

Spaceport News



John F. Kennedy Space Center - America's gateway to the universe

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STS-117 team completes starboard truss assembly

New truss segment significantly increases power output

The Space Shuttle Atlantis and its crew are home after completing a 14-day journey of more than 5.8 million miles in space. Atlantis' STS-117 mission successfully increased the power capability of the International Space Station, preparing for the future delivery of European and Japanese laboratories.

Commander Rick Sturckow, Pilot Lee Archambault and Mission Specialists Jim Reilly, Patrick Forrester, Steven Swanson, John "Danny" Olivas and Sunita Williams landed at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., on June 22 at 3:49 p.m. EDT.

Weather concerns forced mission managers to shift the landing from the Kennedy Space Center to Edwards after rain clouds were too close to the Shuttle Landing Facility. Atlantis was

(See STS-117, Page 4)



RETURNING FROM mission STS-117, Space Shuttle Atlantis approaches touchdown on the runway at NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center at Edwards Air Force Base in California. This was the 51st landing for the Space Shuttle Program at Edwards.

NASA's Dawn mission ready for early July launch from Cape

By Linda Herridge
Staff Writer

After four years of planning and preparing, NASA's Launch Services Program at Kennedy Space Center sees the light at the end of the tunnel as it prepares for the launch of the Dawn spacecraft aboard a Delta II heavy launch vehicle in early July.

Since the arrival of Dawn at the Astrotech facility in Titusville on April 10, the Launch Services Program team has been responsible

for processing the spacecraft and integrating it with the launch vehicle for its mission to the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter. The processing team includes NASA, United Launch Alliance, Analex and AI Solutions employees and the Orbital Sciences Corp. and Jet Propulsion Lab team.

Armando Piloto is the NASA KSC Dawn mission manager. He said spacecraft processing work included integrating the solar

(See DAWN, Page 2)



AT ASTROTECH, employees check the attachments of the Dawn spacecraft that connect the upper-stage booster. Dawn's goal is to study the conditions and processes of the solar system's earliest epoch by investigating in detail the largest protoplanets that have remained intact since their formations: asteroid Vesta and the dwarf planet Ceres.



Bill Parsons
Center Director

Director's Update

As Kennedy Space Center's high-profile achievements continue to capture the attention of the world, NASA's launch operations center receives thousands of public information requests from the media each year.

These range from simple requests such as interviewing an engineer or taking up-close photos of a space shuttle, to more intensive requests like gaining escorted access to a high-security area.

It's important that employees understand that NASA desires a

culture of openness. Consistent with NASA's policy on the release of information to the media, available at www.nasa.gov/communication_policy, employees may speak to the press and the public about their work. The policy explains many ways to offer the best communication in sharing NASA's message with the public.

NASA employees who receive a request from a media representative should coordinate with KSC's News Center at 321-867-2468 so that our public affairs officers can

help in providing the most appropriate information concerning NASA activities at the center. Contractor employees should work with their company's public affairs office.

Public affairs representatives must be on hand during media visits to KSC primarily for safety and security reasons. They also facilitate discussions between employees and media, but do not tell employees what to say.

The agency's policy on releasing information guarantees that NASA scientists may share their conclusions with the media, but requires that they draw a distinction between professional conclusions and personal views

that may go beyond the scope of their specific technical work, or beyond the range of the agency.

As NASA Administrator Mike Griffin said, "Decisions concerning the newsworthiness of the numerous activities within NASA must be made and carried out in a coordinated fashion, but with views from all parties considered."

We remain committed to the standard of open communication across KSC.

Those who have questions about the policy are invited to contact KSC's News Center, or David Mould at NASA Headquarters in Washington at 202-358-1898 or at david.r.mould@nasa.gov.

NASA's Phoenix processing continues for August launch



ON PAD 17-A at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, a third solid rocket booster is raised from its transporter to be lifted into the mobile service tower, where two others wait. The boosters will be mated with the Delta II first stage. The Delta is the launch vehicle for the Phoenix Mars Lander spacecraft. Phoenix will land in icy soils near the north polar permanent ice cap of Mars and explore the history of the water in these soils and any associated rocks, while monitoring polar climate. Landing on Mars is planned in May 2008 on arctic ground where a mission currently in orbit, Mars Odyssey, has detected high concentrations of ice just beneath the top layer of soil. Phoenix is scheduled to launch Aug. 3.

DAWN . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

arrays, completing final spacecraft alignments and a final comprehensive performance test, and fueling the spacecraft. It also involved performing a spin-balance test and final weighing. The spacecraft was mated to the Delta II launch vehicle's third stage at Astrotech and then transported to Launch Pad 17-B at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station.

