



countdown

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Management team evaluates troubleshooting on Discovery's valve



◆ **Shuttle Update:** The space shuttle mission management team will meet at noon **today** to discuss the troubleshooting results concerning the failed valve in space shuttle Discovery's main propulsion system and decide whether to continue with a launch attempt. The tanking weather briefing will follow today at 2:15 p.m. As of press time on Wednesday, NASA had targeted the next launch attempt for Discovery for no earlier than 12:22 a.m. Friday.

◆ **Ares Update:** The full-scale, full duration test for NASA's Ares I launch vehicle is scheduled in Promontory, Utah, at 3 p.m. EDT today. Alliant Techsystems, or ATK, Space Systems is the prime contractor for the Ares I first stage.

The test of the first-stage solid rocket motor will provide valuable thrust, roll-control, acoustics and vibration data as engineers continue to design Ares I. Representatives from NASA and ATK will hold a media teleconference today at 3:30 p.m. EDT to discuss the test.

The first-stage solid rocket motor is managed and tested by the Ares Projects Office at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala. The Ares I rocket is designed to launch the Orion spacecraft and the

next generation of NASA astronauts.

■ **NASA Science** — The agency best known for exploring the vast reaches of space has been exploring some of the vast beaches of Earth — and the results may help protect them. When NASA scientists Maury Estes and Mohammad Al-Hamdan aren't in the office poring over satellite images to help foresee the coastal future, they're heading out to sea, where they collect water samples to analyze for "ground truth" to validate their model. The ocean voyages also give them a firsthand view of what they're studying and why. Read about it at: http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2009/21aug_mobilebay.htm.

■ **KSC Working Effectively With the Generations** — This four-hour class will be held Sept. 1 from 8 a.m. to noon at the KSC Learning Institute, Bldg. M6-570.

For the first time ever, there are four generations in the workplace. It's no surprise they don't always get along or work together effectively. Each brings its own set of expectations and values and often blames other generations for workplace problems, conflict and other issues.

In this hands-on, interactive session, participants will explore attitudes and skills to use when working alongside or leading the multiple generations of the work force today.

Ares I first-stage motor tested today

Learn how to meet the challenges of dealing with all the veterans, boomers, Generation Xers and Yers in your life. This class is open to all KSC NASA employees.

All learners must register in SATERN at: <https://satern.nasa.gov>.

■ **Education Opportunity** — The University of Miami is offering a graduate certificate in project management that will prepare you to effectively manage projects to completion on time, under budget and within scope. No GRE or GMAT is required. Apply now to begin in October.

Courses also provide full credit toward a Master of Science in management of technology.

For more information and to receive an application/brochure, please call Augusto Roca, program administrator, at 305-284-4100 or send an e-mail to augusto@miami.edu.

■ **Did You Know?** You can get information as well as images of the latest hurricanes or tropical storms at: http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/hurricanes/main/index.html.

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.