



Stennis' economic impact on local communities up by 10 percent in 1999

In 1999, the John C. Stennis Space Center had a direct global economic impact of \$625 million. The economic impact on local areas within a 50-mile radius of the center totaled \$405 million. This number is up from \$366 million the previous year.

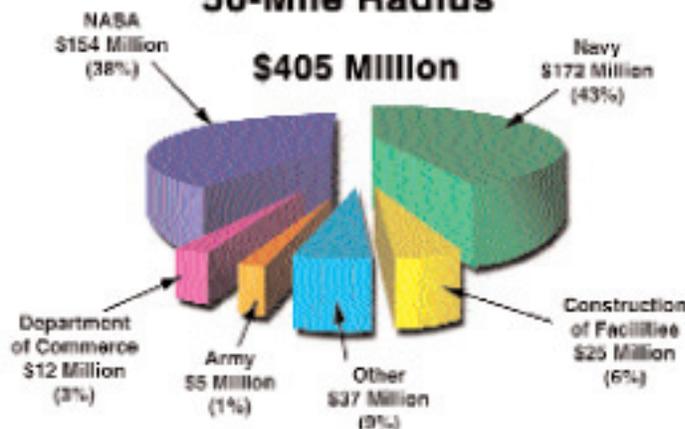
NASA gathers its yearly economic impact information and compiles it with economic information from the more than 30 other resident agencies and seven major contractors at Stennis. The information is provided to Dr. Charles Campbell, professor of economics at Mississippi State University. Campbell analyzes the information and provides an assessment of the center's total economic impact.

"I am extremely pleased to see that the FY 1999 figures show an approximate 10 percent increase in the economic impact of Stennis Space Center on our local communities from last year," said Stennis Space Center Director Roy Estess. "The future indeed continues to be bright for Stennis Space Center, not only for NASA but also for all the other agencies of our unique federal city."

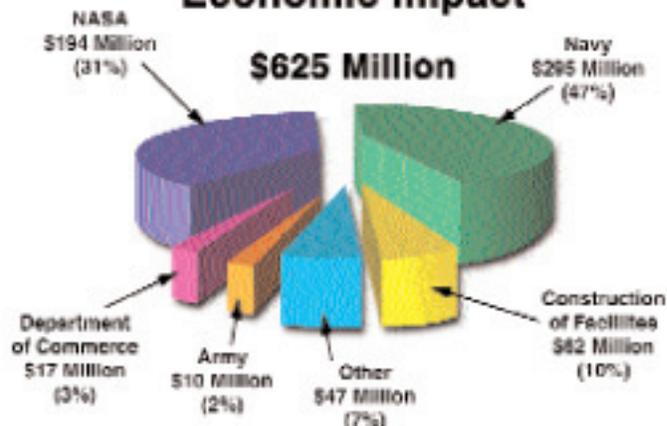
Speaking on behalf of the center's largest resident agency, Rear Adm. Kenneth E. Barbor, head of the worldwide Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command headquartered at Stennis, said, "A major presence at Stennis Space Center, the Navy contributed

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1999 SSC Direct Economic Impact 50-Mile Radius



1999 SSC Direct Global Economic Impact



Stennis Space Center is testing an innovative, new hybrid rocket that burns both solid fuel and liquid oxidizer.

New hybrid rocket passes key test

The Hybrid Sounding Rocket (HYSR) passed its first ground test at Stennis Space Center last month.

The test lasted for the intended duration of 16 seconds and demonstrated stable combustion and high performance.

The HYSR project has been performed under a Space Act Agreement managed by Marshall

Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala.

Stennis and Wallops Flight Facility are also key members of the project.

The HYSR project was produced by Lockheed Martin Michoud Operations in New Orleans.

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LAGNIAPPE Commentary

Out on the Site . . .

Once upon a time, years ago, there was a saying among the engineers at the Mississippi Test Facility (now referred to as Stennis Space Center) that is probably not heard out here anymore. With the new inventions of cell phones, beepers and e-mails, the old saying of "out on the site" is not in vogue. In fact, I don't believe there are more than a handful of our engineers who still remember what the expression meant or how it was used.

