



# *Kennedy Space Center*

*Connecting Space Grant*

*with Spaceport and*

*Range Technology and*

*Science Thrust Areas*

Michael Freeman, PhD  
[michael.freeman@nasa.gov](mailto:michael.freeman@nasa.gov)

# Kennedy Space Center

*Future*

## Mission

- Space Launch Operations
- Spaceport and Range Technologies

## Center of Excellence

- Launch & Payload Processing Systems

## Guiding Principles

- Safety & Health First
- Build Reliance & Teamwork Everywhere
- Satisfy Our Customers Needs  
Anytime, Anywhere
- Environmental Leadership



*Today*

# Opportunities to Connect with KSC Research

## Faculty Programs

- NASA Faculty Fellowship Program (NFFP)
- **EPSCoR**
- Faculty Awards for Research (FAR - HBCUs and OMUs)
- Resident Research Associateship Program (NRC Post-Doc)
- **Space Grant Research Awards**
- SBIR/STTR
- **Sabbaticals**

## Student Programs

- Graduate Student Researcher Program (GSRP)
- Harriet Jenkins Fellowship Program (HBCUs and OMUs)
- **Space Grant Fellowships and Internships**
- Undergraduate Student Research Program (USRP)
- Spaceflight and Life Sciences Training Program (SLSTP)

# Kennedy Space Center

## Spaceport and Range Technology and Science Thrust Areas

Fluid System  
Technologies

Spaceport Structures  
and materials

Process and Human Factors

Command, Control  
and Monitoring Technologies

Range  
Technologies

Biological  
Sciences



# Fluid System Technologies

## Current Activities



**Umbilical  
Systems  
Test Stand**



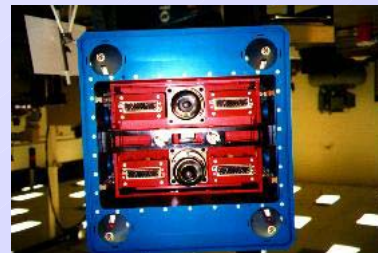
**Cryogenic Storage, Distribution,  
and Servicing Systems**



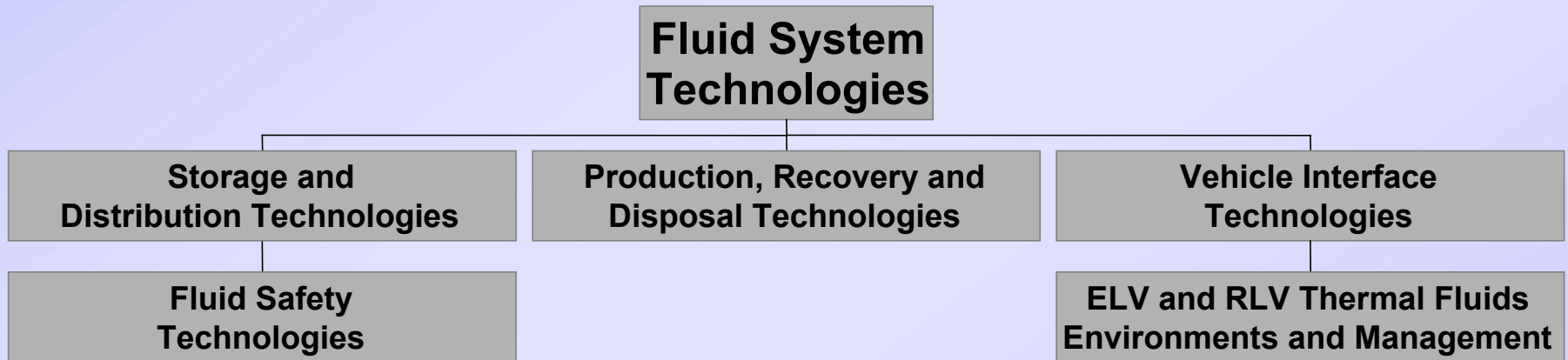
**Smart/Automated  
Umbilical Development**



**Cryogenic Technology  
Testbed**



# Kennedy Space Center



Development areas include:

- Reduce thermal losses associated with cryogenic fuels
- Minimize maintenance and process monitoring costs
- Provide for safe operation of the spaceport
- Create efficient, adaptable technologies for the changing fluid needs of future spacecrafts

# KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

## Fluid System Technologies High Priority Needs

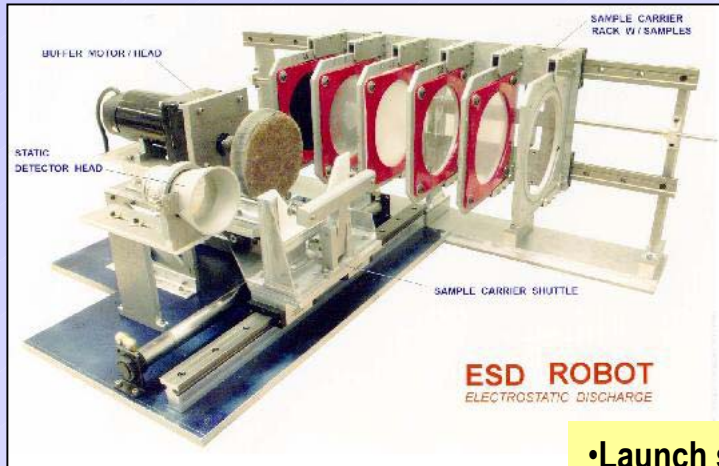
1. **Advanced cryogenic** loading technologies, including systems that combine advances in component health management, automated process control, instrumentation and resource conservation (20d)
2. Payload **thermal and fluid** environment **modeling and prediction** capabilities (25d)
3. Extended propellant storage capabilities (30a)
4. Advanced, highly reliable, designed for safety, automated umbilical systems for all ground system to flight vehicle interfaces, including payload interfaces (smart umbilicals) (32b)
5. Improved GN<sub>2</sub> pipeline **gas filtration** capabilities. **Non-intrusive** helium flow rate/quantity **measurements**. Purge gas processes that reduce/eliminate the use of helium (38)

Contact: [Bill.Notardonato@nasa.gov](mailto:Bill.Notardonato@nasa.gov)

