

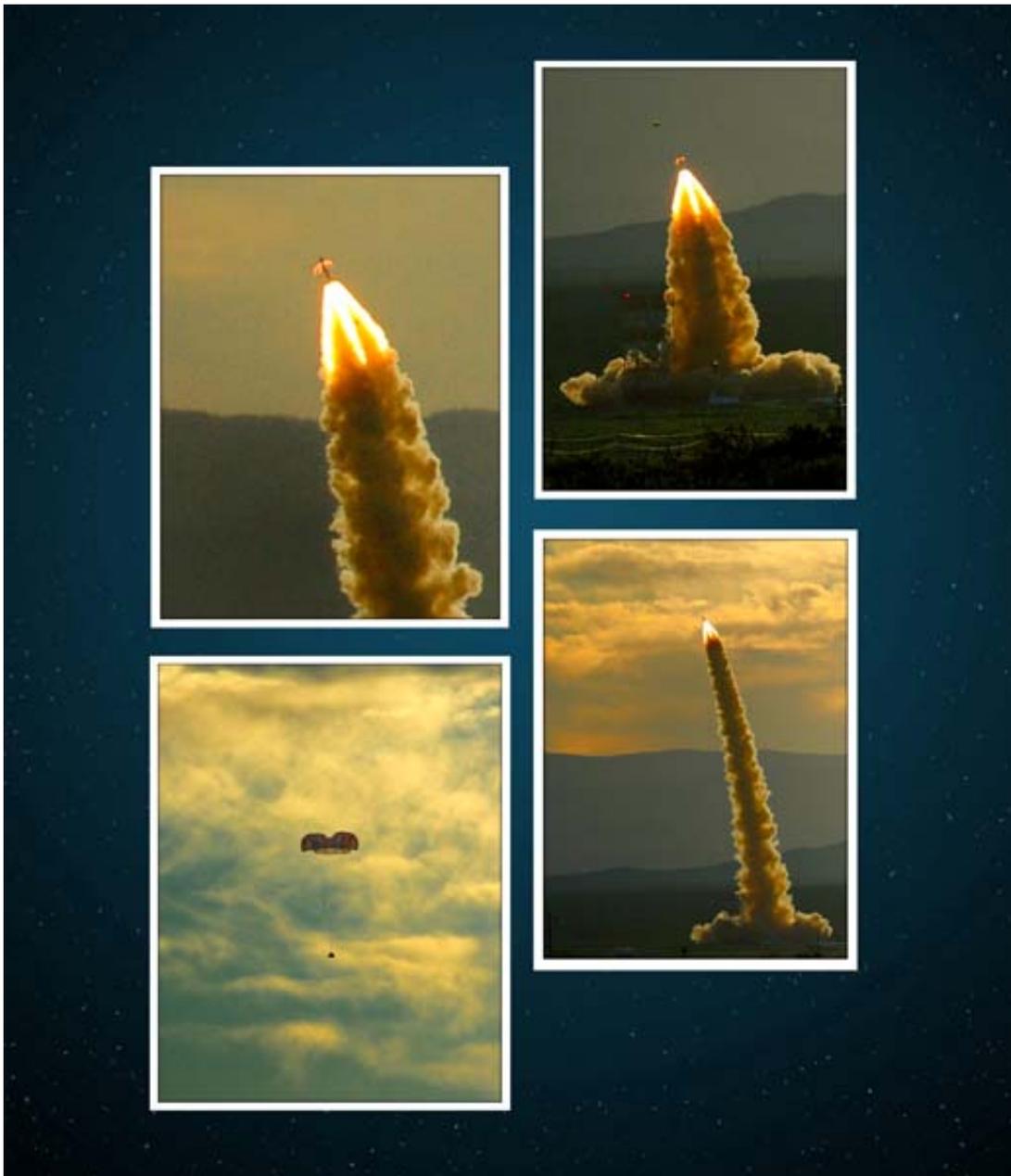


# Ares

## WEEKLY SUMMARY



The Ares Team extends its congratulations to the Orion Pad Abort 1 (PA-1) team. The PA-1 team held a very successful launch of the first integrated launch abort system test vehicle. Early on Thursday, May 6, the PA-1 team assembled at White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico, to launch the system. This was the first time that all the components had been integrated into one vehicle. The height and distance down range exceeded expectations, and all systems functioned as anticipated. Congratulations Orion!



## Upper Stage (US)

**Stage Operations:** Work continues on three new US manufacturing areas in B103 at Michoud Assembly Facility (MAF) in New Orleans. The following recent images show (1) the MAF Vertical Assembly Building (VAB) main steel erection structure; (2) the setup for receipt of the turntable in the MAF Machining Center; and (3) the Robotic Weld Tool (RWT) with one tower set and the second tower in position to be set.



(1)



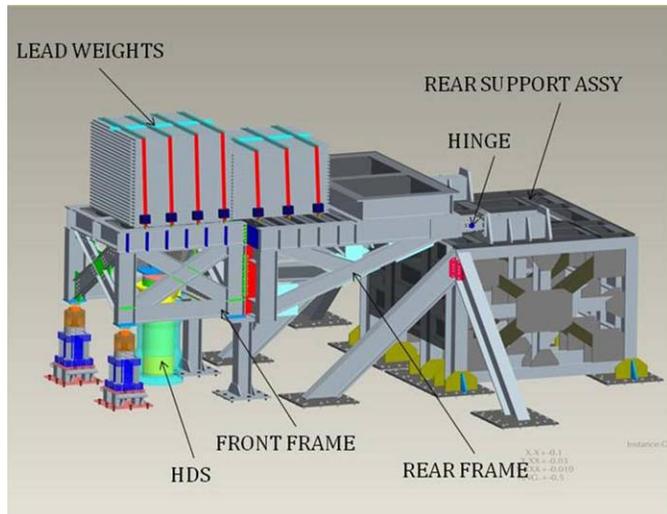
(2)



(3)

**Flight and Integrated Test Office (FITO)**

**Hydrodynamic Support (HDS) – Functional Test Fixture:** The illustration shows the Functional Test Fixture design for testing the existing HDS System. Each unit will be tested to its intended load capability (up to 600,000 pounds each) and could be used to simulate testing of a heavy-lift vehicle. Shown below is the actual fabrication of the Functional Test Fixture which will be used for Phase II testing.



*The actual fabrication of the Functional Test Fixture which will be used for Phase II testing.*

**Project Integration**

**Space Ops 2010 Education Day:** The Ares Projects outreach team supported the NASA Exploration Systems Mission Directorate-sponsored Education Day April 27 at the Space Ops 2010 Conference held at the Von Braun Center. Many students and teachers attended technical sessions and participated in a panel presentation on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). The event provided high school and university students and teachers a chance to hear directly from a panel of distinguished scientists and engineers on what motivated them to pursue their careers.

***The Ares Projects look forward to the launch of STS-132, Space Shuttle Atlantis, on May 14.***