You may wonder why Gator and I even thought that we should inform the present-day work force of this piece of trivia and why our old-time engineers used that expression. Well, with all the new and improved communications and ways of keeping up with and finding people, you might logically think there is a wholesale, gross invasion of personal privacy going on, like "Big Brother" is watching. And, maybe every now and then, we should all have a little freedom to roam, to find a little space away from bosses and co-workers to think things out. These historical tidbits are offered to you for consideration, especially at this time of year with spring coming on and people tempted to go out there "on the site" to enjoy the flowers budding, birds singing and a little, good old-fashioned laziness!

Some of you might wonder how "on the site" got started. I first noticed it back in 1963 when our headquarters was located at the old Rouchon House on the river. Our engineers were mostly situated out on the glassed-in porch where they could spread their drawings and designs out on a couple of big government-issue gray tables.

After studying the drawings, one of our guys would say, "Lets go take a look at it." He might pass by Margaret McCormick's desk — a busy lady who tried to keep up with us — and say, "We're going to be *out on the site* awhile if anyone calls." Now what in the world did that mean? It could mean out looking at the excavation site for the A-2 Test Stand, or maybe somewhere along the perimeter fence line that was being strung 16 miles around the fee area. Or, it could mean up to Jean Green's store in Santa Rosa for a cold Coca-Cola.

Mind you, when our engineers went out on the site, there was no way to find them — no beepers or cell phones. And when our bosses up at Huntsville called on our telephone line for information, they were told, "Sorry, Dusty is out on the site." Since we had three "Dustys" then, it was doubly hard to track someone down. Our one-page, mimeographed phone book listed Dusty Rhodes, Dusty Batson and Dusty Cornell. All were good engineers who went out on the site every day. I enjoyed going out with Harry Guin to check on things. When he was monitoring the "fence project," we had freedom to roam all around the site, and that could take us in any direction. The only drawback to the fence project was the mosquitoes! We had to carry a lot of spray and oil to keep them away. And, watch out for snakes! Out around the fence, you could see any one of the seven poisonous snakes we had crawling around on the ground and dropping down out of the trees.

Sometime when our director, Capt. Bill Fortune, would come down for a visit, it would take him a full day to round up the troops who were "out on the site." Dusty Batson had a jeep that could take him anywhere. Since we didn't have any roads to speak of, our other guys had to confine their inspections to the existing county roads.

Things have surely changed around here since those days. But even with all the new technology and hustle, there is still a need on these feverish spring-like days to take a break now and then to get your head straight. And, there is no better way than to check your beepers and cell phones at the door and get out *on the site*. Just ask the Gator. He knows.

M.R.H.



NEWSCLIPS

Tiny hearts monitored by NASA technology — A NASA technology originally used to measure airflow over airplane wings has been successfully used to develop a portable, non-invasive, easy-to-use fetal heart monitor. The new clinically proven fetal heart monitor "listens, documents and stores" fetal heart-rate data without injecting energy into the womb, making it totally non-invasive. A team of aerospace researchers from NASA's Langley Research Center in Hampton, Va., worked with Veatronics Inc. of Charlotte, N.C., to convert the technology to this innovative, new medical application.

Onset of titanic collision lights up supernova ring — NASA's Hubble Space Telescope is giving astronomers a ringside seat to a never-before-seen, violent, celestial "main attraction" unfolding in a galaxy 169,000 light years away. The knockout event is the collision of the fastest moving debris from an immense stellar explosion seen in February 1987 with the gas ring that circles that site. This collision is beginning to cause the gases in the ring to glow as they are heated to millions of degrees and compressed by the sledgehammer blow of a 40-million-mph blast wave. The survey team includes members from Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md., the University of Colorado, the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore and the Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory in Chile.

