



X-PRESS

ARMSTRONG FLIGHT RESEARCH CENTER

Edwards, California, April 2026



NASA Home for Experimental Flight Advances Aero Mission

NASA's Armstrong Flight Research Center continues its legacy of experimental flight from the Mojave Desert, where aircraft like the ER-2 support Earth and atmospheric research alongside projects shaping the future of aeronautics. From the X-59 quiet supersonic aircraft to hypersonic studies and emerging advanced air mobility technologies, Armstrong's work underscores how its unique location advances NASA's mission.

NASA/Christopher LC Clark



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NASA PC-12 Aircraft Makes Move to Armstrong



NASA/Christopher LC Clark

A NASA Pilatus PC-12 aircraft will now be based at NASA's Armstrong Flight Research Center in Edwards, California, in order to support flight research efforts across the agency.

The PC-12 was acquired in 2022 by NASA's Glenn Research Center in Cleveland for use in advanced technology development. The aircraft will continue to support research at Glenn while also helping expand flight research capability by supporting other agency efforts.

From its new home at NASA Armstrong, the plane will support a variety of agency, industry, and academic research, including continued technology development research led by Glenn and conducted in conjunction with Glenn's Aerospace Communications Facility.

NASA Photographer Completes Milestone Mission



NASA/Ryan Kline

On March 24, 2026, Jim Ross, an aerial photographer at NASA's Armstrong Flight Research Center in Edwards, California, completed his 1,000th flight, flying in the backseat of a NASA F/A-18 piloted by Jim Less. Ross received a traditional splash with ice water, and an award commemorating his accomplishment.

Since 1989, Ross has flown in a wide variety of aircraft, capturing moments few people ever witness and helping share NASA's story from a rare vantage point.

For more than three decades, his images have brought audiences around the world closer to the experience of flight. His work has appeared in National Geographic, Air & Space Smithsonian, and Aviation Week.



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