

NASA JOHNSON SPACE CENTER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET

NAME: Frank H. Samonski

ORAL HISTORY: 30 December 2002

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, 1959

NASA INVOLVEMENT:

NASA Space Task Group, Langley Field, Virginia

- Research Engineer (Aeronautical Instrumentation), Flight Systems Division (1959-1961)
- Aerospace Technologist, Crew Equipment Branch, Flight Systems Division (1961-1962)

NASA Manned Spacecraft Center/Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas

- Aerospace Technologist, Crew Systems Division (CSD), Engineering and Development Directorate (1962-1963)
- Chief, Apollo Command Module Environmental Control Systems Section, Environmental Control Systems Branch, Crew Systems Division (1964)
- Chief, Command Module Environmental Control System Office, Apollo Support Office, Crew Systems Division (1965-1969)
- Chief, Environmental Control & Life Support Systems Branch, Crew Systems Division (1969-1986)
- Chief, Crew Systems Branch, Crew And Thermal Systems Division (CTSD) (1987)
- Laboratory Operations Manager, Crew And Thermal Systems Division (1988-1991)
- Manager for Space Shuttle, Crew And Thermal Systems Division (1992-1994)

PROFESSIONAL & HONORARY SOCIETIES:

- Associate Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics
- Member, American Society of Mechanical Engineers

AWARDS & CITATIONS:

- Invention Award, 1965
- MSC Certificate of Commendation, 1972
- NASA Exceptional Service Medal, 1978
- NASA Service Award, 1983

SELECT PUBLICATIONS AND PATENTS:

Brady, James C., Donald F. Hughes, and Frank H. Samonski, Jr. "Section VI, Chapter 5; Apollo Command and Service Module and Lunar Module Environmental Control Systems." In Biomedical Results of Apollo-Apollo Command and Service Module. Houston: NASA, 1973.

Collier, Frank, with Frank H. Samonski and Robert E. Smylie. "Liquid Gas Separator for Zero Gravity Environment." U.S. Patent No. 3,300,949, 1967.

Samonski, Frank H. Jr. "Technical History of the Environmental Control System for Project Mercury." NASA TN D-4126. Washington, DC: NASA, 1967.

Samonski, Frank H. Jr., James M. Ross, and Henry Nicoletto. "Environmental Control System for Command and Service Modules of Apollo Program – Discussion of Problem Areas." (SAE Paper No. 690618). Presented at the Society of Automotive Engineers Space Engineering and Manufacturing Meeting, Los Angeles, Calif. October 1969.

Willis, N.C. Jr., Frank H. Samonski, Jr., Charles Flugel, and Paul Treblay. "System Features of a Space Station Prototype Environmental Thermal Control and Life Support Systems." ASME, Paper number 71-Av-22, Life Support and Environmental Control Conference, San Francisco, CA, 12-14 July 1971.

Samonski, Frank H., Jr. and Elton M. Tucker. "Apollo Experience Report – Command and Service Module Environmental Control System." NASA Technical Note TN D-6718. Washington, DC. March 1972.

Samonski, Frank H., Jr. and John M. Neel. "Atmosphere Revitalization for Manned Spacecraft – An Assessment of Technology Readiness." Presented at the 24th Annual Symposium of the International Aeronautical Federation in Baku, Russia, October 1973.

Samonski, F. H., Jr. and H. F. Brose. "A Regenerable CO₂ and Humidity Control System for Extended Orbiter Missions." (ESA SP 139). Proceedings of Spacecraft Thermal & Environmental Control Systems Symposium. Presented in Munich, Germany, October 1978.

Samonski, Frank H. Jr. "The Development Status of Candidate Life Support Technology for a Space Station." Presented by the author at the 35th Annual Symposium of the International Aeronautical Federation in Lausanne, Switzerland, October 1984.

SOURCES:

Frank H. Samonski, Jr. Service Record Card, Frank H. Samonski, Jr. Personnel File, Human Resources Office, NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

“Employees Given Recognition At Special Awards Ceremony,” Space News Roundup (NASA Manned Spacecraft Center), 9 July 1965, 3.

Johnson Space Center News Release, JSC 78-53, 4 December 1978, Public Affairs Office, NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

Manned Spacecraft Center/Johnson Space Center Telephone Directories (1963–1994), Organization Files, Center Series, History Collection, Scientific and Technical Information Center, NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET CREATED: 22 JUNE 2001