"Dawn is a very ambitious mission," Piloto said. "For the last four years, the Dawn team has done a tremendous job to get us to this point in the flow, and we continue to work very actively and very safely to ensure mission success."

Dawn is the ninth mission in NASA's Discovery Program. The spacecraft will be the first to orbit two planetary bodies during a single mission and study two of the largest asteroids in the main asteroid belt. This is also NASA's first purely scientific mission powered by three

solar electric ion propulsion engines. Ion propulsion is the world's most advanced and efficient space propulsion technology.

According to Dr. Christopher Russell, principal investigator at the University of California-Los Angeles, the mission's primary scientific objective is to advance our understanding of the origin and evolution of the solar system by studying asteroid Vesta and the dwarf planet Ceres, which have remained intact since their formation 4.6 billion years ago.

During the mission, Dawn will perform three different orbits around each of these protoplanets. According to Russell, Ceres is the largest, most massive asteroid in the main asteroid belt, while Vesta is smaller and irregularly shaped.

The spacecraft will arrive at Vesta in September 2011 and at Ceres in February 2015.

Dawn, built by Orbital Sciences Corp. in Dulles, Va., contains instruments from Italy, Germany and the U.S.

Kennedy is first 'StormReady' NASA center

By Jeff Stuckey
Editor

Showing a complete commitment to employee safety, the Kennedy Space Center is now a certified "StormReady" facility. Working together with the National Weather Service, KSC has developed a proactive hazardous weather action plan.

As part of the severe weather notification process, there are multiple methods to provide warnings to the work force and visitors of KSC in the event of approaching hazardous weather.

"Being certified as StormReady shows we are proactive as hazardous weather approaches our operations," Center Director Bill Parsons said at the June 22 recognition presentation. "I would also like to recognize the partnerships we have with the 45th Space Wing Weather Squadron and the National Weather Service.

We've worked well together for a long time."

KSC is the first government site in Florida and only the eighth in the nation to be recognized as StormReady. It is also the first NASA field center to earn this certification.

The StormReady program is designed to reduce the number of injuries and property damage from severe storms through preparedness and education.

Also participating in the presentation were Mike Benik, director of Kennedy Center Operations; Steven Cooper, acting director of the National Weather Service southern region; Bob Allen, Florida state representative; Scott Rayder, chief of staff for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and Bart Hagemeyer, meteorologist-in-charge of the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Melbourne.



RECOGNIZING KSC as a "StormReady" community were, from left, Steven Cooper, director of the National Weather Service southern region; Scott Rayder, chief of staff for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; Bob Allen, Florida state representative; Bart Hagemeyer, chief meteorologist-in-charge of the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Melbourne; and Bill Parsons, KSC director.

Spaceport community enjoys the BEST Barbecue

By Jason Rhian
Summer Intern

With colorful, creative desserts, stacks of ribs and chicken and an enthusiastic crowd, the sixth-annual BEST Barbecue on June 23 at KARS Park 1 was a success.

Emcee Sonya Plummer welcomed guests and the hazy smoke seemed to attract more people until the tables were filled to capacity. The barbecue is hosted annually by the Black Employee Strategy Team to promote fellowship among employees, as well as welcome interns to life at Kennedy Space Center.

Although the weather kept Atlantis from landing, it did not dampen the spirits of the guests or hosts as they enjoyed the food and lively music. Guests had their choice of ribs, chicken or a combo platter with potato salad, baked beans and bread.

As in the past, the desserts were among the most popular features. The winner of the dessert contest was Selina Gaymon of Space



THE BLACK Employee Strategy Team, or BEST, hosted its annual barbecue at KARS Park 1 on June 23 for students, guests and workers. The barbecue is a chance to promote fellowship among employees, as well as welcome interns to the center.

Gateway Support security.

The cooks for this year's barbecue were Tom Cooper, Bruce Lockley, Al Jenkins, Javan Banks, Sena Jones, Brian Turner and Joylene Hall.

"We added the discounted student tickets and combo plates this year and because of this, we sold 75 more tickets than last year," said Stacie Smith, one of the event's organizers. More than 300 people attended this year's event.



MEMBERS OF the Black Employee Strategy Team (right), or BEST, serve attendees at the 2007 BEST Barbecue.

STS-117 crew members deliver S3/S4 truss

STS-117 . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

scheduled to be ferried back to KSC beginning June 29.

Atlantis' crew attached the new S3/S4 solar array truss segment on the right side of the station's backbone, deployed a new set of solar arrays and retracted the Port 6 starboard solar array back into its box. The station has a new look with two symmetrical solar panels mounted on each end of the station's truss.

