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Spaceport News

John F. Kennedy Space Center - Americaís gateway to the universe

http://www.nasa.gov/centers/kennedy/news/snews/spnews_toc.html

Kennedy announces January retirement

Jim Kennedy, the eighth director in the history of Kennedy Space Center, recently announced his intention to retire in January 2007 after 35 years of government service. Kennedy spent 31 of those years with NASA and four with the U.S. Air Force.

Kennedy's successor will be announced at a later date.

"Serving as the director of the historic Kennedy Space Center where the U.S. space program was born is an opportunity of a lifetime," Kennedy said. "While I have treasured every minute of every day, now is the time to announce I'm stepping aside to allow someone else the opportunity to lead this great center and its incredible work force."

In his position, Kennedy oversees nearly 15,000 government and contractor employees at KSC.

NASA Administrator Mike Griffin, after accepting Kennedy's retirement letter, said: "I've had the pleasure of knowing and working with Jim Kennedy for 10 years. He has offered a sure and steady hand at the Kennedy Space Center in the difficult period following the loss of the Space Shuttle Columbia, and will be sorely missed. And while he can retire from NASA, he cannot retire from the NASA family. He will always be one of our own."

Prior to serving as director, Kennedy served as the center's deputy director beginning in October 2002. Prior to coming to KSC, he served for 25 years at the George C. Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala., rising to the position of deputy center director.

Kennedy began his career with NASA in 1968 in the Aerospace Engineering Cooperative Education Program, first at KSC and then at Marshall.

Kennedy's work experience includes serving as project manager for major projects, such as the X-34, DC-XA and Solid Rocket Booster Projects. He served as Marshall's director of engineering.

He has received numerous awards, including the National Space Club's Astronautics Engineer of the Year Award, the Silver Snoopy Award, NASA's Distinguished Service Medal, and the Presidential Rank of Meritorious and Distinguished Service Awards.

CENTER DIRECTOR Jim Kennedy will retire in January after 35 years of government service.

CALIPSO, CloudSat launch at Vandenberg

THE CALIPSO and CloudSat satellites thunder skyward after their launch on April 28 atop a Boeing Delta II rocket. Visit **www.nasa.gov** for details.

KSC group designs 'Invention of the Year'

By Linda Herridge
Staff Writer

A groundwater treatment technology developed at Kennedy Space Center has won NASA's Government Invention of the Year and Commercial Invention of the Year awards for 2005.

This marks the second time in three years that KSC inventors won both awards.

THE TEAM that developed the technology includes, from left, Dr. Christian Clausen, Dr. Jacqueline Quinn, Kathleen Brooks, Dr. Debra Reinhart and Dr. Cherie Geiger.

Emulsified Zero-Valent Iron (EZVI) was developed by a team of researchers from NASA and the University of Central Florida. NASA inventors include Dr. Jacqueline Quinn, an environmental engineer in the Applied Sciences Division of the Kennedy Technology Directorate, and Kathleen Brooks, an analytical chemist in the center's Materials

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Jim Kennedy
Center Director

The Kennedy Update

Greetings, everyone! I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has passed on their best wishes to me and Bernie since I announced my plans to retire in January 2007.

But as I said on the day of the announcement, we still have eight long months until January, and with some big tasks ahead, it's time to focus on our mission. With the GOES-N launch just around the corner and STS-121 on its heels, it will be an exciting summer, to say the least.

I appreciate everyone who is working hard to make both of these launches a success, and I have no doubt that they will be two more chapters of great NASA lore.

I hope you had a chance to come out last Saturday for the Astronaut Hall of Fame induction ceremony in which Charlie Bolden, Hank Hartsfield Jr. and Brewster Shaw Jr. were enshrined, joining the legends of space history. All three delivered inspiring messages, and it is a day to be remembered.

At the time I'm writing, yesterday stood to be a significant event in our countdown to the STS-121 launch in July. If all goes as scheduled, Discovery left Orbiter Processing Facility bay 3 and rolled over to the Vehicle Assembly Building.

There, during the next several days, it will be lifted and mated with the solid rocket boosters and external tank that will be used for launch. Then later in May, the shuttle will roll out to Launch Pad 39B in anticipation of the midsummer launch. So keep watching and listening for these key milestones as we once again deliver Discovery into orbit, her rightful place in space.

> "Then later in May, the shuttle will roll out to Launch Pad 39B in anticipation of the midsummer launch."

The month of May means the end of school and the start of many summer internship programs. We will have numerous college and high school students coming to work over the summer in various areas.

