



michoud messenger

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MAF prepares for Ares I production

A fiery streak lit up the midday sky over NASA's Kennedy Space Center Oct. 28, with the successful flight test of the Ares I-X. It was the first time in more than a generation that NASA had tested a new rocket. The Ares I-X flight test was a key milestone for NASA's Constellation Program and for the Ares I rocket, which is being developed to launch the next generation of astronauts into space.

Boeing is the production and design partner for the Ares I upper stage and instrument unit avionics. The upper stage is the second stage of the rocket; the avionics, or "brains," of Ares I will provide guidance, navigation and control for the rocket until it reaches orbit. NASA and its contractors are busy preparing Michoud Assembly Facility for the Ares upper stage and avionics work.

Because the tooling required to produce the upper stage is about the height of a 2.5-story building, the first step in the facilities work is to reinforce the floors in the Boeing Ares areas. Once the floor is reinforced, a robotic weld tool and a machining center will be installed. Construction has begun on a Vertical Assembly Building where the upper stages will be assembled. Currently 15 Boeing employees work at Michoud but that number is expected to grow to 120 by the end of 2010. Steve Larson, Boeing facilities manager and the first employee hired at Michoud to support the Ares program, said progress is being made at the facility in preparation for production. "It's exciting to see the construction work and the facility become the location for Ares and Constellation work," Larson said.

This isn't the first time Boeing has been at Mi-

choud. In the 1960s, Boeing was the prime contractor of the first stage of the Saturn V, which propelled the massive moon rocket on the first leg of its journey into space. Boeing manufactured the first stage at Michoud. "Boeing and the Michoud Assembly Facility have an impressive legacy of supporting human spaceflight," said Rick Navarro, Boeing director of stage operations for the Ares I and Boeing site leader at Michoud.

"We're excited that we can once again team with NASA and the local community to continue that legacy."



Concrete is poured in building 103 to reinforce the floors in the Boeing Ares area. Once the floor is reinforced, a robotic weld tool and a machining center will be installed.

Michoud Call Center Answers Questions

The Michoud Assembly Facility (MAF) is a similar to a small city, complete with its own food services, fire and police department, and convenience store. MAF also has a full-service Call Center to report problems, request support or ask questions. "We act as your single point of contact for manufacturing support, facilities operations, maintenance requests and operator assisted calls here at Michoud," said Vic Silecky, MAF Production Support and Integration Director. His team takes all calls throughout the facility, both large and small, for all onsite tenants. "We are the one-stop shop for information and assistance," added Silecky.

Employees can Dial 7-HELP (7-4357) from any NASA internal telephone. Other tenants on the Michoud site can call 504-257-4357 to access the Call Center. Employees also can contact the call center via e-mail at MAF-DLMichoud-Helpdesk. The Call Center is open Monday-Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (CDT). Off shift calls are directed to voicemail which lists the appropriate numbers for after-hours requests. 911 is the number to call in the case of any medical

emergency, but for all other needs, the Michoud Call Center can handle just about any issue.

Other important numbers at MAF are:

- 7-5325 – Leak line
- 7-0723 – Safety
- 7-6226 – Tours or public inquiries
- 7-2701 – Medical
- 7-2672 – Plant Protection



The Michoud Call Center employees stand ready to assist you. From left: Sherrine Dupre, Terry Bridges, Gretchen Ezell, and Toni Alvarez

Become A Certified Aerospace Technician

Why is this a good thing for me and for MAF?

- Nationally recognized credential for Aerospace Technicians
- Reduce time to earn a degree (college credit awarded)
- Improves worker transportability to other aerospace sites
- Encourages professional development

It's a free program for MAF workers. Briefings will be held in NASA Auditorium, bldg. 350, on February 11th. Times: 2 – 4pm



MSFOC Team Joins Citizen's Action Network

Jacobs Technology has joined the Citizen's Action Network, or CAN, which supports the U.S. Coast Guard's mission of maritime domain awareness through a network of volunteers who live or work near a body of water. Since Michoud Assembly Facility (MAF) is located on the Industrial Canal, a vital waterway connecting to the Gulf of Mexico and Mississippi River, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary approached Jacobs about becoming a charter member.

