

NEWS RELEASE

For more information:

Cathy Shields, The Boeing Company

321-383-2840, Cathleen.e.shields@boeing.com.

Amelia Woodbridge, Space Coast Marketing

321-724-1688, awoodbridge@spacecoastmarketing.com



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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40th Space Congress Panelists to Examine Latest Discoveries in Space, Science, and Technology

Paper presentations will look at life in space, Mars research, medical advances, and space policy.

CAPE CANAVERAL, FL -- At the 40th Space Congress that kicks off Monday, April 28, 2003, and runs through May 2, at the Radisson Resort in Cape Canaveral, Florida, a distinguished list of speakers and panelists will address attendees with breakthrough discoveries in space science and technology. Science Highlight Dr. Riccardo Giacconi, Nobel Laureate in Astronomy and Research Professor with Johns Hopkins University, will open the congress with a discussion on NASA's great observatories including Hubble, Chandra and SIRTf. Noted scientists, researchers, and military dignitaries will provide panel discussions and present papers on the current state of NASA's science programs as well as plans for the future.

Panel and Paper sessions at the 40th Space Congress will emphasize this year's theme "Linking the Past to the Future: A Celebration of Space" and will focus on the scientific achievements of the space program that have led to the upcoming mission to Mars, telescope advances, life in space, and the utilization of the International Space Station. Dr. Shannon Lucid, NASA Chief Scientist, will present a high level summary of the current state of NASA space science programs. Dave Lavery of the NASA Mars Exploration Office will share insight on the Mars Exploration program.

While this year's Space Congress celebrates the rich history of the early space program, it will also look into the expectations for the future. This will include James Mantovani's paper on Martian soil research on the panel entitled "Learning about Life in Space." The results of microgravity research being done on the International Space Station will be showcased in Dennis Morrison's review of new cancer therapies and improved drug delivery. Innovative ideas in Spaceport and Range Technology will examine new strategies to provide greater launch and landing opportunities. Milos Krmeli will travel from Slovenia to discuss the International Space University and its influence in broadening international space program cooperation. Other topics include new space vehicles, support facility advancements, space-based communications, and much more.

Kevin Hoshstrasser, general chairman of the 40th Space Congress, says this year's Congress is more important than ever. "This year's program provides a complete examination of the many benefits of space exploration. During Space Congress, we are able to bring space, military and educational leaders together to discuss the initiatives that make manned space flight benefit all mankind."

The 40th Space Congress marks several milestones in 2003, recognizing the Kennedy Space Center 40th anniversary, as well as the 100th anniversary of flight. The event will also host exhibits, a student science fair and awards, a black-tie GALA and evening with the Astronauts.

40th Space Congress Speakers

Keynote Speaker - Sean O'Keefe, NASA Administrator – Keynote

Science Highlight - Dr. Riccardo Giacconi, 2002 Nobel Laureate in Astronomy and Research Professor at Johns Hopkins University

Gala Guest: Dennis Tito, CEO of Wilshire Associates, 1st Space Tourist

Panel Session – Space Science Overview

Dr. Shannon Lucid, NASA Chief Scientist

Panel Members:

Dr. Mary Cleave, Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Earth Science
Dr. Howard Ross, Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Biological & Physical Research
Mr. Chris Scolese, Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Space Science
Orlando Figueroa, NASA Mars Exploration Program

Panel Session – The Impact of Space Observatories on Astronomy

Dr. Riccardo Giacconi - 2002 Nobel Laureate in Astronomy and Research Professor at Johns Hopkins University

Panel Members:

Dr. Steve Beckwith, Director, Space Telescope Science Institute
Dr. Holland Ford, Principal Investigator Professor, Johns Hopkins University
Dr. Mario Livio, Head of Science Division, Space Telescope Science Institute
Dr. Harvey Tananbaum, Director, Chandra X-ray Science Center, Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics
Dr. B. Thomas Soifer, Director, SIRTf Science Center, California Institute of Technology

Panel Session - Access to Space: L.E.O. & Beyond

Panel Members:

John Rogacki, NASA Deputy Associate Administrator, Space Transportation
Paul Piscopo, Special Assistant, DDR7E for National Aerospace Initiative
Adrain Laffitte, Director, Atlas Program (Lockheed Martin)
Mike Mott, Vice President, Boeing NASA Systems
Gary Martin, NASA Space Architect

Panel Session - JoAnn Morgan, Director, External Relations & Business Development, NASA, KSC

Panel Members:

John Young, Associate Director, Johnson Space Center
Gunther Wendt, Pad Leader (retired) Rockwell International
James T. Rose, Former Assistant Administrator for Commercial Programs
Doug Cooke, Space Architecture Technical Manager
Gregg Maryniak, Executive Director, XPrize

Luncheon Speakers: Dave Lavery, Mars Exploration Program; and Brigadier General William L. Shelton, Director, Air and Space Operations, Headquarters, Air Force Space Command.

Evening with the Astronauts: Roy D. Bridges, Jr., Center Director Kennedy Space Center

To register, visit www.spacecongress.org or call 321-452-3068.

About Space Congress

The Canaveral Council of Technical Societies (CCTS) created Space Congress in 1962 to provide a forum for space professionals to meet and share their knowledge of technical areas and issues facing the space program. The event is organized in cooperation with NASA, the Department of Defense, industry and academia. CCTS uses Space Congress proceeds to present annual achievement and technical awards, conduct an annual Career Night, and to sponsor or support many local educational programs in the Space Coast area. For information, visit www.spacecongress.org or call 321-452-3068.