NASA preferred technical standards products available online — The NASA Technical Standards Program, in collaboration with the NASA Engineering Standards Steering Council, now offers users at all NASA Centers and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory the capability to download full-text standards documents for the listed NASA Preferred Technical Standards. The Web address is <http://standards.nasa.gov>.

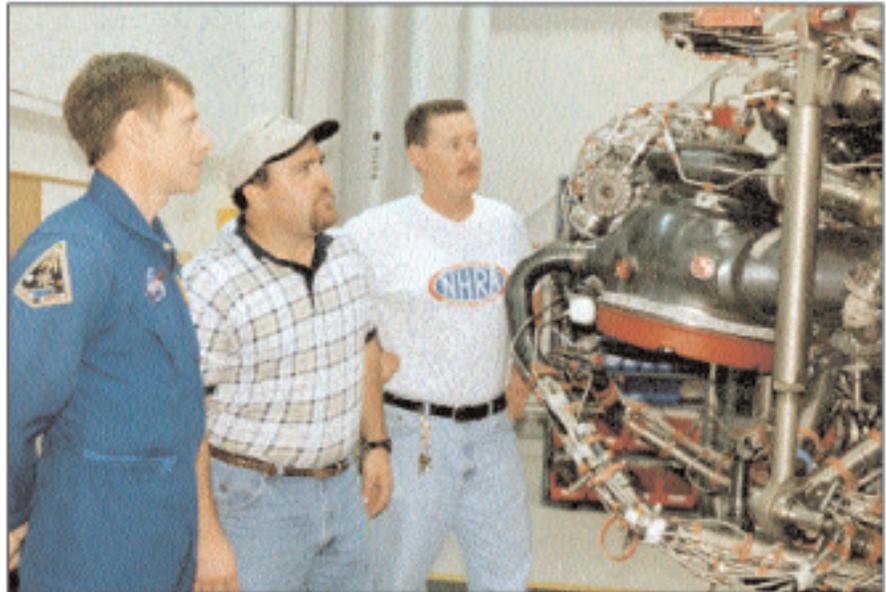
NASA environmental assurance program wins Web site award

NASA's Environmental Assurance Program at Stennis Space Center recently received a Citation of Excellence award for Interactive Media from the 1999 Mississippi Gulf Coast American Advertising Federation. The award, a top design honor, was for the program's newly redesigned Web page that can be seen at www.ssc.nasa.gov/environmental.

"We wanted the Web page to be user-friendly and to provide accurate information while conveying the scope of activities at Stennis," NASA Environmental Officer Ron Magee said. "We teamed with Stennis Multimedia Services to achieve this purpose and create this award-winning Web page. We couldn't be happier with the results and the award."

Stennis' Environmental Office coordinates all of the space center's environmental activities. NASA's Magee along with environmental specialists Jenette Gordon and Hugh Carr are responsible for coordinating

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Astronaut Chris Ferguson, far left, paid a visit this month to Stennis Space Center to help thank technicians and workers for their efforts to accelerate certification of the Pratt & Whitney fuel pump for a Space Shuttle Main Engine. The Stennis team, which included employees of Pratt & Whitney, Lockheed Martin, Mississippi Space Services, Boeing Rocketdyne Propulsion and Power, NASA-Stennis and NASA-Marshall, conducted 22 tests in just nine weeks to complete testing before Christmas. Stennis and Marshall officials, as well as Ferguson, attended the gathering in appreciation of the accelerated work schedule. Before becoming an astronaut, Ferguson served as a Navy commander and piloted F-44s. Here, he looks over a shuttle engine at Building 3202 with Boeing Rocketdyne operations technicians Dean Bourlet, center, and Jim Dingman.

Work crews are on schedule to complete the E-2 cell 2 test stand construction project at Stennis Space Center by the target date of May 15. When the test cell structure is finished, it will serve as a new Fastrac 60,000-pound thrust vertical test position. The Fastrac engine, developed at Marshall Space Flight Center, Huntsville, Ala., will power the new, unpowered X-34 technology demonstrator.



