

JSC recognized for pollution prevention efforts

The JSC Center Operations Directorate's Environmental Office was honored in Austin May 3 with Vice President Al Gore's Hammer Award for its participation as a charter member of the Texas Pollution Prevention Partnership's (TxP3) collective efforts to reduce pollution in Texas.

"The environmental staff at JSC of David Hickens, Sandy Parker, and Melanie Jo Kines has done an outstanding job of partnering with all the members of the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission to find improved methods to achieve environmental compliance and have greatly reduced the pollutants we have at this center," said Center Operations Director Bill Parsons. "I am extremely proud of their efforts."

The TxP3 is a collaborative state-federal environmental effort by the TNRCC, Department of Defense components (U.S. Air Force, U.S. Navy, and U.S. Army), Defense Logistics Agency, NASA JSC, U.S. Coast Guard, and the Texas National Guard. The TxP3 mission is to promote pollution prevention as the standard way of doing business for state and federal facilities. This voluntary pollution prevention approach has resulted in more than \$2.7 million in savings to the state and federal government and has achieved significant reductions in pollution to our air, water, and land resources.

On hand to honor the recipients were: John Kamensky, National Partnership for Reinventing America; Robert Huston, TNRCC chairman; Jeff Saitas, TNRCC executive director; Olga Dominquez, NASA Headquarters environmental management director; Parsons; and senior officials from the Air Force, Navy, Army, Coast Guard and the Texas National Guard. ■



Photo by Wayne Baker, TNRCC

The JSC Center Operations Directorate's Environmental Office receives Vice President Gore's "Hammer" Award, the top honor bestowed by the National Partnership for Reinventing Government. Shown here is David Hickens, (fourth from right) JSC Environmental Office lead receiving the "Hammer" Award at a May 3 ceremony in Austin. Hickens is joined by (left to right) Ralph Marquez, TNRCC commissioner; William Parsons, JSC Center Operations director; Olga Dominquez, NASA HQ Environmental Management director; Gary M. Erickson, U.S. Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence director; Robert J. Huston, TNRCC chairman; John Kamensky, National Partnership for Reinventing Government deputy director, and John M. Baker, TNRCC commissioner.

Fédération Aéronautique Internationale announces awards

By Nicole Cloutier



The Fédération Aéronautique Internationale, the world's air sports federation, recently announced John Glenn, Andy Thomas and the STS-88, STS-91 and STS-95 crews as recipients of the organization's 1998 awards.

Specifically, the FAI awarded Glenn as recipient of the Gold Space Medal for his significant contributions to the furthering of astronautics and commitment to the cause of space.

Thomas received the Yuri A. Gagarin Gold Medal for his contributions on Mir and for continuing the human presence in

space for the United States space program.

The Vladimir Komarov Diploma, named after Soviet Cosmonaut Komarov, was awarded to the STS-91 and STS-95 crews for their outstanding achievements in the field of space exploration. STS-91 crewmembers including Commander Charles Precourt, Pilot Dominic Gorie, and Mission Specialists Wendy Lawrence, Janet Kavandi, Ph.D., Cosmonaut Valery Ryumin and Thomas were recognized for their monumental mission that concluded the Shuttle-Mir Program by a final docking with Mir.

The STS-95 crew, including Commander Curtis Brown, Pilot Steven Lindsey, Mission Specialists Stephen Robinson,

Ph.D., Scott Parazynski, M.D., Pedro Duque (ESA), and Payload Specialists Chiaki Mukai, M.D., Ph.D. (NASDA), and Glenn, received the diploma in recognition of their mission during which they executed more than 80 science experiments, deployed and retrieved the Spartan Satellite and tested the Hubble Space Telescope Orbital Systems Test Platform.

The Korolev Diploma was awarded to the crew of STS-88, including Commander Robert Cabana, Pilot Frederick Sturckow, and Mission Specialists Jerry Ross, Nancy Currie, James Newman, Ph.D., and Cosmonaut

Sergei Krikalev, for the successful completion of the first International Space Station assembly flight.

The FAI also announced that as the result of STS-91's successful docking with MIR, NASA and Russia now hold the world record for the most assembled mass of spaceships linked in flight. A

De La Vaulx Medal was awarded to commemorate the record, which now stands with a total mass of 548,231 lbs. FAI is the primary

organization responsible for certification of world aeronautical and astronomical records. ■



Call for abstracts for NanoSpace 2000

NASA is proud to announce the third conference and workgroup combination aimed at organizing micro/nanotechnologies for space applications. Earlier conferences have been successful in encouraging interactions between micro/nanoscale technologists and those responsible for implementation of space systems. The conference's proximity to JSC allows for maximum exposure to engineers and scientists with an interest in these revolutionary technologies.

The focus of this conference is to foster interaction between those working on advanced space systems and mission designs and those who are involved with

revolutionary micro- and nanotechnologies. Out of this conference it is expected that nanoscale scientists will have a better understanding of the needs of aerospace partners, while mission planners will learn what micro/nanotechnologies may be available for their exploration goals.

As with previous conferences, NanoSpace 2000 will focus on space applications of nanoelectronics, nanoscale materials, and microelectromechanical systems. Due to the vital interest to the NASA community, a new area of focus this year will be applications for space biomedical research on the nanoscale. Also, added emphasis will be placed on

energy storage strategies based on micro/nanotechnologies.

Improvements from this work are expected to bring about smaller, lightweight, reliable, and affordable space systems for future exploration missions.

After one day of presentations of technology needs, two days of micro- and nanotechnology development will follow. This leads to the final two days of the conference, consisting of smaller workgroups to break down the issues into possible areas of new technology needs. These workgroup sessions have been especially successful in previous years in helping to determine the direction of future research. ■

Abstracts on relevant micro/nanotechnologies for space applications should be no more than 500 words, text only. Deadline for receipt of abstracts is November 1, 1999. Digital files of the abstract [preferred format is MS Word] should be sent to Thomas D. Nicodemus at nicodemus@uh.edu or nicodemus@systems.org. Applications may also be mailed to: Center for NanoSpace Technologies, Attention: Tom Nicodemus, P.O. Box 890025, Houston, TX 77289-0025.