



# countdown

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## Endeavour readied for rollover to VAB Friday



### ◆ Shuttle Update:

In preparations for Friday's rollover of Endeavour to the VAB, forward and aft internal cloouts and final power-up were completed. In the VAB, preparations for the assembly of the external tank and solid rocket boosters with the shuttle are complete. Mating of Endeavour with the ET/SRB stack will be after the rollover.

◆ **ELV Update:** The launch of LRO/LCROSS has been rescheduled to no earlier than June 2. This will enable sufficient time to be built back into the Atlas V processing schedule to support launch. The processing schedule became tight after the launch postponement of the Atlas V, launched last Friday, for the non-NASA mission.

Last week the LRO spacecraft team performed mission launch rehearsals, liftoff through lunar insertion. The solar arrays were installed Wednesday.

The LCROSS spacecraft team is performing electrical testing.

■ **Earth Day 2009 Reminder** — KSC will celebrate Earth Day on two days: from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 22 in the O&C Mission Briefing Room (1144) and from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 23 in the MFF Cafeteria. The theme for this year is "You Can Make a Difference from Earth to Space."

The list of planned vendors includes: All About Bamboo, Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corp., The Green Logo, Blue Earth Solutions, Brevard County Solid Waste Recycling, U.S. Fish and Wildlife

Service, Peninsular Paper Co., Grainger Industrial Supply, Creative Recycling Systems, Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program, Brevard County Office of Natural Resources Management, Wal-Mart, Environmentally Endangered Lands, Dynamac, EG&G, ISC and USA.

■ **KSC National Day Of Prayer Observance** — On May 7, KSC will mark this year's National Day of Prayer with an hour-long observance at 11 a.m. in the KSC Training Auditorium. If you would like to participate or assist in any way, please contact Annie Williams at 867-8720.



■ **NASA News** — NASA has chosen the material for a heat shield that will protect a new generation of space explorers when they return from the moon. After extensive study, NASA selected the Avcoat ablator system for the Orion crew module (mock-up shown above). Orion's heat shield, the dish-shaped thermal protection system at the base of the spacecraft, will endure temperatures as high as 5,000 degrees Fahrenheit and will erode, or "ablate," in a controlled fashion, transporting heat away from the crew module during its descent through the atmosphere.

Avcoat was used for the Apollo capsule heat shield and on select regions of the space shuttle orbiter in its earliest flights. Made of silica fibers with an epoxy-novolac resin filled in a fiberglass-phenolic honeycomb, it is manufactured directly onto the heat shield substructure

## LRO/LCROSS launch rescheduled for June 2

and attached as a unit to the crew module during spacecraft assembly.

Read more about the selection at:

[http://www.nasa.gov/home/hqnews/2009/apr/HQ\\_09-080\\_Orion\\_Heat\\_Shield.html](http://www.nasa.gov/home/hqnews/2009/apr/HQ_09-080_Orion_Heat_Shield.html).

■ **Rehab Works Internship Presentations** — The following educational talks will be given today in the O&C/Room 1055 from 10 to 11:30 a.m.:

- "The Psychological Impact of Injury and How to Handle It" by Justin Brubaker, Eastern Michigan University
- "Hip Bone Connected to the Knee Bone: In-depth Look at Joint Replacements" by Shannon Scarbeau, Florida Southern College

For more information, please contact Erik Nason at 867-7497.

■ **NASA Science** — By coating the countryside with gritty, abrasive, electrostatically charged volcanic ash, Mt. Redoubt is giving Alaskans an unexpected taste of what it's like to live on the moon. You can read the full story at: [http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2009/03apr\\_lunarlifestyle.htm?list1101250](http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2009/03apr_lunarlifestyle.htm?list1101250).

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