NASA researchers receive patent for plant stress device

NASA's Bruce Speiring of Pass Christian and Dr. Gregory Carter of Long Beach have recently been issued a patent for the Hand-Held Plant Stress Monitor.

Plant stress is the reaction of plants to environmental conditions that are unfavorable to growth, such as lack of sufficient nutrients, inadequate watering, disease or insect infestation. Speiring, an electrical engineer, and Carter, an ecophysiologicalist, are both members of NASA's Earth System Science Office at Stennis Space Center.

Through an exclusive patent license agreement with NASA, Spectrum Technologies Inc. of Plainfield, Ill., has been awarded the license to commercialize this device that will aid agricultural businesses and plant researchers.

The device detects plant stress by measuring the chlorophyll content through the amount of light energy reflected from the plant. The technology can detect stress up to 16 days before plant deterioration is visible. Early detection of plant stress through chlorophyll loss could lead to healthier forests and more productive farms.

Spectrum Technologies develops and markets problem-solving tools for nutrient management, weather and environmental management, soil and water quality, and integrated pest management.

"We expect this technology to accomplish a variety of objectives: to cultivate healthier and more productive plants, to reduce chemical expenses and environmental concerns, and to monitor the physiological effects of plants," said Mike Thuro, Spectrum Technologies' founder and president.

"The device has the potential to analyze a plant canopy, golf course putting green or fruit tree. This device can effectively replace costly and time-consuming laboratory testing of chlorophyll content, allowing more resources to be applied to the betterment of crops and forests.

"Reading results are supplied in just a few seconds," he said.

Spectrum expects the hand-held instrument to be available for sale to the public in the year 2001.

Director's Dialogue

from Center Director
Roy Estess



Making a difference

I have always taken great pride in our Stennis employees when it comes to community service. Across the board, our folks continue to contribute unselfishly of their time and efforts in the local communities where they live and work. And, in addition to their personal commitment, what wonderful goodwill ambassadors they are for our center, as well.

One very worthwhile event that comes to mind that our employees have continued to support over the years is the annual Mississippi Area III Special Olympics activities. There are barbecues, golf tournaments and other fund-raisers, in addition to the actual Special Olympic competition held right here at Stennis Space Center each year.

This year's event is scheduled for Saturday, March 25, and I know that many of you will once again sponsor these athletes or serve as coaches for the event. If you consider the minimal amount of time it takes to make a difference in the lives of these special athletes, I am sure you will agree that this is one of the most worthwhile causes in which we can all participate.

I encourage each employee to look at your schedule for March 25 and see if you can offer a portion of your time that day. Believe me, the smiling faces of all those you help will make this one of the most rewarding experiences of your life.

Again, I applaud all of you for your continued support, hard work and dedication to enhancing the quality of life in all of our communities every day. Thank you for making a difference.

National Data Buoy Center gets new director

Award-winning oceanographer Paul F. Moersdorf has been named the new director of the National Data Buoy Center at Stennis Space Center by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Moersdorf will lead efforts to improve that agency's ability to obtain meteorological and oceanographic measurements for NOAA's National Weather Service forecasts that impact the nation's marine community and industry.

D. James Baker, NOAA administrator, said Moersdorf's track record in atmospheric and oceanographic models, high performance computing and meteorology makes him the ideal person for the leadership post.

After receiving his doctorate, Moersdorf served on the faculty of the math and computing sciences department at Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Va.

Moersdorf began his federal career in 1978 when he joined the Naval Oceanographic Office.

In July 1994, he became the scientific and technical director at the Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Center in Monterey, Calif. There he led initiatives to upgrade the atmospheric and oceanographic prediction models, replace all supercomputer equipment, and significantly expand the center's communication capability and its customer base.

For Fritz Policelli, working for NASA was in the blood

Fritz Policelli remembers the day he decided he was going to work for NASA — even though he was only 5 years old at the time. Currently fulfilling that boyhood dream, Policelli works as a project manager with the Commercial Remote Sensing Program at Stennis.