Reilly, Olivas, Swanson and Forrester, with the help of their crewmates, made a total of four spacewalks to complete the construction tasks. They activated the truss segment and the solar alpha rotary joint, which allows the new arrays to track the sun, and helped fold the Port 6 array.

During the third spacewalk, the crew repaired a 4-by-6-inch raised corner of a thermal blanket on the port side orbital maneuvering system pod. Aerodynamic forces during Atlantis' ascent lifted the blanket.

While the crew worked in

space, ground teams were troubleshooting a problem with Russian computers that help control the station's attitude. Russian specialists worked closely with teams in the United States to recover the computer capabilities.

NASA astronaut and station Flight Engineer Clayton Anderson, who launched with the crew aboard Atlantis, remained on the station. He is scheduled to return home aboard Space Shuttle Discovery on a mission targeted for launch in October.

Anderson replaced Williams, who set a new record for a single, long-duration spaceflight by a woman with 195 days.

Atlantis will be transported approximately 2,500 miles from California to Florida on the back of a modified 747 jumbo jet. Once at Kennedy, Atlantis will be separated from the aircraft to begin immediate processing for its next flight, targeted for December.

STS-117 was the 21st flight to the station, the 28th flight for Atlantis and the first of four missions planned for 2007.



BACKDROPPED BY the blackness of space and Earth's horizon (above), the Space Shuttle Atlantis moves away from the International Space Station on June 19. Below is a close-up photograph of the thermal blanket on one of Atlantis' orbital maneuvering system pods before and after its repair work performed by Mission Specialist Danny Olivas.



Remembering Our Heritage

25 years ago: Space Shuttle Program's last development flight

By Kay Grinter
Reference Librarian

On June 27, 1982, NASA launched mission STS-4, the fourth and final research and development flight of the Space Transportation System. Commander Thomas Mattingly and Pilot Henry Hartsfield Jr. made up the two-man crew aboard Space Shuttle Columbia.

A hailstorm with pellets "the size of golf balls" the previous night almost delayed the launch. A hardener was applied to strengthen the water-soaked tiles, and liftoff took place as planned.

Once on orbit, the affected area was turned toward the sun to dry out the tiles and prevent ice

formation.

The cargo for the mission included a classified Department of Defense payload and the first commercial payload, the Continuous Flow Electrophoresis System. The first Getaway Specials and two Shuttle Student Involvement Program experiments also flew.

Following launch, the separation nuts which release half the risers on the two solid rocket booster main parachutes prematurely fired, causing the parachutes to stream instead of inflate. The booster casings were severely damaged from the high-speed water impact; they sank and were unrecoverable.

Bruce Rutledge, former manager of KSC's Parachute

Facility for USBI, recalled from his home in Salem, S.C.: "The G-force switches which activated the parachute separation nuts at water impact were fluid-dampened.

"This being the shuttle's first summer launch, warmer air temperatures lowered the fluid's viscosity, making the switches more sensitive to the shock of the ordnance ring blast which separates the frustum and deploys the main parachutes.

"Inserting a timer into the circuitry to block the switch's signal until well after frustum separation solved the problem."

The July 4 landing at Edwards Air Force Base of the successful test flight was attended by President Ronald Reagan.



EMPLOYEES INSTALL the Getaway Special aboard Space Shuttle Columbia for the STS-4 mission launched June 27, 1982.

2007 Kennedy Space Center Honor Awards

The Kennedy Space Center Honor Awards Ceremony was held June 26 at the KSC Visitors Complex IMAX Theatre II to recognize KSC civil service and contractor employees with other honorary medals given by NASA.

NASA Distinguished Service Medal

Douglas Hendriksen
Roslyn McKinney

NASA Distinguished Public Service Medal

James Banke, Camille Chidester, Jarl Gustafson, Harvey Mizell, James Orr, Lynda Weatherman

2006 Presidential Rank Awards Meritorious Executive

Michael Benik, NASA director of Center Operations
John "Tip" Talone, NASA associate program manager of the Constellation Program

NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal

Richard Cota, Roberta Gnan, Ruth Harrison, Stephanie Stilson, Steven Sullivan

NASA Exceptional Achievement Medal

Robert Ashley, Scott Colloredo, Michael Dalton, James Draus, Kenneth Hale, Dicksy Hansen, Vu Le, Alan Littlefield, Jack Massey, Phillip Meade, Stacie Phillips, Timothy Pugh, Jorge Rivera, Janice Robertson, Douglas Younger

