

**NASA Authorization Act of 2005, Sec. 507 National Laboratory Designation
(Public Law 109-155)**

(a) DESIGNATION.—To further the policy described in section 501(a), the United States segment of the ISS is hereby designated a national laboratory.

(b) MANAGEMENT.—

(1) PARTNERSHIPS.—The Administrator shall seek to increase the utilization of the ISS by other Federal entities and the private sector through partnerships, cost-sharing agreements, and other arrangements that would supplement NASA funding of the ISS.

(2) CONTRACTING.—The Administrator may enter into a contract with a nongovernmental entity to operate the ISS national laboratory, subject to all applicable Federal laws and regulations.

(c) PLAN.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall transmit to the Committee on Science of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a plan describing how the national laboratory will be operated. At a minimum, the plan shall describe—

(1) any changes in the research plan transmitted under section 506(3) and any other changes in the operation of the ISS resulting from the designation;

(2) any ground-based NASA operations or buildings that will be considered part of the national laboratory;

(3) the management structure for the laboratory, including the rationale for contracting or not contracting with a nongovernmental entity to operate the ISS national laboratory;

(4) the workforce that will be considered employees of the national laboratory;

(5) how NASA will seek the participation of other parties described in subsection (b)(1); and

(6) a schedule for implementing any changes in ISS operations, utilization, or management described in the plan.

(d) UNITED STATES SEGMENT DEFINED.—In this section the term “United States segment of the ISS” means those elements of the ISS manufactured—

(1) by the United States; or

(2) for the United States by other nations in exchange for funds or launch services.

Chronological Bibliography of Prior NASA Studies and Selected External References

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Institutional Arrangements for Space Station Research, NRC Report, 1999

Options for Managing Space Station Utilization, report prepared by Swales Aerospace, October, 1999

Economic Development of the International Space Station, Spacebound 2000 Conference Paper by M. Uhran, 2000

International Space Station Operations Architecture Study, CSC Final Report, 2000.

Engineering Challenges to the Long-Term Operation of the International Space Station, NRC Report, 2000

Review of NASA's Biomedical Research Program, NRC Report, 2000

Science and Technology Research Directions for the International Space Station, NASA Report, 2000.

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A Non-Government Organization to Manage Utilization of the International Space Station, AIAA Conference Paper by M. Uhran, 2001

Factors Affecting the Utilization of the International Space Station for Research in the Biological and Physical Sciences, National Research Council Report, 2002

ISS NGO Response to Congress, letter to Chairman Boehlert, Committee on Science, 2002

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Draft Statement of Work for ISS Research Institute, 2003