



# countdown

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## Pallet/struts attached to Hubble carriers



### ◆ Shuttle Update:

Attachment of pallet/struts to three of the four carriers for NASA's Hubble Space Telescope is under way in KSC's Payload Hazardous Servicing Facility.

The carriers are the Flight Support System, the Super Lightweight Interchangeable Carrier and the Orbital Replacement Unit Carrier.

The pallet/struts are made from an innovative lightweight composite material, that makes use of carbon fiber with cyanate ester resin and titanium metal matrix composites.

For additional information on the upcoming space shuttle flights, visit <http://www.nasa.gov/shuttle>.

◆ **Pad 39A:** Repair of Launch Pad 39A's flame trench is right on schedule. All materials needed for the refurbishment have arrived and fireproofing will begin this week with the application of Fondu Fyre, a heat resistant concrete developed during the Apollo space program.

■ **CFC Slogan Contest** — The annual Combined Federal Campaign Slogan Contest has started and runs through Aug. 1. If you would like to submit a suggestion for this year's slogan, go to <http://cfc.ksc.nasa.gov>, sign in and record your suggestion. Look for the link at the bottom of the page. All civil service employees are eligible to participate. The employee selected winner of the contest

will receive two VIP seats at Banana Creek to view a launch. Good luck to everyone! For more information, contact Patty Hepburn at 867-2527 or Laurie Brown at 867-4166.

■ **Crew Assignments** — NASA has assigned the crew for space shuttle mission STS-128 to carry science and storage racks to the International Space Station, targeted for launch July 30, 2009.

Marine Corps Col. Frederick W. "Rick" Sturckow will command space shuttle Atlantis on the mission. Retired Air Force Col. Kevin A. Ford will serve as the pilot. Mission specialists are John D. "Danny" Olivas, retired Army Col. Patrick G. Forrester, Jose M. Hernandez and European Space Agency (ESA) astronaut Christer Fuglesang.

The mission will deliver a new station crew member, Nicole Stott, to the complex and return Tim Kopra to Earth.

For astronaut biographical information, visit <http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/Bios>.

■ **Football Ticket Sales** — Attention all University of Miami and University of Central Florida fans, alumni and gridiron enthusiasts! The NASA Exchange will be selling tickets for the Hurricane's football game against the Golden Knights! The game is Saturday, Oct. 11, at Dolphin Stadium in Miami. Tickets will go on sale starting July 28 for \$35.00 each – over a 30% discount rate! Sale locations and times will be announced at the time of sale so keep your eyes and ears open! Please contact Annette Kirk-

## Flame trench repairs on schedule

land at 867-0431 or [annette.kirkland-1@nasa.gov](mailto:annette.kirkland-1@nasa.gov) with the number of tickets you plan to purchase or if you have additional questions.

■ **Educational Grants** — NASA's Office of Education at Headquarters in Washington has announced three new extramural funding opportunities that could result in the award of grants or cooperative agreements.

The first area of opportunity is the K-12 Competitive Grants Opportunity, targeting secondary school-level teaching, with grants awarded to U.S. public schools and non-profit organizations.

The second area is the Global Climate Change Education Opportunity, intended to improve the quality of education in global climate change and Earth system science at the elementary, secondary and undergraduate levels.

In the third area, NASA is making funding available for science museums, science-technology centers and planetariums to enhance programs related to space exploration, aeronautics, space science, Earth science or microgravity.

For detailed information about the 2008 Competitive Grant Programs, visit <http://nspires.nasaprs.com/external/>.

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