



National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Goddard Space Flight Center

Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia

Inside Wallops

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The Rocket Range on Wheels NASA Wallops Answers the Call

Most rocket launches are conducted at established launch facilities that are fully equipped with radars, control facilities and other support equipment. But what do you do if the range is not fully equipped or the mission needs to be conducted where there is no existing launch range?

For more than 30 years the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility, has answered the call with its mobile range to support rocket launches around the world for government and commercial organizations.

Jack Vieira, Wallops range support manager, said "The Wallops mobile range capabilities are unique not only within NASA but throughout the world. We have available the needed tracking equipment for most any type of rocket launch. We have even supported the smaller suborbital rocket missions with launch rails and pads."

Wallops has provided its mobile range capabilities to support sounding rocket and orbital rocket launches at sites that include the Canary Islands, Puerto Rico, Australia, Greenland, Brazil, Peru and even an aircraft carrier off the coast of Ecuador.

The Wallops mobile range is in action again by supporting the late summer launch of the Lockheed Martin Athena 1 vehicle carrying NASA and Department of Defense satellites. The launch will be from the Kodiak Launch Complex (KLC) on Kodiak Island, Alaska.

For this mission, NASA Wallops will be providing an array of tracking equipment and support vans that will be located at Kodiak and the town of Cordova, on the Alaskan mainland just north of Kodiak Island. Wallops support will include range safety, radar tracking and telemetry.

Pat Ladner, Executive Director of the Alaska Aerospace Development Corporation (AADC), said "The Wallops range safety support has a reputation for being second to none. AADC is proud to have Wallops supporting the first orbital launch from the KLC."

Vieira said, "Planning and testing has been ongoing at Wallops for more than a year to support the Athena launch.

Testing of the equipment at Wallops has been intensive for the last five months."

At Kodiak, Wallops is providing an 8-foot diameter radar system, 10-foot and 18-foot diameter telemetry antennas and vans, a power van, and a Mobile Command Range System van. At Cordova, Wallops will provide an 11-foot diameter radar, a 27-foot diameter telemetry antenna and support van, a mobile command van, and a power van.

"In addition to the myriad of equipment, Wallops will be supplying 33 personnel to support the mission," said Vieira, a veteran of two mobile campaigns.

The equipment and Wallops personnel will arrive at their respective sites by mid-July to support the targeted August 31 launch.

Wallops Senior Manager Announces Retirement

Dr. Arnold Torres, senior manager at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility, since January 1995, has announced that he will retire at the end of the year.

Torres said, "The end of this year will mark seven years since I became senior manager at Wallops and Director of Suborbital and Special Orbital Projects. Wallops has accomplished many wonderful things during this time, and I am proud to have been associated with the talented and dedicated men and women who made this possible."

"We will miss Arnold a great deal," said Goddard Director A. V. Diaz. "He's been a champion for the Wallops Flight Facility and a passionate advocate for the people there. His advice and counsel have been invaluable, and I know he will lend his personal knowledge and energy to finding a successor and ensure a smooth



Dr. Arnold Torres

Launch of Goes-M Weather Satellite Postponed

The launch of the GOES-M environmental satellite for NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) aboard a Lockheed Martin Atlas IIA rocket (AC-142) has been postponed one week to no earlier than July 22.

This new launch date is pending the repair and delivery of the Remote Control Unit, a portion of the launch vehicle guidance system on the Centaur upper stage. The launch window on July 22 is 3:01 - 4:25 a.m. EDT.

TSP Open Season

The current Thrift Saving Plan open season, in which employees may start, stop or change contribution amounts to the plan's funds ends July 31. The next open season will run November 15 thru January 31.

transition to a new director of Wallops."

During Torres' tenure, Wallops underwent many changes that increased its strategic value to NASA and the nation's aerospace industry. The facility began management of the Space Shuttle's small payloads Get-Away-Specials, Hitchhikers, and Space Experiment Modules; development of an Ultra-Long Duration Balloon for flights up to 100 days; commercialization of the NASA sounding rocket operations; and development of the Wallops Partnership, which includes NASA, NOAA, the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Coast Guard and the Virginia Commercial Space Flight Authority.

Torres said, "Over the next six months, as we finalize and begin the implementation of the Wallops Mission 2005, our strategic value to NASA and to the nation will become even stronger. I will leave here feeling good about the future of Wallops."

Torres received his Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of South Carolina. He joined NASA in 1978 as an atmospheric scientist. He has been recognized as having made pivotal contributions to science and in 1985 he was awarded the Goddard Space Flight Center Exceptional Achievement Award.

Torres and his wife, Linda, reside in Pocomoke City, Md.