"CAN operates much like a neighborhood watch, but on the water over a vast area," explained Judy Darby, a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary.



Darby said the Eighth District Coast Guard in New Orleans has thousands of miles of rivers and Gulf shoreline to cover, much more than its small active duty force and Reserve can monitor, so CAN is vital to homeland security efforts.

Darby said anyone with a marine view, at their home or workplace, and a phone can volunteer. There is no membership cost and New Orleans is only the second location in the nation with a network. The Puget Sound area in Washington has the other network. For more information on CAN or to become a member, send an e-mail to cgcannmember@gmail.com.

Introducing the Official MSFOC Logo



Displaying the American Flag within the iconic New Orleans fleur de lis, this logo has been officially named the Manufacturing Support and Facility Operations Contract (MSFOC) Team logo. Designed by Shannon Jurado, graphic designer, the logo encompasses American pride associated with space exploration while keeping the New Orleans spirit.

Letters from Leadership

Change is upon us – and no where is that more apparent than at MAF.

NASA is retooling – for the next generation – and MAF is leading the way.

As we close 2009, the progress of the entire NASA and industry team toward developing the Ares and Orion systems has been phenomenal. The year brought about major construction to convert part of the facility into a state of the art, modern factory for the Ares I upper stage – even as the finishing touches are being made on the final space shuttle external tanks.

But that's not all – the MAF team is in the midst of producing the first Orion spacecraft structure, which will undergo testing this year, and gearing up to produce Orion hardware for the long run.

With a new facility operations contract, new construction, new tooling and factory capabilities – MAF is central to human spaceflight. And always has been.

As it did 40 years ago, the road to the Moon and Mars passes right through Michoud...

From all of us - over 10,000 NASA and industry Constellation team members nationwide – thanks for the world class capability MAF represents.

– Jeffrey Hanley, Program Manager, Constellation Program

ET-135 on its way to Kennedy Space Center



The Lockheed Martin Missile Team walk with their tank, ET-135, on its way to the barge for delivery to KSC. From left to right, Lance Spiers (Missile Mom), Richard Patterson, David O'Neal (Deputy), and Elisa Redfield.

MAF Mobile Café on the Move



Jacobs now offers a Mobile Cafe that stops at various locations outside of buildings onsite to offer a convenient way to grab lunch. This truck make stops at various locations between 11am and 1pm. If you need more information, please contact Rhonda Esteve at 7-4218.

Thanking the Troops



The MSFOC team members entered into the spirit of the holidays early by writing more than 500 postcard greetings to the courageous men and women currently serving our country in Iraq and Afghanistan. They also collected five boxes of personal hygiene items for the troops.

Kaizen Awards



(From left to right) Kaizen team members Chris Packwood, Dominick Diggance, Shelly Breault, Gretchen Ezell, Larry Koenenn and Debbie Lorino, received awards Dec. 10 for participating in the first Michoud Assembly Facility Work Request Process Development workshop last August.

MSFOC Awards Night



Acting MAF Manager Steve Doering (left) and Jacobs GM Mike Dawson (right) present Cheryl Redmon (center) with an award for Manufacturing and Support Facilities Contract (MSFOC) supervisor of the year for 2009.

Employee of the year by department

Shelia Langford	Office of General Mgr.
Tammy Austin	Human Relations
Rachel Perdomo-Washington	Safety/Health
Neisha Gueho	Finance
Joy Frosch	Mission Assurance
Steven Seipel	Media
Chloe Peters	Production Support
Clifford Chevis	Project Management
Trieu Trinh	Maintenance/Operations
Jimese Van Buren	Site Services
Peter Smith	Logistics

Supervisors of the year

Leo Williams	Production Support
Cheryl Redmon	Metrology

Employees of the year

Joseph Bernhardt, III	Maintenance/Operations
Jason Clayton	Site Services

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

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