



Johnson Space Center

Exploring the science of space for the future of Earth

NASAfacts



For more than four decades, NASA's Johnson Space Center has led our nation and the world on a continuing adventure of human exploration, discovery and achievement. The center plays a vital role in transcending the physical boundaries of our planet to further our knowledge and enhance our quality of life. The center's team of dedicated professionals has made advances in science, technology, engineering and medicine that enable us to explore our world and universe as never before, and to derive unparalleled benefits from that exploration.

Johnson Space Center was established in 1961 as the Manned Spacecraft Center and, in 1973, renamed in honor of the late President and Texas native, Lyndon B. Johnson. From the early Gemini, Apollo and Skylab projects to today's space shuttle, International Space Station and Exploration Programs, the center continues to lead NASA's efforts in human space exploration. The JSC civil service workforce consists of about 3,000 employees, the majority of whom are professional engineers and scientists. Of these, approximately 110 are astronauts. About 50 companies provide contractor personnel to JSC. More than 12,000 contractors work onsite or in nearby office buildings and other facilities.

JSC is home to NASA's astronaut corp. The center is responsible for the training of space explorers from the United States and our space station partner nations. As such, it is the principal training site for both space shuttle crews and International Space Station Expedition crews.

The Space Vehicle Mockup Facility at JSC is where astronauts, engineers and other space flight professionals learn skills and procedures

to help them operate equipment during a mission. This facility houses space shuttle orbital trainers, an International Space Station trainer, a precision air-bearing floor and a partial gravity simulator.

The precision air-bearing floor and the partial gravity simulator are engineering tools used in the development and evaluation of spacewalk equipment and techniques.



The Integrated Training Facility at JSC is where astronauts learn how to fly the shuttle and receive training in station programs. The shuttle side houses simulators that test the skills of flight crews and ground controllers for all phases of a shuttle mission. The station side provides mission training, flight procedures verification and contingency mission support for the Space Station Program.

The center's famed Mission Control Center, or MCC, is often referred to as the nerve center for America's human space program. Since 1965 and the Gemini IV era, men and women who work in MCC have been instrumental to the success of every crewed spaceflight. Today the MCC supports all space shuttle and station missions and simulations.



JSC's team of dedicated professionals manages the development, testing, production and delivery of all U.S. human spacecraft, and all human

spacecraft-related functions. This includes life support systems, power systems, crew equipment, electrical power generation and distribution, guidance, navigation and control, cooling systems, structures, flight software, robotics, spacesuits and spacewalking equipment.

JSC leads NASA's flight-related scientific and medical research efforts. The center strives to make revolutionary discoveries and advances to benefit all humankind. Technologies developed originally for spaceflight have already found a wide range of applications in medicine, energy, transportation, agriculture, communications and electronics.

To learn more about NASA Johnson Space Center, visit us on the Web at www.nasa.gov/centers/johnson



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