I hope that when you see them, you will take the time to show them the ropes and bring them under your wing, because they are here to learn as much as they can in the short time they are with us. This has proved not only to benefit them but NASA as well, since many of these students will be the space industry workers of tomorrow.

I know that with the end of school — and while scheduling around launches — this is the time for summer vacations.

Have fun, but please be safe, as we want everyone back safe and sound. Take care and have a good week!

Altemus to lead new Engineering Directorate

Kennedy Space Center is standing up a new organization called the Engineering Directorate with Steve Altemus as its director.

The new 800-person Engineering Directorate is being created to centralize the center's engineering activities, processes and personnel into one organization that will have an independent reporting line of authority and to ensure the highest quality of engineering rigor at the center.

"I'm extremely excited to have a person with Steve's strong technical background and exceptional commitment to engineering excellence join our management team," said Center Director Jim Kennedy. "He not only brings tremendous leadership abilities, but having previously worked at Kennedy, he shares a unique perspective on center operations."

The new directorate will be fully staffed by Oct. 1 and will be responsible for supporting projects and programs at Kennedy by furnishing design, development and operations engineers to these offices.

Since January 2005, Altemus has been serving as acting and then deputy director for engineering at Johnson Space Center. He was responsible for providing engineering design, development and testing, as well as technical expertise in support of hardware, software and systems for human space flight programs such as the space shuttle, International Space Station, and advanced spacecraft for human exploration initiatives.

Prior to joining the Johnson team, he served at KSC as the chief of the Shuttle Launch and Landing Division, where he supervised and managed a team of engineers and technical experts in the specialized fields of shuttle ground processing and launch and landing operations.

> The new 800-person Engineering Directorate, fully staffed by Oct. 1, is being created to centralize the center's engineering activities, processes and personnel into one organization.

STEVE ALTEMUS is director of the new Engineering Directorate.

In this role, he also served as the Columbia reconstruction director for the Space Shuttle Program and KSC. During this six-month period, he managed a diverse team of up to 400 engineers, scientists and technicians from multiple NASA field centers, government agencies and contractor organizations. The team was responsible for cataloging, identifying and assembling more than 85,000 pieces of Columbia debris.

Steve and his wife, Brunella, have two children, Samantha and Joseph.

Anania becomes Human Resources director

Kennedy Space Center Director Jim Kennedy recently announced that Tracy Anania is the center's director of Human Resources. In this position, Anania will oversee the center's civil service staffing requirements, manage employee classifications and compensation, and build training and leadership development programs.

Anania currently serves as the director of Human Resources for the Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center for the U.S. Department of the Army Research, Development and Engineering Command at Fort Monmouth, N.J.

"Tracy is a superb addition to the senior staff at KSC," Kennedy said. "She has a reputation for navigating large technical organizations through times of significant change. With what lies ahead of KSC in the next few years implementing the Vision for Space Exploration, I couldn't think of a better person for this position."

Anania is expected to arrive at KSC within the next month to begin her new position.

Administrative Professionals Day breakfast honors employees

By Jennifer Wolfinger
Staff Writer

Ringing phones on multiple lines. Appointments that need rescheduling. Dozens of e-mails waiting to be answered.

These often stressful tasks are only a few of the daily duties Kennedy Space Center administrative professionals handle with ease. But the Senior Secretarial Team ensured the center's civil servant clerical staff received a well-deserved break on April 25 by arranging an Administrative Professionals Day Breakfast to honor their hard work.

"Our intent for this breakfast was to bring supervisors and their support staff together by encouraging open communication," said breakfast chairwoman Melinda Bouchez. "Another benefit is that the secretaries and administrative professionals could meet others they didn't know, but work with while doing their jobs."

KSC is home to 105 civil servant clerical staff, and 136 employees attended the event to show support.

KSC Deputy Director William Parsons recognized the vital role administrative professionals play in accomplishing the center's goals.

"We always need one more hand to keep management from messing things up," he joked. "We know we couldn't do this without you," he said. "Sometimes we don't know how you keep everything together. On behalf of Jim Kennedy, myself and all managers, we're grateful for all you do."

During breakfast, attendees saw a photo display of the administrative professionals on a television. Ed Markowski from the Shuttle Processing Directorate provided an invocation, which included thanking group members for their wisdom.

To help these busy workers achieve personal balance and reduce stress, guest speaker Kim Wolinski - also known as "Dr. DeClutter" - offered her guidance.