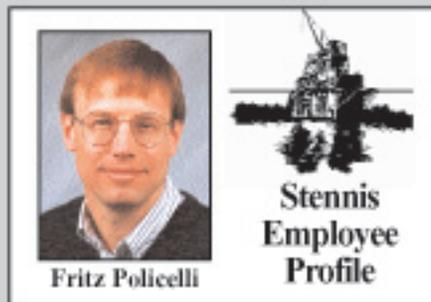
The day was July 20, 1969, that moment frozen in time and Americans' memories as the date when astronaut Neil Armstrong took his first steps on the Moon.

"It was late, and I was asleep on the couch. My dad woke me up. He had his camera ready to take a picture of the TV," Policelli recalled. From then on, the boy was hooked.

Perhaps, in reality, it was more than astronaut Armstrong's immortal words that motivated the budding aerospace engineer. Policelli's father worked in the aerospace industry during the Apollo era, as a mechanical engineer helping to design rocket systems for the Air Force and NASA.

If life were a videotape, and you could fast forward to December 1986, you'd find Policelli, mechanical engineering diploma in hand, graduating from Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y. Shortly thereafter, Policelli accepted a position with Pratt & Whitney, working on PW 2000 engines, that currently power the Boeing 757 and an Air Force transport plane, the C-17.

In 1991 NASA beckoned, and Policelli, along with his recent bride, Carol, made



the trek southward to Mississippi and Stennis Space Center.

Moving from Connecticut to the deep South required some adjustment, Policelli confesses. Arriving in May, he soon learned that summer in Mississippi meant brutal heat and extreme humidity. "On the plus side, housing prices were, I'd guess, about 40 percent lower," Policelli added.

It didn't take too long to adapt, however, and now the couple and their two sons, Matthew, 6, and Daniel, 2½, enjoy coastal living, in particular the Cajun and Creole food. "It's some of the best you can find anywhere in the country." It did take some time to find an acceptable Italian restaurant, however — as one would expect if you have a last name like Policelli.

Policelli began his NASA career at the E-1 test complex, followed by a stint at E-2. Within two years, he became a test director, working on testing lightweight graphite epoxy fuel tanks designed for NASA's X-30. Known as the National

Aerospace Plane, this experimental craft was intended to take off and land horizontally, similar to an airplane. "The program was cancelled in the early 1990s, but the technology still lives on," Policelli explained. "NASA is still working on lightweight hydrogen tanks, with the emphasis on decreasing the weight of the vehicle to allow it to take off and land using a single stage."

One of Policelli's more challenging assignments came in 1996 when he was assigned to work on the B-2 test stand, an important NASA asset that had sat idle since the mid-1980s. Policelli helped put together a team of engineers and technicians to refurbish the stand for testing the X-34 Fastrac engine.

"It was basically like starting with a blank sheet of paper and going to a fully operational test stand." The effort started in July 1996, with the first test held at the end of 1998.

After seven years working on rocket propulsion systems testing, Policelli made the leap to the Commercial Remote Sensing Program. Here he works with high-resolution aerial and satellite imagery in an industry that is poised to become a multibillion-dollar enterprise.

Policelli describes NASA's main goals for this burgeoning industry: to assist the private sector with getting this technology off the ground and to get this revolutionary data into the hands of NASA researchers.

Workshop looks at improving uses of NASA-funded radar

High-tech visuals and presentations took center stage at a recent workshop developed to improve understanding and application of NASA-funded radar data obtained through the NASA Earth Science Enterprise Scientific Data Purchase.

The workshop was designed for NASA researchers and professionals who work in the areas of environmental monitoring, land cover and land use, water-

shed management, volcano studies, agriculture and more.

EarthWatch Inc. and Intermap Technologies Inc., co-sponsored the program, which featured Intermap sensor/radar experts who develop, maintain and operate this technology.

These experts helped end-users better understand how the data is acquired, calibrated, interpreted and how it can better be put to use.