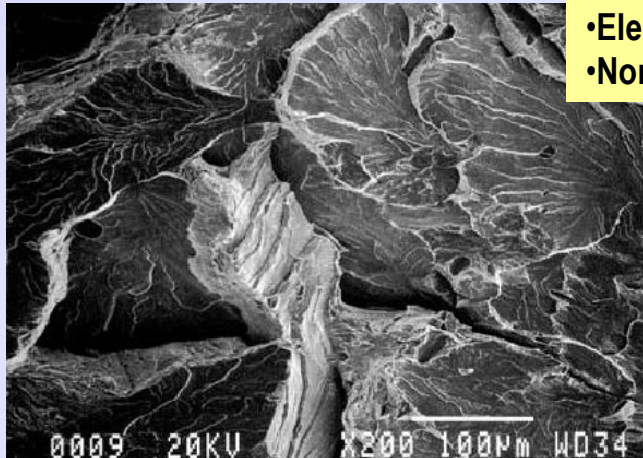


# Spaceport Structures and Materials

## Current Activities

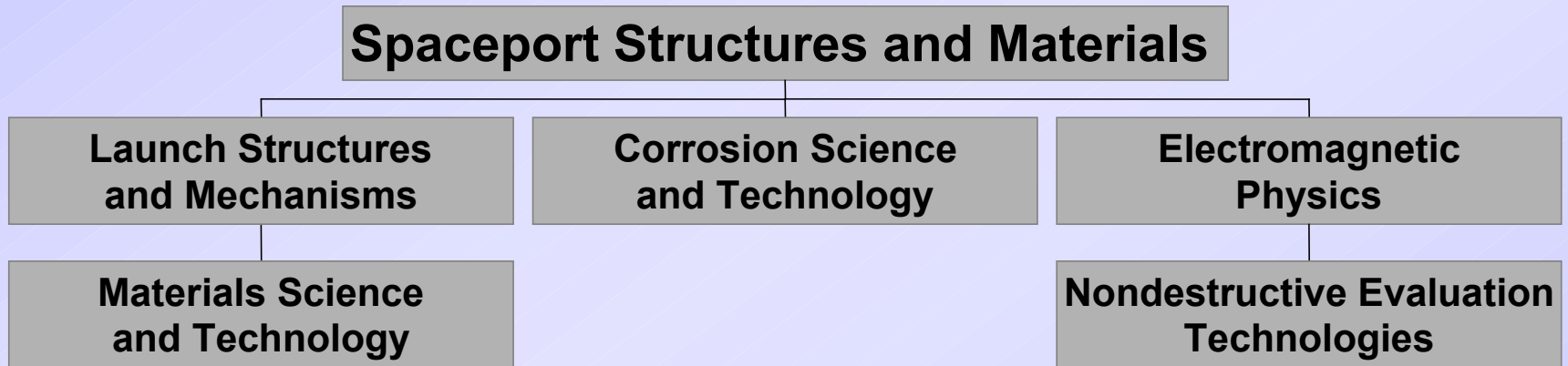


- Launch structures and Mechanisms
- Materials Science and Technology
- Corrosion Science and Technology
- Electromagnetic Physics
- Nondestructive Evaluation Technology





# Kennedy Space Center



New materials development is critical to achieving:

- Reduced costs
- Increased reliability
- Higher flight rates

Technology development areas include:

- Corrosion abatement
- Static charge dissipation
- Non-destructive evaluation (NDE)
- Non-flammability

# KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

## Spaceport Structures and Materials High Priority Needs

1. Improved wire inspection technologies and self-healing wire insulation. New methods and technologies to detect potential wiring problems. (4)
2. Tools and techniques for defect detection in composite materials. Non-abrasive methods to determine structural integrity of bonded assemblies, especially non-metallic composites. (6a)
3. Clean, non-abrasive surface preparation and contamination reduction techniques. Technologies for maintaining clean systems. Tools and techniques to remove dust from surfaces of sensitive equipment used in clean rooms, payloads, solar panels, etc. (8b)
4. Technologies for low-cost, simple, reliable contamination detection for spacecraft (vehicle and payload) processing (13b)
5. Technologies to detect water in current and future thermal protection systems, including tile, blankets and composite materials (16b)

Contact: [melanie.r.chan@nasa.gov](mailto:melanie.r.chan@nasa.gov)

....more

# KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

## Spaceport Structures and Materials High Priority Needs

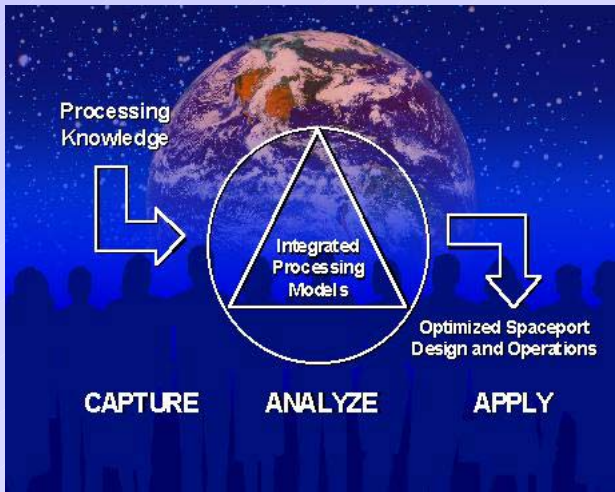
6. **Smart**, non-corrosive, self-healing, and/or robust **structures** (16d)
7. Technologies and systems enabling payload **acoustics** environment **predictions and reductions** (25c)
8. Advanced, reusable, highly reliable, designed for safety, non-pyrotechnic vehicle/propellant system interface and separation systems (30b)
9. Improved spacecraft transportation and handling technologies and systems. Mechanical assembly of spacecraft elements to support rapid response and high flight rates (34a)
10. Technologies to **monitor** the **electrostatic charge buildup** on surfaces. Technologies to accurately evaluate electrostatic charge decay properties of materials. Tools/techniques to determine the size, charge and concentration of electrostatically-charged dust contaminants. (34c)

Contact: [melanie.r.chan@nasa.gov](mailto:melanie.r.chan@nasa.gov)