Wolinski suggested thinking about what joy means, writing down how to make it happen, and setting a deadline for that plan. She emphasized the importance of learning to identify drama from other people, deciding to ignore it, and not letting the "shoulds" of life control our behavior. Other tips included not judging others and activities, taking health and wealth seriously, and looking at everyone with the same type of gentleness.

KIM "DR. DeClutter" Wolinkski (standing) offers advice to employees attending the April 25 Administrative Professionals Day Breakfast. She talked about achieving personal balance and how to reduce stress.

"The question is: what if I live the next 20 to 30 years the way I am now, not what if I die tomorrow," Wolinski advised.

Senior Secretarial Team President Lisa Arnold concluded the breakfast by selecting door prize winners who received a floral arrangement from the tables. Team members also selected a centerpiece of their choice.

For more information about Wolinski's messages, visit **www.ReDecisionsInstitute.com** or **www.DrDeClutter.com**.

My Story

By Winnie Lambert
ENSCO, Inc.
Meteorologist

This column provides Kennedy Space Center employees and retirees a chance to tell a story about their life.

I am a meteorologist at ENSCO Inc. as part of NASA's Applied Meteorology Unit, working in support of weather forecasting for America's space program at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station and Kennedy Space Center.

My interest in weather began in childhood, influenced mostly by stories my father told me. He was a P-51 fighter pilot in World War II and often spoke of how much he liked his weather classes in pilot training, and how peaceful he felt as he flew among the clouds.

During thunderstorms, I would press my little face against the window and look up to see exactly where the lightning came from – a practice my mother abruptly halted one night when she caught me in the act. Now that I know a little more about thunderstorms and lightning, I strongly recommend staying away from windows during such events.

After growing up, I pursued a Bachelor of Science degree in meteorology at the Metropolitan State College of Denver while working part time at the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) in Boulder, Colo.

As a student assistant at the NCAR, I got to work on field projects and help analyze the data that we collected. One summer, they actually paid us to chase tornadoes on the eastern plains. Working at the NCAR inspired me to continue my education in graduate school.

This led me to Penn State, from which I received a master's degree in meteorology two months before accepting my current position with ENSCO in Florida in October 1994.

A big factor in making the decision to work for ENSCO was the opportunity to work with the space program. There was a shuttle launch the weekend of my interview that pretty much sealed the deal in my mind.

Since becoming a team member of the Applied Meteorology Unit, I have worked with a wide variety of data from radars, the wind tower network and lightning sensors in developing products that can be used by the forecasters in the 45th Weather Squadron on Cape Canaveral Air Force Station and the Spaceflight Meteorology Group at Johnson Space Center to make better forecasts of the weather phenomena that affect the safety of not only the vehicles, but also the people who work with them.

The forecasters are some of the most dedicated and intelligent meteorologists I have ever met. I have learned a great deal from their experiences.

Harkening back to that little kid looking out the window, I am

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U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame welcomes th

By Jeff Stuckey
Editor

When Henry "Hank" Hartsfield Jr. landed the Space Shuttle Columbia after its fourth and final test flight on July 4, 1982, he talked to Commander Thomas "Ken" Mattingly about what to say in case the two experienced problems adjusting to the Earth's gravity while meeting Ronald Reagan.

"Ken and I had a discussion beforehand about how we would feel when we landed," Hartsfield said. "We were worried we might fall down when we met the president.

I told Ken to say, 'Nice pair of shoes, Mr. President,' if we were to fall down."

Hartsfield, along with Charles Bolden and Brewster Shaw Jr., addressed a standing-room-only audience on May 6 at the Apollo/Saturn V Center when they were inducted into the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame.

"I achieved the goals I set out to accomplish and there were some rough spots along the way," Hartsfield said. He encouraged students to set goals for themselves and try their best to achieve them.

"You will never know unless you try," he said. Hartsfield also commanded the maiden flight of Space Shuttle Discovery in 1984 and commanded Challenger on a science mission in 1985.

Shaw told the crowd the nation has another opportunity to return to the moon for longer periods of time, which will help mankind better understand why and how we are here as human beings.

"By the time we get back to the moon, the human spirit will rise all over again, much like during the Apollo and space shuttle era," Shaw said. "It's going to take a long time and it will have to take sustained funding. I hope you will support it when you have the opportunity."

Shaw's first space trip was in 1983 as pilot of Columbia for STS-9, which carried the first Spacelab in its cargo bay. He later commanded Atlantis on STS-61B and Columbia in 1989 on a U.S. Department of Defense mission.

