



countdown

July 16, 2009

Vol. 14, No. 54

Endeavour up and away for rendezvous with ISS



◆ **Shuttle Update:** Space shuttle Endeavour launched successfully on the STS-127 mission at 6:03 p.m. Wednesday. It was the sixth launch attempt since June 13. The 16-day mission will include five space walks to

install two components that will complete the assembly of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency's Kibo laboratory complex on the ISS.



◆ **ELV Update:** NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory, or SDO, has arrived at Astrotech. After removal of the protective cover, technicians checked various components. Engineers will begin a

battery of comprehensive tests to ensure SDO can withstand the stresses and vibrations of the launch itself (scheduled for November), as well as what it will encounter in the space environment after launch.

■ **NASA News** — NASA will hold a news briefing with astronauts from the Apollo program at **9:30 a.m. EDT on Monday** to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the first lunar landing. The news conference from Washington, D.C., will be carried live on NASA Television and the agency's Web site at:

<http://www.nasa.gov/ntv>.

Astronauts scheduled to participate are James Lovell, Apollo 8 and Apollo 13; Buzz Aldrin, Apollo 11; David Scott, Apollo 15; Charles Duke, Apollo 16; Thomas Stafford, Apollo 10 and Apollo-Soyuz Test Project; and Eugene Cernan, Apollo 10 and Apollo 17.



■ **PM Challenge 2010 Call for Speakers** — Proposal submissions are due Aug. 7. Submit your speaker

proposal for PM Challenge 2010 at the Web site:

<http://pmchallenge.gsfc.nasa.gov/Speaker2010.htm>.

■ **NASA Science** — Astronauts are looking forward to an unprecedented view of the cosmos when the largest window ever built for space is installed on the International Space Station on the STS-130 mission. Read the full story at: http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2009/26jun_cupola.htm.

■ **Supersonic Technology Named NASA Commercial Invention of 2008** — The 2008 NASA Commercial Invention of the Year is a high temperature resin designed to create composites through low-cost manufacturing processes -- ideal for advanced aerospace vehicles.

Researchers at NASA's Langley Research Center in Hampton, Va., were able to create the unique material, which is ideal for the high temperatures of supersonic flight. The material, known as PETI-330, is used in the development of advanced composite fabrication technol-

Spacecraft to study sun arrives for processing

ogy for the agency's aeronautics super-sonics program. PETI-330 is patented as "Composition of and Method for Making High Performance Resins for Infusion and Transfer Molding Processes."

It is the first commercially available, off-the-shelf, high temperature resin that has processing characteristics useful for resin infusion, resin transfer molding and the vacuum-assisted resin transfer molding manufacturing processes.

The inventors are John Connell, Joseph Smith Jr., and Paul Hergenrother, all from Langley.

NASA's general counsel selects the Invention of the Year Award with technical assistance from NASA's Inventions and Contributions Board. For more information about the Board, visit:

<http://www.nasa.gov/offices/oc/icc>.

■ **Feeling Stressed?** A 30-minute relaxation/therapeutic massage is only \$1 per minute. Reduce high blood pressure, improve circulation, detoxify your muscles and feel **great**.



Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday. For appointments, call 867-4762 or 543-1047, or send an e-mail to valerie.s.jaramillo@nasa.gov.

Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday for NASA KSC employees. Deadlines are 9 a.m. Mondays & Wednesdays. E-mail news to anita.l.barret@nasa.gov. For questions or information, e-mail or call 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.