NASA's Fritz Policelli, center, scientific data purchase project manager with the Commercial Remote Sensing Program at Stennis, points out an area of interest on a map made of a mosaic of sophisticated three-dimensional aerial data. Looking on are EarthWatch Inc.'s Brett Thomassie, left, and Intermap Inc.'s Ron Birk, right.

McGee succeeds Warrenfeltz at Naval Oceanographic Office

Capt. Timothy McGee assumed command of the Naval Oceanographic Office (NAVOCEANO) in a March 17 Change of Command Ceremony. He relieves Capt. Larry Warrenfeltz, who will now serve as the Chief of Staff for Rear Adm. Kenneth Barbor, the Commander, Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command (CNMOC).

Among many other accomplishments in two and a half years as Commanding Officer of NAVOCEANO, Warrenfeltz, led the reinvigoration of Hydrography and Geographic Information and Services in the Navy. He partnered with the University of Southern Mississippi to create the nation's only master's degree program in Hydrographic Science and GIS. He achieved worldwide recognition from the International Hydrographic Organization /International Federation of Surveyors for the Naval Oceanographic Office's International Hydrographic Management and Engineering Program. He also provided leadership for the

\$48 million expansion of the Naval Oceanographic Office DOD Major Shared Resource Supercomputing Center.

McGee begins his command with extensive operational, staff and command experience. He completed an assignment as Fleet Oceanographer, COMSIXTHFLT aboard the flagships, USS Belknap and USS Lasalle homeported in Gaeta, Italy.

He then reported to the Chief of Naval Operations (N096) Staff in February 1990 where he managed several Advanced Development R&D Programs for the Oceanographer of the Navy.

In 1991, McGee was reassigned to the Bureau of Naval Personnel where he performed duties as the Oceanography Officer Detailer, Placement Officer, and Community Manager.

During his career, McGee has earned the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medals, Navy and

Marine Corps Commendation Medals and various campaign and unit ribbons.

The Naval Oceanographic Office includes 1,000 military and civilian personnel and has responded to the evolving demands of the U.S. Navy. NAVOCEANO has shifted its focus from traditional deep-water regions to shallow water. Providing support to the

Joint Warfighters in all mission areas, NAVOCEANO provides an array of products and services, backed by one of the world's largest super computing centers and the world's largest oceanographic library located at Stennis Space Center.



McGee



Warrenfeltz

Stennis helps judge student competition for NASA program

The John C. Stennis Space Center was recently a judging site for one of five national competitions sponsored by the NASA Student Involvement Program (NSIP).

The Education and University Affairs Office coordinated the event at Stennis.

NSIP is a national program of investigations and design challenges. It links students directly with NASA's diverse and exciting missions of research, exploration and discovery. A team of NASA scientists and engineers judged more than 80 entries in the Aeronautics and Space Science Journalism category.

These competitions and learning activities help students design space missions, investigate Earth from space, and explore Earth systems in their neighborhood.

From the winning entries, a national winner for each competition will be selected. National winners will receive a full scholarship to attend Space Camp, Marshall Space Flight Center, Huntsville, Ala., during the summer of 2000.

Louisiana's Halsell will lead shuttle mission to prepare space station for Zvezda arrival

Veteran Shuttle commanders James Halsell (Col., USAF) and Terrence Wilcutt (Lt. Col., USMC) will lead the next two Space



James Halsell

Shuttle missions to continue on-orbit assembly of the International Space Station, NASA managers announced, as they officially added Shuttle mission STS-106 to the manifest. Halsell, a native of West Monroe, La., is featured in Stennis' Mississippi/Louisiana exhibit in the Visitors Center. He will lead a crew of seven on the STS-101 mission, which is scheduled to launch aboard Space Shuttle Atlantis no earlier than April 13. Pilot Scott Horowitz (Lt. Col., USAF) and mission specialists Mary Ellen Weber (Ph.D.) and Jeffrey Williams (Lt. Col., USA) will remain as part of the STS-101 crew.