He said his family and the opportunity to participate in the great human adventure of space exploration are the things that give him joy in life.

Bolden flew on four space shuttle missions, logging 680 hours in space. He told the audience it is important to motivate children.

"I never dreamed of being an astronaut, never dreamed of flying airplanes, but as opportunities came along in different stages of my life, I was able to take advantage of those opportunities as they came my way," Bolden said. "I challenge you to walk away from here and make a difference in the community you live in."

THE U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame now includ
Brewster Shaw Jr. (seventh from right) and C

HENRY "HANK" Hartsfield Jr. (left), Brewster Shaw Jr. (third from left) and Charles Bolden (fifth from left), along with family members, listen to opening remarks at the May 6 U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

A STANDING-room-only crowd
ceremony was held in the Apo

hree former space shuttle commanders

les 63 space explorers, including Henry “Hank” Hartsfield Jr. (eighth from right), Charles Bolden (fourth from right).

d was on hand to cheer the new inductees to the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame. The llo/Saturn V Center.

HENRY “HANK” Hartsfield Jr. (right) accepts congratulations from Al Worden, U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame member and chairman of the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation.

CHARLES BOLDEN, who flew on four space shuttle missions, including his first as a pilot of Columbia in 1983, told attendees at the induction ceremony they should make a difference in their communities.

BREWSTER SHAW Jr. (right) is welcomed to the stage by U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame member and Astronaut Scholarship Foundation chairman Al Worden.

NASA's GOES-N ready for Capeside launch

The Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite-N is scheduled at press time to launch May 20 between 6:14 and 7:14 p.m. from Launch Complex 37 at the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station.

GOES-N is the latest in a series of Earth-monitoring weather satellites that provide the kind of continuous monitoring necessary for intensive data analysis. "Geostationary" describes an orbit in which a satellite is always in the same position with respect to the rotating Earth.

This allows the satellites to hover continuously over one position on the Earth's surface, appearing stationary. As a result, they provide a constant vigil for the atmospheric "triggers" for severe weather conditions such as tornadoes, hail storms, flash floods and hurricanes.

GOES-N carries a collection of space environment monitoring instruments, including an imager and a sounder. The imager and sounder have a flexible scan control mechanism that allows the instruments to scan small areas as well as all of North and South America.

The multimission GOES series N-P is the next series of satellites, serving as a vital contributor to weather, solar and space operations, and science. NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration are engaged in a cooperative program to expand the existing GOES system with the launch of the GOES N-P satellites.

GOES-N is the first in the new series of spacecraft.

IN THE mobile service tower on Launch Complex 37 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, workers check the attach points on the GOES-N spacecraft and Boeing Delta IV rocket.

INVENTION . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

Science Laboratory of the Center Operations Directorate.

Drs. Christian Clausen, Cherie Geiger and Debra Reinhart are co-inventors from the university's Departments of Chemistry and Civil and Environmental Engineering.

EZVI is one of the few available methods that can treat the source of unwanted substances known as dense nonaqueous phase liquids, or DNAPLs. These liquids are denser than water and do not dissolve or mix easily in water.

Benefits of this technology include requiring less treatment time, reducing treatment costs, and producing less toxic and more easily degradable by-products. The product also is safe for the environment.

"Enabling a better and less expensive technique to help clean the environment not only benefits NASA, but benefits all of mankind," said Chuck Griffin, KSC program manager of NASA's Small Business Innovative Research and Small Business Technology Transfer programs, which initially funded the project.

The technology is being field tested by the U.S. Department of Defense. It has been used by government agencies and private industry in many states, including Arkansas, Illinois, Tennessee, New Jersey and Florida.

The group also received a 2006 Award for Excellence in Technology Transfer from the Federal Laboratory Consortium for Technology Transfer. This award recognizes laboratory employees who have accomplished outstanding work in the process of transferring a technology developed by a federal laboratory to the commercial marketplace.

During the Apollo program years, rocket engine parts were cleaned with chlorinated solvents which are heavier than water. It was discovered that as the liquids sank into the ground, they could become harmful to the aquifer, which is often a source of drinking water.

> "Knowing that I helped to develop a technology that helps clean up the environment here at KSC and other contaminated sites in the world is extremely rewarding," Brooks said.

In 1999, the research team began working on a concept to treat unwanted dense liquids found at Launch Complex 34 at the Cape Canaveral spaceport.

