiMedia Gallery category [AresMobileLauncher](#).



■ **National Employee Health & Fitness Day 2008** — On May 28, the KSC Fitness Centers will be hosting their annual

National Employee Health and Fitness Day from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the O&C Mission Briefing Room.

This event is held each year to educate spaceport employees in the areas of physical fitness, disease management and prevention, rehabilitation, longevity, personal hygiene, adapted physical activity, stress management, athletics and nutrition. Because, in most cases, education is the stimulus for action, the Fitness Centers' goal is to aid in the establishment of a healthier and more productive work environment by increasing the physical, emotional, and mental health of all employees.

To assist us with this goal, vendors from across Brevard and Orange County

will be in attendance showcasing their services, distributing informational materials, and raffling off prizes.

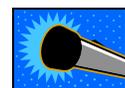


■ Road Work —

The Indian River Bridge will be reduced to one lane of traffic **today** and Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. for scheduled maintenance.

■ Contest Winner Who Won "Guess the April 2008 KSC Electric Bill" —

The SGS Energy Management Office thanks everyone who participated in the Earth Day contest to "Guess the KSC Electric Bill." The winner of the LED flashlight was **Richard Boyles** with Center Operations for guessing closest to the April 2008 electric bill for the Industrial and LC-39 areas. The actual April FPL bill was \$1,558,231.21. Congratulations to Richard for his guess of \$1,555,688, a difference of only \$2,543.21!



The Energy Office hopes this contest generated renewed awareness of the large amount of energy used at Kennedy, and thanks employees for sharing what you are doing to help conserve energy at work.

Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday for NASA KSC employees. Deadlines are 10 a.m. Mondays & Wednesdays. E-mail news to anita.barrett@jbsc.nasa.gov. For questions or information, e-mail or call 321-867-2815. You can also find pdf editions of *Countdown* on the Web at http://www.nasa.gov/centers/kennedy/news/countdown/countdown_toc.html.