The original mission objectives for STS-101 have been distributed between the two missions, with the STS-101 crew preparing the space station for the arrival of the Zvezda service module by conducting one spacewalk,

performing some maintenance tasks onboard the station, and delivering a variety of logistics and supplies to the orbiting outpost. The STS-106 astronauts, scheduled to visit the space station following the arrival of Zvezda, will conduct at least one spacewalk to perform tasks linked to the presence of the service module. They will also transfer various supplies to outfit the station in preparation for the arrival of the first long-duration crew.

Completing the STS-101 crew are mission specialists James Voss (Col., USA), Susan Helms (Lt. Col., USAF), and cosmonaut Yuri V. Usachev, who all later will serve as the second resident International Space Station crew.

Three mission specialists previously assigned to STS-101, Ed Lu (Ph.D.) and cosmonauts Yuri Malenchenko (Col., Russian Air Force) and Boris Marukov (M.D.), will move to the STS-106 mission to perform tasks linked to the planned July arrival of the Russian-built service module.

For complete biographical information on these crewmembers or any other astronaut, see the NASA Internet astronaut biography home page at www/jsc.nasa.gov/Bios.





NASA's Rhonda Foley discusses a Black History Month speech with Dr. Jesse L. Trotter. Trotter, pastor of the Macedonia Baptist Church in Ocean Springs, made a presentation on "Heritage & Horizons: The African-American Legacy and the Challenges of the 21st Century" at the John C. Stennis Space Center Visitors Center auditorium last month. Foley, a quality engineer at Stennis, was program chairperson and one of the organizers of this year's annual festivities, held throughout the month of February at the space center. Activities recognizing black achievements also included displays, literature distribution and artistic presentations.

IMPACT . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

\$172 million to the local economy and \$295 million to the global economy in 1999." "We are also proud of our employment opportunities. There are more oceanographers at Stennis Space Center than at any other location in the nation."

The report estimates that area employment would have been reduced by 22,479 jobs if Stennis Space Center had not been in operation last fiscal year. The estimate takes into account the direct and indirect effects of an area within a 50-mile radius of the space center. The area includes Hancock, Harrison and Pearl River counties in Mississippi and St. Tammany Parish in Louisiana.

The report also shows that — if Stennis had not been in operation in fiscal year 1999 — personal income would have been reduced by more than \$719 million. Retail sales would also have been reduced by more

than \$388 million. Estimates are that Stennis has a tax revenue impact of \$57 million on local government revenues.

Also detailed in the report is the residential distribution of Stennis Space Center's 4,357 employees: 1,155 lived in Pearl River County; 989 lived in St. Tammany Parish; 920 lived in Hancock County; 855 lived in Harrison County; 200 lived elsewhere in Louisiana; 193 lived elsewhere in Mississippi; and 45 lived in states other than Mississippi or Louisiana.

Of the 4,357 employees at Stennis Space Center, 35 percent were involved in scientific and engineering fields; 29 percent were technicians or were involved in craft or production trades; 16 percent worked as business professionals; 12 percent held clerical positions and 8 percent were employed in other areas.

Among civil service and military employees, 6 percent held doctorate degrees; 17 percent had a master's; 31 percent had bachelor's degrees; and 8 percent held associate's degrees.

HYBRID . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

"Achieving a successful test on the first such firing is a major accomplishment," NASA's David Liberto, HYSR project manager at Stennis, said.

Lockheed is developing the HYSR, with Stennis providing propulsion test operations expertise.

The HYSR is designed for suborbital space and atmospheric science missions and will also be used as a flyable testbed for small-scale experiments.

Unlike most rocket engines, which use either solid or liquid propellants, the hybrid rocket uses a combination of both solid fuel and liquid oxidizer, capitalizing on the advantages of each.

Another advantage is that the hybrid rocket can be throttled or turned off and on, as opposed to solid rocket motors, that burn at a designated rate and thrust until all the propellant is exhausted.

"This is a major milestone in the qualification of the HYSR. Our test objectives have been consistently met through the help of the Stennis personnel," Ryan Roberts, Lockheed Martin Michoud Operations' Stennis testing manager, said.