Small Business Program

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Richmond District Office will conduct a HUBZone Empowerment Contracting Program Event on July 31 in the Assateague Room of Building E-104.

The HUBZone program is designed to help small businesses located in areas with high unemployment and low income increase their contracting opportunities with the Federal Government. Accomack and Northampton Counties are designated HUBZone areas.

Federal agencies, including NASA, U.S. Navy, and the Department of Commerce, that perform work on the Eastern Shore of Virginia are seeking HUBZone certified firms to fulfill contract opportunities.

Small business that wish to receive on-site HUBZone certification must register in advance. Anyone interested in the program is welcome but attendees must provide their name in advance for entry to the Main Base.

For more information visit the SBA web site: <http://www.sba.gov> or contact the SBA at (804) 771-2400, x119 or Sarah Gromow at the Eastern Shore Small Business Development Center at (757) 789-3418.

***Tailgate Sale
July 18
11:30 a.m.
Flag Court Parking Lot***

Attention Deficit Disorder

August 1
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Building E-2

Do you or someone you know experience any of the following on a regular basis: difficulty getting organized, forgetfulness, hyperactivity, trouble focusing, impulsiveness, or constant procrastination? These are some of the common signs of Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) which affects millions of Americans, children and adults alike.

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) will show a video on 'Alternative Treatments for Attention Deficit Disorder.' Dr. Swistak, White Marsh Natural Medical Center in Rockville, Maryland, will explain the use of herbs, vitamins, biofeedback, chiropractic care, and other 'alternative' treatments available to individuals affected by ADD.

This presentation is sponsored by the Women's Advisory Committee and the EAP. For additional information, call x66-4600.

Upcoming Training

Strategic Business Management

Wallops Flight Facility
Building E-104
August 12-17

This is a residential program that will begin with a social on Sunday night, August 12 at 5 p.m. followed by dinner at 6 p.m. and the opening session at 7:30 p.m. Lodging, meals and tuition will be funded by NASA Headquarters.

Professionals at middle management levels will benefit from this workshop that integrates management tasks and processes.

For more information or to apply, contact Kathy Dinsmore, x66-6153.

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Mechanical Desktop 5.0 Fundamentals

Wallops Flight Facility
Building E-104, Room 308
August 28-31
8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This entry-level course designed to teach AutoCAD users the basics of MDT and to provide the fundamental concepts and practical applications necessary to create, edit, manipulate, analyze and plot 3D part and assembly models and drawings.

For further information, contact Sherry Tharpe, x66-6533.

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Leading From the Inside-Out

September 27 and 28
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Chincoteague Community Center

This workshop focuses on empowering authentic leadership qualities for those in any level of the organization who seek to lead themselves or others in contributions that make a difference.

Any GSFC employee interested in developing leadership skills should attend.

To register, complete GSFC Request for Training Form. An electronic version is available at: <http://ohr.gsfc.nasa.gov/Forms/GSFC/home.htm>.

Fax a copy of the signed form to Nichole Richmond at x66-1679. Call Richmond on x66-5757 to reserve a seat.

On Schedule at Wallops

Through August 2

*Chesapeake Lighthouse & Aircraft Measurements for Satellites (CLAMS) - Wallops Main Base

The project will involve several aircraft including the ER-2, Proteus, Convair 580 and a Cessna 210. An OV-10 will operate out of Langley and a Lear 25C at Patrick Henry Airport. The project is associated with TERRA. Further information on CLAMS is available at <http://snowdog.larc.nasa.gov/clams/>

August 1 - 30

*Balloon — (.3 MCM) Submillimeter Astrophysics - Palestine, Texas

August 1 - 31

*Sounding Rocket — (Terrier Lynx) Special Projects - Kauai, Hawaii
*Balloon — (.3 MCM) Gamma Ray X-Ray Astrophysics - Palestine, Texas
*Sounding Rocket — (Terrier Black Brant) Solar Physics - WSMR, NM

August 7- 31

*Sounding Rockets — (two Nike Orions) Plasma Physics - Wallops Island
*Sounding Rockets — (four Viper 3A Darts) High Altitude Temperature Measurement - Wallops Island

Using Frequent Traveler Points

NASA employees may **only** use frequent traveler benefits for official business related travel.

Benefits may be used to obtain free or reduced fare commercial carrier passage, or to upgrade from coach to business class accommodations, but not to First Class.

Benefits also may be used to upgrade class of rental car, or to upgrade hotel accommodations.

The General Accounting Office (GAO) and GSA have both ruled that frequent traveler benefits earned in connection with official business travel are the property of the United States Government. Questions...call Timmy Abbott, x1647.

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Editor Betty Flowers
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