NASA Exceptional Bravery Medal

Donald Snyder

NASA Exceptional Service Medal

William Bartley, Perry Becker, Kathy Bryant, Manuel Cabrera, Lisa Colloredo, Ruth Gardner, Randall Greeson, Roger Hall, Marlo Krisberg, Jim Medina, Luis Moctezuma, Marjorie Nelson, Cheri Wynn

NASA Exceptional Public Service Medal

Robert Castlen, Katherine Gay, Terry Greenfield, Mark Laposky, Edward Ruth, Stephen Shannon, Kerry Stinson, Ronald Ten Haken, Randall Thurman

Group Achievement Awards

Clifton School House Restoration Team

John Stiner, Cheryl Paige, Mario Busacca, Barbara Naylor, Roz Foster

Engineering Directorate Organizational Development Team

Robert Cannon, Shannon Bartell, Barry Braden, Nancy Bray, Benjamin Bryant, Patrick Hanan, Dicksy Hansen, Roselle Hanson, Ruth Harrison, Robert Hubbard, Retha Hart, George Hurt, Scott Kerr, Jennifer Lyons, Phillip Meade, Thomas Pentrack, June Perez, Pepper Phillips, Stacie Phillips, Patrick Simpkins, Maynette Smith, Steven Sullivan, James Thompson, Oscar Toledo, Warren Wiley, Carolyn Yowell, John Zuber

Flight Termination System Interference Team

James Bjornbak, David Hendricks, John Isella, Thomas Woodard, Sarah Quach

KSC Environmental Point of Compliance Team

John Shaffer, Laura Hall, Lisa Marie Ruffe, Mario Busacca, Denise Thaller

KSC GH2 Vent Line Ice Suppression Shroud Team

Kenneth Fore, Fred Lockhart, C. Arkin, Charles Baker, Christopher Collette, Harold Crain, Wayne Crawford, Daniel Davis, David Earley, Jeffrey Garrison, Carl Hallberg, Kenneth Heckle, Brian Hunter, Darrell March, William McCartney, Martin McLellan, Mark Minich, Michael Minter, Martin Moneysmith, Guy Naylor, Thomas Naylor, Roy Nungesser, Michael Patrick, Andrew Pysz, Geoffrey Rowe, Arthur Shutt, Stephen Sojourner, Stephen Stout, Mark Stratton, Sammie Talluto, Ronald Vangilder, Daniel



FAMILY, FRIENDS and co-workers applaud recipients of the 2007 KSC Honor Awards in the IMAX Theater at the Visitor Complex on June 26.

Wegerif, Mary Whitten, Michael Ynclan, Paul Atkins, Mark Berg, John Blue, Kristina Brink, David Cornell, Jeffrey Crisafulli, James Fesmire, Michael Hartnett, Andrew Knutson, Jared Sass, Stephen Van Genderen, Kevin Cummings, Philip D'Andreamatteo, John Gates, Walter Hatfield, Arthur Hendren, Patricia Lowery, Douglas Rewinkel, David Ross, Mark Velasco, Gary Wall

KSC NASA/ODIN Migration Nomad System

Carol Valdes, Kimmarie Barrett, Dean Bent, Deborah Bledsoe, Susan Cargile, Peter Clements, Jeffrey Lane, Clifford Smith, Randall Thurman, Vickie Hall, James Winn

Mars Science Laboratory Launch Service Task Order Team

Tammy Harrington, Theodore Adams, Robert Athman, David Barber, Warren Bayliss, Stuart Bryant, Thomas Clark, Phillip Davidson, Armand Gosselin, Harlan Hannah, Roy Heinl, Fred Hernandez, Gary Hopkins, David King, Phillip Kocol, Michael Levitt, Jerad Merbitz, Barry Miner, Kenneth Page, Robert Smithson, Stephen Spath, Gabor Tanacs, Thomas Trovillion, Jeffrey Tuttle, Ellen Underwood, Frank Walker, Ralph Webber, Gary Wozniak, James Colvin, Louis D'Amario, Lutha Shaw, David Woerner, Harry Batey, Jon Bauschlicher, Brian Beaver, James Behling, Jeanne Burkhart, Lorenzo Chance, Harold Coleman, Robert Freeman, John

Giles, Daniel Johnson, Edwin New, Francisco Valdes, Timothy Widrick, Michael Woltman