The test was conducted with a heavy-weight motor case as a safety measure. Based on the good results from the first firing, very minor modifications are planned for the second test, scheduled for later this month. The second motor is already in fabrication at Stennis.

The HYSR test schedule is divided into three phases. Testing will demonstrate proper operation of the flight oxidizer feed system, the hybrid motor and the combined operation of the two.

Testing of the hybrid motor involves a multi-step process. Current testing uses heavy casing for an added safety margin. Future testing will employ the actual flight weight motor case.

Stennis personnel successfully completed the oxidizer system qualification testing in January.

After completion of the motor qualification test phase, a flight vehicle prototype will be fired to qualify the entire rocket for launch.

The final phase of testing is scheduled to begin in April.

**Safety
Corner**

Lessons of the past can improve safety in the future

Administrator's Message

For more than 40 years, NASA has proudly held an unparalleled record of accomplishments in science, aeronautics and space. Our ability to continue to achieve great things increasingly depends on our ability to remember, learn from, and build upon the important lessons of our past.

NASA's achievements, perhaps more so than other agency's, rest in open scrutiny by our customers — the American taxpayers. We conscientiously investigate, document and track all our successes and failures. Yet, all of that work is meaningless if we fail to learn from and incorporate these experiences into our ongoing and future programs, projects and operations.

We've put a tremendous amount of energy and talent into documenting these experiences in our mishap reports and our lessons learned database for the sole purpose of preventing this type of recurrence. The Office of Safety and Mission Assurance maintains a Web site <http://llis.nasa.gov>. But that system is just a data morgue unless everyone makes the effort to review, understand and act upon these findings and contribute their experiences.

QUICK LOOK

■ **Stennis will participate in the eighth annual Take Our Daughters to Work Day, Thursday, April 27.** The program is designed to help young ladies become acquainted with a variety of career options. This year's theme is "Free to be You and Me." For more information, contact Rhonda Foley at Ext. 1087.

■ **Registration is open for a Celebrity Golf Tournament** benefiting Special Olympics, April 29 at Millbrook Golf and Country Club in Picayune. Current and former sports celebrities and dignitaries will compete. Entries must be received no later than April 27. For details, call Steve Wilson at Ext. 4188.

■ **President Clinton has declared March as Women's History Month.** In commemoration of Women's History Month, Stennis Space Center's *Message of the Day* will provide historical facts about the contributions of courageous women pioneers who have made our nation strong. Other events planned for the month will be announced via e-mail. The president's proclamation on Women's History Month can be found on the Web at www.whitehouse.gov/library/ThisWeek.cgi. Then click on Women's History Month.

WEBSITE . . .

(Continued from Page 3)

and overseeing activities that include environmental outreach; air quality, natural resources, hazardous waste and noise management; pollution prevention; chemical and fuel control; recycling and conservation initiatives; and cleanup from past practices.

Additionally, the Web site features the contributions and accomplishments of the only EPA-certified analytical laboratory in the state.

Stennis' Environmental Laboratory, with its broad range of capabilities, also participates in several types of proficiency testing programs.

Once predominately involved in research and development, the lab now focuses on regularly monitoring the wastewater treatment and drinking water systems, landfill wells and surface water in the areas surrounding Stennis.

The Web site highlights the programs now in place to protect the site's abundant plant life and wildlife indigenous to Stennis and its 139,000-plus-acre buffer zone.

Officials have documented more than 100 plant and bird species at Stennis.

"NASA has an extensive program to monitor and protect the area's abundant resources, and our main goal was to show what good stewards we are of the environment entrusted to us," Magee said.

"The Web site successfully conveys our commitment to taking care of these resources," he said.

LAGNIAPPE

Lagniappe is published monthly by the John C. Stennis Space Center, National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Roy Estess is the center director, Myron Webb is the public affairs chief, and Lance Cooksey is the news chief. Comments and suggestions should be forwarded to the Lagniappe Office, Building 1200, Room 208D, Stennis Space Center, MS 39529, or call (228) 688-3585.

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