Quinn teamed with researchers at UCF in 2000 to conduct the first phase of the development of EZVI. During phase two in 2001 and 2002, the first field demonstration was performed at Launch Complex 34 under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Superfund Innovative Technology Evaluation Program.

GeoSyntec, an environmental consultant to NASA, participated in the first field demonstration of EZVI as the university's small business collaborator. Since then, NASA has licensed EZVI to five companies that are producing their own versions of the technology, including Toxicological and Environmental Associates in Baton Rouge, La.

When the laboratory phase of EZVI development was completed, the injection methods for field-scale deployment became the focus. "Injection technologies have evolved over the years," Quinn said, "They have helped strengthen the viability of the EZVI technology, along with its acceptance level."

Brooks said she's thrilled to see the team's hard work come to fruition. "Knowing that I helped to develop a technology that helps clean up the environment here at KSC and other contaminated sites in the world is extremely rewarding," she said.

Quinn said the patented EZVI technology — also known by its longer name as "Zero-Valent Metal Emulsion for Reductive Dehalogenation for in situ treatment of DNAPLs" — also treats metal contaminates, making it even more globally applicable. The team recently was granted another patent for "Contaminate Removal from Natural Resources," which addresses EZVI's use on metal contamination.

Work force praises National Day of Prayer

By Jennifer Wolfinger
Staff Writer

The Kennedy Space Center work force regularly exhibits faith in the importance of space exploration. On May 4, the 55th annual National Day of Prayer, many KSC employees demonstrated their belief in another kind of faith: their religion.

Upon entering the crowded Training Auditorium, workers saw a large screen showing this year's commanding theme, "America, Honor God," which was inspired by the Bible's 1 Samuel 2:30 Scripture.

The Rev. Arnold Postell of Unity Fellowship Baptist Church in Daytona Beach welcomed participants and offered an opening prayer, which included giving glory to God for many blessings and for allowing the work force to be at KSC.

"We know everything we do involves risk, and most of all, we trust God," said Postell, division chief of Shuttle Processing's Guidance, Digital and Ground Data Systems.

Deputy Center Director William Parsons and Shuttle Processing Director Michael Wetmore recited the presidential and gubernatorial proclamations, respectively.

Shuttle Processing's Ed Markowski led the group in more rejoicing and encouraged employees to put God first. "God does bless us, and thank God he does," he said.

Astronaut Jeff Williams not only shared his spiritual beliefs with the group, but he did so live from the International Space Station. The broadcast was exclusive to KSC. Williams, the flight engineer and science officer for Expedition 13, traveled to the station on March 29 aboard a Soyuz TMA spacecraft.

THE NATIONAL Day of Prayer on May 4 at the Training Auditorium brought employees together to pray for our nation and the space program.

"There's no way I could sustain six months here without faith in Jesus Christ. He's revealed every time I look out the window and see reflections of his glory," said Williams, referring to Earth's beauty.

"I'm proud to live in a country where I can say, 'God bless you,' " said Center Director Jim Kennedy. He shared that he believes in God, as well as in the individuals at KSC and the collective work force.

Postell responded by leading a prayer asking God to protect, lead and guide the crew, and then introduced the Space Coast Praise Band for songs and prayer.

Former astronaut Mullane previews, signs book

By Linda Herridge
Staff Writer

The author of the popular space-related books "Do Your Ears Pop in Space," "Red Sky" and "Liftoff" has done it again. Former astronaut Mike Mullane recently visited Kennedy Space Center to talk to workers and sign his new book, "Riding Rockets – The Outrageous Tales of a Space Shuttle Astronaut."

During a presentation at the Headquarters Library, Mullane discussed his experiences as an astronaut and crew member on three space shuttle missions. He flew on STS-41D, which was the maiden flight of Discovery, on Aug. 30, 1984.

He also was a mission specialist aboard Atlantis on mission STS-27, which launched on Dec. 2, 1988, and on mission STS-36 aboard Atlantis on Feb. 28, 1990.

Mullane thanked everyone for coming to the event and recognized the efforts of KSC's employees.

MIKE MULLANE, former NASA astronaut, talks to employees about his book "Riding Rockets."

"You don't get into space by yourself," he said. "There are a lot of people who work very hard to get you there."

With humorous interjections, he kept the audience amused as he showed photos and video clips of his past. The presentation featured moments spanning from his childhood in Albuquerque, N.M., to his college days at West Point, and his acceptance into NASA's astronaut corps in 1978.