Node-2 ACBM Closeout Team

Terri Holbert, David Cook, Ronald Walls, Ryan Alexander, Tiffany Alexander, James Alter, Julie Anderson, William Bahr, Robert Bickley, Thomas Bonifacio, Albert Branson, Clifton Burkett, Richard Chamberlain, Ronald Constantino, Christopher Cox, Beenal Desai, Calvin Dunn, Clayton Everhart, Thomas Grant, David Griner, Martin Hall, Eric Hanson, Sandra Harrington, David Haysbrook, Mark Henry, William Hutchinson, Kevin Jackson, Lance Kinney, Patrick Layton, Michael Lombardo, William McDaniel, Timothy McMichael, Gary Meier, Charlene Ormsby, Lucy Orozco, Michael Panopoulos, Raymond Reynolds, David Ricouard, Jennifer Sachs, Brian Scofield, Mitchell Sestile, Gregory Smilek, George Smith, Craig Stanton, Donald Stieler, Dennis Testa, Vajid Vayda, Michael Waugh, James Windhausen, Robert Beary, Kevin Gill, Melanie Gurnavage, Stephen Wilson, Jeffery Beyer, Juan Calero, Glenn Chin, Gary Craig, Joseph Delai, Stephen Ernest, Polly Gardiner, Randall Gordon, David Guibeau, Joseph Hyppolite, Joanna Johnson, Rachel Kamenetzky, Douglas Kverek, Carlos Marin, Kenneth Mathews, Donald McMahon, Ronald Morris, Lisa Pantano, Robert Parks, Antonio Pego, Gerardo Rivera, Robert Ruiz, Michael Shoup,

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2007 Kennedy Space Center Honor Awards

AWARDS . . .

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Edward Stanton, Courtney Stern, David Stewart, Vanessa Stroh, Walner Thervil, Robert Wark, Tom Yencso, Robert Crain, Betsy Ahearn

Operations and Checkout Building Cleanout Team

Kent Beringer, Tara Miller, Anthony Hillman, Francis Beach, Ellen Brown, Douglas Cooley, Lisa Cochran, Christopher Cox, Jim Daniel, Joseph Degano, Wayne Derbyshire, Michael Gisoni, Danny Gresham, Kenneth Hammons, Edward Hardy, John Ippolito, Rupert Jordan, Tim King, David Kolb, Christine Layne, Hui Han Liu, Jackie Nichols, Robert Reuter, Hubert Ridens, Christopher Rose, Nancie Strott, Bart Faulkenberry, Deborah Gast, James Kerrigan, Lynnard Woods, James Boland, Johnny Hovis, Tim King, Jeffrey Norgren, Kelly Sorey, Michael Stites, Douglas Thom, Jayne Huvar, Robert Acosta, Bruce Bjornstad, Charles Mason

Orion Crew Exploration Vehicle Procurement Team

Roselle Hanson, Steven Bigos, David Board, Richard Boyles, Nancy Bray, Mario Busacca, Debra Caldwell, Matthew Carroll, Michael Conroy, Suzanne Cunningham, Brian Graf, Henry Harriel, Andrew Haugevik, Rachel Kamenetzky, Ira Kight, Ronnie Lawson, Roger MacLeod, Pauletta McGinnis, Steven Milton, James O'Malley, Mary Remley, Ronnie Rodriguez, Donald Schiller, Robert Yaskovic, Leslie Alderman, Joseph Beardall, Robert Cunningham, Carl Eastman, Michael Haddad, Glenn Rhodeside, Philip Weber, Mark Woloshin

Payload Depot Work Authorization Document Team

Michael Wall, Annette Miele, Mary Bullock, Peter Burrige, Kari Capatosto, Phillip Chandler, Thomas Cissell, Beenal Desai, Claudia Dorn, Kyle Fears,

Michelle Franklin, Eric Hanson, Gary Hendrickson, Randall Hitchcock, Kevin Jackson, Karl Johnson, Steven Kelly, Ray Kindred, Donn Landfried, Thomas Leblanc, Karen Livengood, Constance Magill, Bret McAfee, Kathleen McQuade, Larry Miller, Kelly Moes, Carmen Moore, Michelle Olsen, Bryan Onate, Charles Ralph, Luis Ramos, Patricia Rose, Joseph Ross, Patricia Shadrack, Sharon Tolbert, Christopher Short, Bruce Smodell, Donna Spencer, Cesar Villanueva, William Voigt, William Weisenberger, Shelia White, Bernadette Brightman-Merrell, Polly Gardiner, Tracy Gill, Luis Moctezuma, Lisa Pantano, Renee Sawyer, Theresa Schroeder, Deon Williams

Payload Rack Checkout Unit Team

Michael Gardner, David Brink, Vincent Carrubba, Cristine Dundas, Thomas Eichenlaub, Tracy Gill, Joseph Hyppolite, David Macon, Donald McMahon, Lisa Pantano, Matthew Parris, Shirishbhai Patel, Carlos Rodriguez, Jessica Rodriguez, Morgan Simpson, Susan Sitko, Courtney Stern, David Stewart, Deon Williams, Thomas Yencso, Kevin Zari

