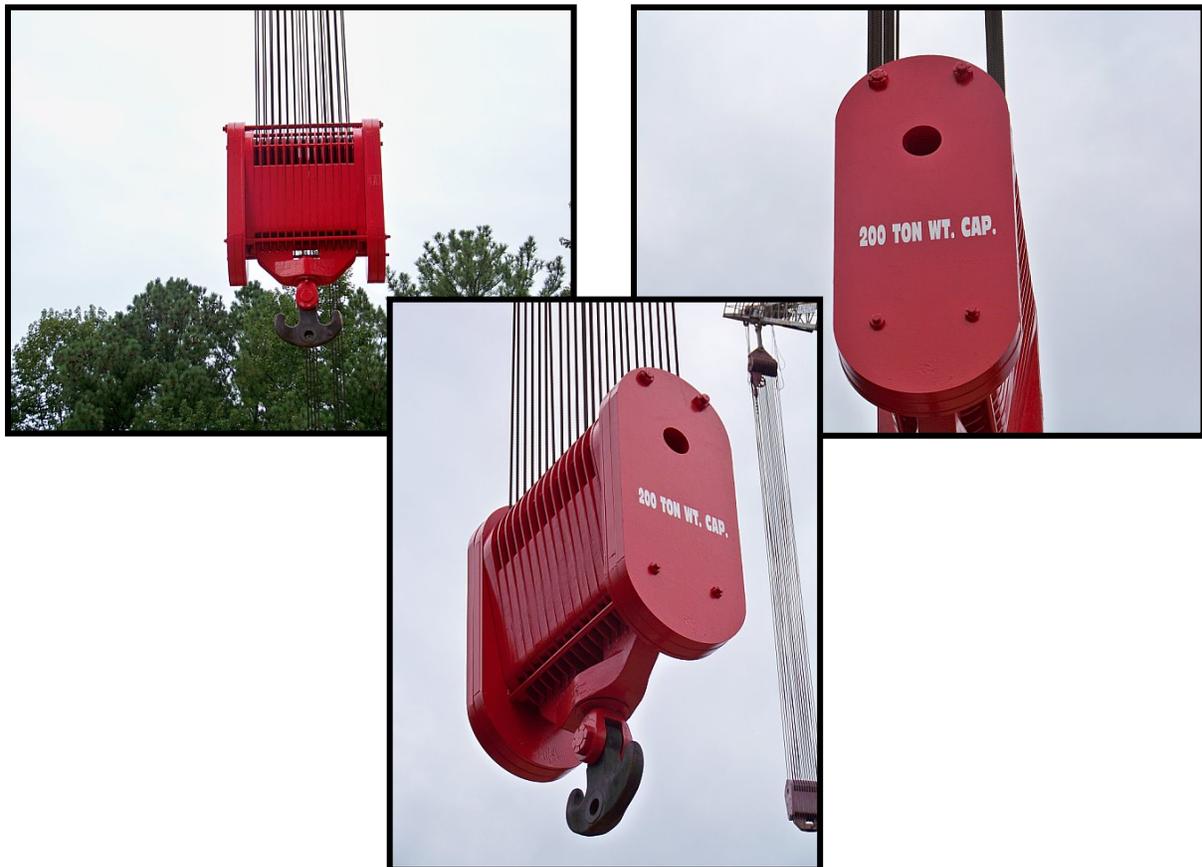


Flight and Integrated Test Office (FITO)

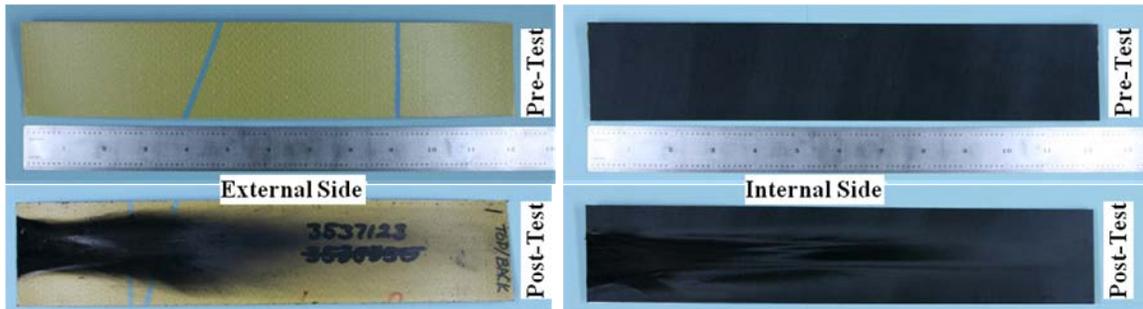
Test Stand 4550 – 200-Ton Derrick Crane: The 200-ton derrick crane at Test Stand 4550 has been successfully load tested following repairs, modifications, and upgrades. The certification for “critical lifts” will be done a little later this year. The crane is a vital component in the stacking of test articles for modal testing at the test stand. Shown below are recent pictures of the newly painted block.



Upper Stage (US)

Structures & Thermal Subsystem: The Upper Stage (US) Structures & Thermal Subsystem/Purge & Hazardous Gas team is using Shuttle lessons learned to improve purge duct materials. Glenn Research Center (GRC) flammability specimens (shown in the below picture) recently tested at Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC) passed NASA-STD-6001A, Test 1 for flammability with an A rating. This material (Kevlar-49/Cytec 919 Epoxy with Electrostatic Discharge (ESD) film) is a new entry in the

Materials and Processes Technical Information System (MAPTIS) database. Improvements include a more available toughened resin system with better crack resistance and lower temperature cure; and a co-cured film to address ESD concerns while also reducing generation of foreign object debris (FOD) and mitigating flaking/scratches nonconformances associated with the Shuttle purge duct material.



GRC flammability specimens recently tested at MSFC

The Ares Projects look forward to the launch of STS-133, Space Shuttle Discovery, on November 1.