Mullane's most memorable experiences included seeing the Earth for the first time from space and watching an orbital sunrise.

He retired from NASA in 1990 and began speaking about teamwork and leadership to corporations. "Riding Rockets" recalls his life story and what led him to become an astronaut.

NASA engineering technician Janice Everett was interested in what he had to say. "He's a very good, dynamic speaker," Everett said. "I learned some things I didn't know."

Richard Boyles, a NASA facility construction project manager, said he picked up the book and it looked interesting. "It piqued my curiosity, so I came to meet him. He tells it like it is," Boyles said.

Mary Osterhout, an industrial engineer with United Space Alliance, said she was interested in what he wrote about the space shuttle. "I wanted to get a firsthand account of the space shuttle launch experience." For details, visit **www.MikeMullane.com**.

MY STORY . . .

(Continued from Page 3)

now working with data from several types of lightning sensors and learning how to use that data to develop tools to forecast lightning occurrence.

I learn something new every day, things I never thought I had the capability of learning because they were too far over my head. But, like I was told by one of my mentors, things that are over our heads make us look up.

Discovery rolling to VAB for mission in July

At press time, Space Shuttle Discovery was scheduled to roll over from the Orbiter Processing Facility to the Vehicle Assembly Building this week in preparation for the STS-121 mission. The next milestone will occur when Discovery is attached to a redesigned external fuel tank and twin solid rocket boosters next week.

Discovery's launch is targeted for July 1 with a launch window that extends to July 19. During its 12-day mission to the International Space Station, Discovery's crew of seven will test new hardware and techniques to improve shuttle safety, as well as deliver supplies to the station. Discovery will carry theItalian-built Multi-Purpose Logistics Module (MPLM) Leonardo, with more than two tons of equipment and supplies aboard. This will be the fourth trip to the station for Leonardo, the first of three Italian-built MPLMs.

Equipment and supplies no longer needed on the station will be moved to Leonardo before it is unberthed on flight day 10 and put back into Discovery's cargo bay for return to Earth. Steve Lindsey, an Air Force colonel, will command Discovery. He is making his fourth space flight, and second as commander.

The pilot will be Navy Cmdr. Mark Kelly, making his second flight. Others aboard, in addition to Reiter, will be Mission Specialists Mike Fossum, Stephanie Wilson, Piers Sellers, Lisa Nowak and European Space Agency Astronaut Thomas Reiter. This will be the first space flight for Fossum, Wilson and Nowak. Sellers is making his second space flight.

MISSION STS-121 Pilot Mark Kelly (left) and Mission Specialist Piers Sellers (kneeling) get a close look at the Integrated Cargo Carrier during a Crew Equipment Interface Test. This test allows the astronauts to become familiar with equipment they will use on their upcoming mission.

New Web site offers rules on exchanging information

By Jennifer Wolfinger
Staff Writer

Kennedy Space Center employees now have a vital new resource to learn about current laws and regulations on tasks many people do every day, such as posting information on the Internet, speaking to foreign visitors, and e-mailing, faxing and mailing items outside the nation.

The center's Export Control Office recently updated its Web site to provide the most up-to-date information to help in maintaining national security and limiting access to the most sensitive space technologies, equipment and software.

The Web site, **http://exportcontrol.ksc.nasa.gov/index.cfm**, offers a new quarterly newsletter, *Export Control Brief*, and a desktop training tool that offers detailed tips about exchanging information.

The site's other features include a page of answers to frequently asked questions, as well as news about foreign agreements and a records form.

"We made the Web site available outside the KSC firewall for people at home that want to take export training and for international visitors coming here," said Export Control Administrator Wayne Ranow. "There's a part just for international visitors to tell them why we protect certain technologies."

The site needed to be updated to meet NASA format requirements, he said. Developers designed it to make certain aspects accessible to external visitors, while protecting sensitive information.

"In the not-too-distant future, we're going to add a database of what we've classified, so instead of calling to see if a document or drawing is already classified, someone can search the database populated with export-determined items," Ranow said.

"This database, along with information in the new Web site, will contribute to the Export Control Office mission statement, which is 'to protect our NASA civil servants and government contractors through the enforcement of export and import compliance regulations.' "

Cruising by the gas pumps

A CHRYSLER PT Cruiser (pictured) and a Smart Car, each powered solely by lithium batteries, will operate at KSC under a Space Act Agreement to find out if they can be used as viable fleet vehicles.

John F. Kennedy Space Center
Spaceport News

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