Space Shuttle Main Engine Seal Investigation Team

Jeffery Osgood, Enrique Barnes, Kenneth Delaney, Douglas Folkes, Terrence Oshea, Heriberto Soto, Richard Wilder, Fred Jackson, Salvador Lucio, Dave Margrave, John Posey, Michele Devane

ASRC New Technologies Team

John Lane, Cristina Berger, Mary Whitten, Stanislaw Augustynowicz, Charles Buhler, Bradley Burns, Irving Bushnell, James Captain, Robert Cox, Joseph Curran, Joseph Dean, Jesus Dominguez, Tracy Gibson, Carl Hallberg, Christopher Immer, Scott Jolley, Steven Klinko, Mark Kolody, Brian Larson, Carlos Mata, Pedro Medelius, David Miller, Barbara Peterson, Mindy Ritz, Marshall Scott, Stephen Simmons, Guy



WILLIAM BARTLEY (center) receives the NASA Exceptional Service Medal from Janet Petro, KSC deputy director, and Bill Parsons, center director.

Smith, Jeffrey Starnes, John Taylor, Ivan Townsend, Steven Trigwell, Pedro Vazquez, Rubiela Vinje, Peter Vokrot, Carlos Zavala, Roger Zoerner

Boeing/Delta Flight Operations Team

Michael Taylor, Michael Kennard, Cheree Kiernan, Laura Maginnis

Crawler Transporter Tread Belt Replacement Team

Raymond Trapp, Roy Burton, Eugene Hajdaj, Edward Allen, Robert Bennett, George Billie, Thomas Braswell, Hiawatha Brown, Richard Buckingham, Eugene Buckner, Frank Caldwell, Christopher Cassidy, Thomas Chabrak, Erik Cole, Peter Collins, William Couch, David Crossman, Richard Davies, Thomas Denman, Patrick Derosa, George Donall, Samuel Dove, Daniel Drake, Cary Eide, Glenn Ellison, Bradley Fenton, Robert Flewellin, Glenn Giordano, Scott Goodwin, Armand Gosselin, Edward Griffith, James Guarino, James Guppenberger, Lewis Hanna, Robert Hemric, Allen Hinton, Arnold Honaker, Kevin Hunt, Stevie Jack, Randall Johnson, Catherine Kammerer, Andrew Kenney, Ryan Kiechle, Randy Robbins

United Space Alliance External Tank Engineering and Shop Processing Team

Ahmad Ekhlassi, Christopher Broadaway, Walter King, David Kobilis, Gregory Krems, Mark Laposky, Michael Lind, Phillip Looney, Ronnie Lucas, William Manley, Robert Marty, William Mayhew, Jodi McAmis, John

Meister, Karl Meyer, Christopher Milner, Willie Moore, Robert Myers, David Parker, Robert Pine, Andrew Powers, Thomas Ranew, Lon Raver, Philip Reno, John Rhode, Robert Rokobauer, Ramiro Saldivar, William Schools, Harold Shackelford, Robert Schneider, Andrew Shepard, Earl Shiflett, Tommy Shinholster, William Slocum, Stephen Spath, James Speigner, Roger Spillers, Gregory Stanek, Nicole Starke, Warren Stratton, Larry Strenth, Edward Tibbits, John Truscott, Jeffrey Venable, Michael Watkins, Ralph Webber, Edward West, Thomas Wielepski, John Wiley, Samuel Zerilli

KICS Voice Operations Team

Gary Carr, Jonathan Bradley, Benny Douglas, Michael Evolga, Gregory Hakanson, Dwight Herrman, James Hudson, Era Hunt, Timothy Jacobs, Glenn King, William Nolan, Jeffery Short, Daniel Sirp

LC-39B Lightning Protection System Design Team

Carlos Mata, William Angerer, Jamel Bland, Raymond Brewer, Ivan Bush, Edward Carillion, James Dike, Scott Dornton, Ahmad Ekhlassi, Anthony Hilton, Joshua Jacobs, Terry Jones, John Laplante, Louis Lemire, Anthony Marketon, Gonzalo Mendez, Michael Ravenscroft, William Richards, Jerry Rucker, Paul Sierpinski, Robert Williams, Tatiana Bonilla, Irving Bushnell, Angel Mata, Pedro Medelius, Marilyn Ramirez

NASA Education Exploration Team

Birdette Brown, Clarence Bostic,

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2007 Kennedy Space Center Honor Awards

