

December 10, 2008

Office of the General Counsel

TO: Directors, NASA Centers

FROM: General Counsel

SUBJECT: Invention of the Year Nominations for 2008

The Office of the General Counsel is pleased to support the efforts of NASA inventors through the Invention of the Year Awards Program. As in previous years, we offer two competitions: (1) the NASA Commercial Invention of the Year; and (2) the NASA Government Invention of the Year.

The Invention of the Year program is an important part of the NASA patent program. The eligibility requirements for nominations are enclosed and the selection process will be conducted by a panel convened at Headquarters. The winners will be recognized at a ceremony to be held at the 2010 NASA Project Management Challenge and will receive monetary Space Act Awards from the NASA Inventions and Contributions Board.

The eligibility requirements for the NASA Commercial Invention of the Year Award are tied closely to the National Inventor of the Year event promoted by the Intellectual Property Owners Educational Foundation (IPO Educational Foundation). Accordingly, only inventions that were commercialized during the last four years (2005-2008) will be considered. The NASA Commercial Invention of the Year will be nominated by NASA for the National Award. The National Inventor of the Year is usually announced by the IPO Educational Foundation and recognized at a reception on Capitol Hill.

You are invited to submit up to two nominations, both of which will be considered for each award. Please submit your nominations electronically through the Center intellectual property counsel to the Center Space Act Awards Liaison Officer, using the NASA Form 1329 or 1329A Space Act Award Applications.

Additionally, Awards Liaison Officers should ensure complete electronic submissions via TechTracS and the MINX file server. These files and the NASA Form 1329 signatures should be faxed to Iona Butler at (202) 358-3197, or scanned and uploaded into MINX, by close of business January 19, 2009.

Michael C. Wholley

Enclosure

Directors, NASA Centers:

ARC/Dr. Worden
DFRC/Mr. Petersen
GRC/Dr. Whitlow
GSFC/Mr. Strain
JPL/Dr. Elachi
JSC/Mr. Coats
KSC/Mr. Cabana
LaRC/Ms. Roe
MSFC/Mr. King
SSC/Mr. Goldman

cc:

Office of the Chief Engineer/Dr. Ryschkewitsch

- Mr. Hussey
- Mr. Maturo

Office of the General Counsel

- Ms. Graham
- Mr. Borda
- Mr. Rotella

ARC/202A-4/Mr. Padilla

DFRC/D-2005/Mr. Samuels

GRC/500-118/Ms. Harris

GSFC/503/Mr. Geurts

JSC/AL/Mr. Fein

KSC/CC-A/ Mr. Heald

LaRC/212/ Ms. Blackburn

MSFC/LS01/Mr. McGroary

NMO-JPL/180-801/Mr. Homer

SSC/CA00/Ms. Grose

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DFRC/4840E/Mr. Poteat
GRC/4-2/Ms. Stauber
GSFC/504/Mr. Hithon
HQ/4B34/Ms. Hong
NMO-JPL/202-233/Dr. Jagers
NMO-JPL/180-800/Mr. Rosca
JSC/AF2/Ms. Graham
KSC/KT-A2/Ms. Dunn
LaRC/218/Ms. Young
MSFC/LS01/Mr. McGroary
SSC/HA30/Mr. Bryant

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KSC/KT-D-1/Dr. Youngquist
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MSFC/QD40/Ms. Wang

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