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James Gerard, Leslie Gold, Damon Talley, Barbara Wentworth, Peter Abramovs, Laura Baker, Birdette Brown, Carol Denicole, Lori Desouza, Keely Keyser, Tammie Lawston, Annette Marshall, Natalie Marshall, Lina Rosado, Thomas Sarko

Process Improvement Engineering Team

Brian Baldwin, Robert Brinsmade, George Caruso, Jessica Defabrizio, Sean Eidem, William Hudecek, David Humphrey, Kirsten James, Ryan Loporto, Elizabeth Sgammato, David Sheriff, Samuel Swanger, Barry Taylor, Philip Touchberry, Philip Vanaria

Space Launch Complex Team

Peter Gould, Irving Bushnell, Robert Ferguson, Warren Lackie, Rhonda Mitchell, Tibor Nagy,

Ronald Phillips, Christopher Solomon, Daniel Wegerif, Caroline Zaffery, Charles Zaffery, David Zeiters

Spaceflight Independent Assessment Team

Edward Ruth, Robert Abernathy, Jay Bernard, Alfred Britting, Manfred Buechler, Richard Francis, James Gazur, Richard Gerardi, James Gin, Kerry Hoskins, Joseph Hough, William Huber, Daniel Marten, Donald Martin, Bruce Mau, Chester Orciuch III, Daniel Ortiz, Manfred Peinemann, Dennis Pelaccio, Phillip Plemmons, Martin Ross, Susan Ruth, Stanley Saloff, Edward Schatzman, Robert Seibold, John Skratt, Ralph John, James Taylor, Margo Wasz, Myra Watts, David Zelisse

KSC Certificate of Commendation

Diana Alicea, Paul Atkins, Rose Austin, Rosemary Baize, Janet

Bethay, Mark Biesack, Thomas Bookhart, Barry Braden, John Branard, Donald Brandl, Tammy Burlein, Henry Bursian, Steven Cain, Penny Chambers, Bruce Chesson, Charles Cole, George Cole, Marilyn Davidson, Michael Deliz, Carlos Garcia, Michael Gardner, Judy Gari, Tracy Gill, Leticia Gomez, Penelope Hale, Donald Hammel, Tammie Hines, Nancy Hoffman, Sharolee Huet, George Jacobs, Janice Justice, Rachel Kamenetzky, Kristin, Kelley, Raymond Kotowski, Dorthea Kuzma, Lisa Langham, Mark Lewis, Rebecca Lewis, Angel Lucena, Lawrence Ludwig, Janet Mayers, Philip Metzger, Robert Mott, Jacklyn Norman, Eric Perritt, John Porter, Lauren Price, Asha Reavis, Mary Remley, Joseph Roeder, Mark Ruether, Lisa Marie Ruffe, Sarah Schilling, Keith Schuh, Wendy Shrewsbury, Charles Smith, Pamela Steel, Donna Stephenson, Michele

Veneri, Ned Voska, Michele Whittaker, Mark Wiese, Douglas Willard, Scott Wilson, Roy Worthy

KSC Service Awards - 40 years

James Aliberti, Edgar Deane III, Douglas Hendriksen, Marlo Krisberg, Milton Riddle, Lamar Russell, Albert Taff

Quality And Safety Achievement Recognition (QASAR) Award

Tim Bianchi, Zachary Cline, Michael Young

Center Director's Gold Dollar Ace Award

Stanislaw Augustynowicz

KSC Strategic Leadership Award

James Ball, Pamela Zeitler

KSC Equal Opportunity Award

Ronnie Rodriguez, Hortense Burt

KSC Director's Award

Darren Bedell

Safety award recognizes Bianchi's awareness

By Jennifer Wolfinger
Staff Writer

NASA recently awarded Tim Bianchi with the Quality and Safety Achievement Recognition, or QASAR Award, for his exceptional dedication.

The award, which was presented May 10 at NASA Headquarters in Washington, is the agency's highest honor for quality and safety. Selection is based on a person's contribution to the quality and safety of products, services, processes, or management programs and activities. Bianchi received a monetary award and a plaque during the NASA Honor Awards ceremony.

He was selected for a discovery he made during processing of the International Space Station, or ISS, while serving as the Safety and Mission Assurance directorate's mission lead for quality assurance on STS-117 payload processing. During flight closeouts for the S3/S4 truss segment's aft bulkhead canister area, he discovered three

loose and unsealed screws that interface with the mechanism for deploying the solar array.

This discovery prompted additional checks on the remaining mast canisters. If left unaddressed, this finding could have prevented mast canister deployment and resulted in functional loss of a solar array wing assembly on orbit.

"His leadership in identifying and correcting a significant flight hardware problem benefited our ISS counterparts at Johnson Space Center. Because of his efforts, the ISS Program is assured a quality product throughout the life of the ISS Program," said Shannon Bartell, Safety and Mission Assurance director.

Bianchi is now a program specialist within the Cape Canaveral Spaceport Management Office, a joint NASA and U.S. Air Force office responsible for managing the JBOSC contract. He serves as the integrated product team lead for quality and safety, managing performance evaluations



TIM BIANCHI (center) receives the QASAR Award from Charles Scales, NASA associate deputy administrator and Shana Dale, NASA deputy administrator, for his actions with the Safety and Mission Assurance directorate.

and meetings between NASA and the Air Force. Bianchi also audits work breakdown structures.

There are four QASAR award categories, and his award was in the "NASA employee within Safety and Mission Assurance" category. Nominees were initially nominated by their center director, and the nominations were evaluated and scored by each center's Safety and Mission Assurance director. He was one of four

winners chosen from 29 nominees. Prior to his selection, Bianchi was unaware of the award, but quickly recognized its significance and his teammates' contribution.

"This is a tremendous honor to receive an award of this stature, and to be sent to D.C. to retrieve it is humbling," said Bianchi, who joined NASA in 2004. "I credit my excellent bosses, co-workers and processing team support for this award."

West Point cadets assist launch analysis team

By Jennifer Wolfinger
Staff Writer

Four U.S. military cadets are spending their summer helping Kennedy Space Center engineers use computers to simulate the actions of humans in order to transform training and evaluations.

The Army Research Lab sent the cadets from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in New York to support NASA's Simulation and Analysis of Launch Teams effort, known as SALT.

SALT began in 2005 to address the need to simulate humans for analysis, training and evaluation for NASA's current and future launch operations, and to meet other KSC needs. According to Cary Peaden, the cadet's mentor and SALT principal investigator, the research is essential for improving future NASA training and analysis.

Cadets Tad Lefler, Sarah Phillips, and Theodore Kleinsorget will be at KSC until July 7, while Marcus Millen completed his tasks June 15. Their work includes gathering data and analysis, and

testing SALT products, which support everything from providing launch teams with experience and methods to make rapid and complex decisions, to determining the origin of problems associated with communication, processing, and personnel job requirements and limitations.

Lefler, a senior from Kentucky, is studying electrical engineering with a track in robotics and electronics. Born in Pennsylvania, Millen is a senior on the Army football team with a major in management and a minor in environmental engineering.

Also a senior, Kleinsorget of Kansas is a systems engineering major and a member of Sandhurst, a team that competes in military skills competitions with the Royal Military Academy. Phillips is a junior from California majoring in life science.

Richard Hoblitzell, a KSC co-op student from the University of Louisville in Kentucky, is also contributing to the team. Serving in his third semester with the SALT project, Hoblitzell is one of the prime software developers of the SALT proof-of-concept training



SEATED FROM left, West Point cadets Theodore Kleinsorget, Tad Lefler and Sarah Phillips, and NASA co-op student Richard Hoblitzell test a project for the Simulation and Analysis of Launch Teams project. Team member Luis Bares of ASRC (standing left) and the project's principal investigator, Cary Peaden of NASA, overlook the group's work.

application for the group.

"The cadets participate in real government engineering on a small research project," said Peaden, an Engineering Directorate employee who added that the partnership also strengthens KSC's relationship with the academy and lab. "They learn how one large

technical team performs critical operations and about governmental and multi-organizational cooperation.

"They also learn how valuable a West Point education is, and the interesting things you can do with an academy degree and leadership experience."

United Way honors civil servants' Combined Federal Campaign

NASA employees at Kennedy Space Center recently were recognized by the United Way of Brevard for their increased generosity and support through the agency's 2006 Combined Federal Campaign. The civil servants were honored for achieving a new level of participation.

According to Susan McGrath, vice president of resource develop-

ment for United Way, 81 percent of NASA employees participated in the monthlong campaign that runs annually in October. Workers gave \$417,800 to 49 United Way programs and services.

Ray Lugo, deputy director of NASA's Launch Services Program at KSC, was the campaign chairman for 2006. He said the campaign, also known as the CFC, is a good way for KSC employees to

connect with the community.


"Often, the demands on our time preclude us from actively engaging with our community to help our fellow man in times of need," Lugo said. "Last year, KSC employees continued the tradition

of reaching out and helping the community. I believe it's rooted in the values of our employees to do the right thing."

The Combined Federal Campaign for 2007 will kick off in early October.



JANET PETRO (left), Kennedy Space Center deputy director, accepts the United Way Award of Distinction from Susan McGrath, vice president of resources development for United Way of Brevard.



John F. Kennedy Space Center

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