# Process and Human Factors Engineering

## Current Activities

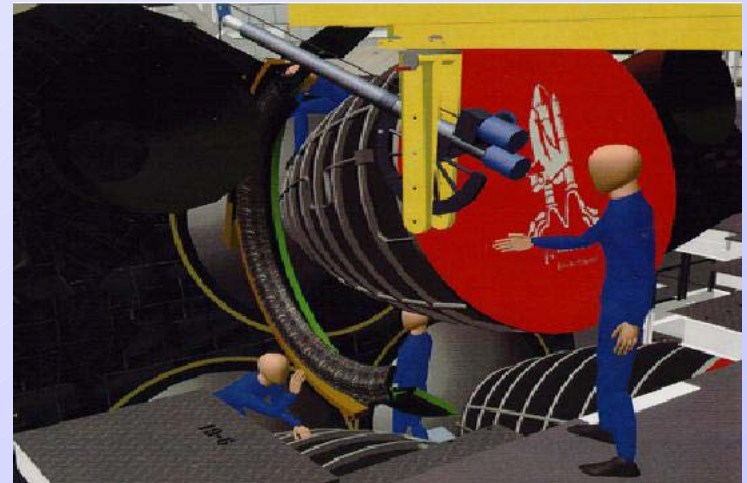


**Process Simulation Modeling:  
Spaceport Systems Processing Model**

**Work Methods and  
Measurement:  
Advanced Work  
Instruction Systems**

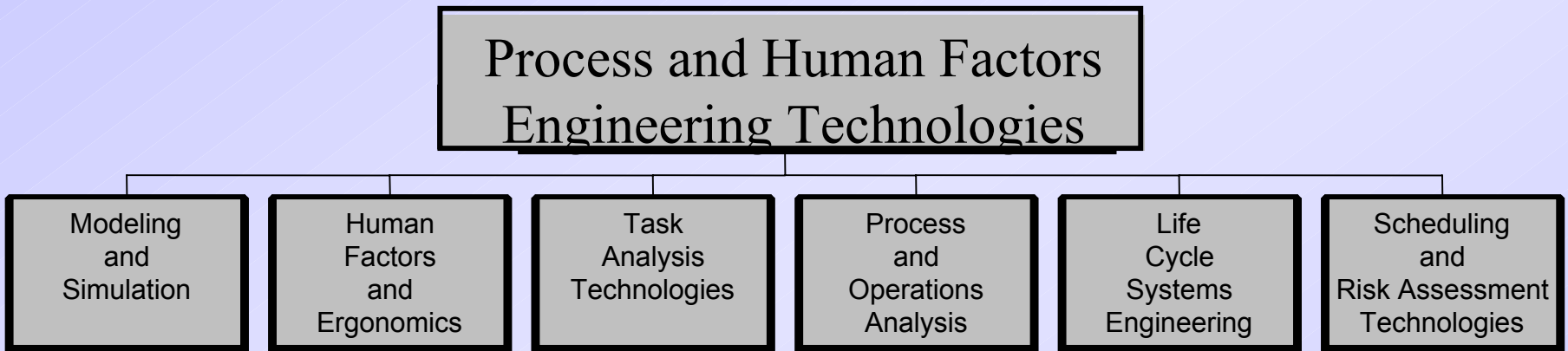


**Advanced Training and  
Procedure Systems: Body  
Wearable Computers**



**Human Factors Engineering:  
Orbiter Dome Heat Shield Task Analysis**

# KENNEDY SPACE CENTER



## Research on:

- Process efficiency
- Overall system performance
- Risk assessment and life cycle engineering

## Also focuses on human aspects of process engineering including:

- Ergonomics
- Human factors
- Human error analysis
- Human reliability analysis

# KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

## Process and Human Factors Engineering Technologies High Priority Needs

1. Technologies/capabilities to **improve** or automate **planning, scheduling and asset allocation** functions for spaceports and ranges. Resource (people, hardware, equipment, facilities, etc.) management and allocation. Schedule optimization techniques. (2b)
2. Spaceport/range operations management technologies for test, maintenance and verification tasks. **Advanced human factors and process analysis technologies**. **Intelligent work instruction** systems with automated task duration, resource and hazard data collection. (6b)
3. Technologies and tools for **modeling spacecraft (vehicle and payload) and spaceport flows, tasks, and processes**. Cost-effective technologies for **simulating and streamlining processes** to improve safety performance, life cycle cost performance, and responsiveness. Models of launch and landing scenarios. (8a)
4. Technologies/capabilities to automatically record the entrance and exit of all components within critical areas. **Electronic identification** for area access, equipment checkout/control and personnel identification. (13a)

more...

# KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

## Process and Human Factors Engineering Technologies High Priority Needs

5. Technologies for streamlined processes and **automated systems to recognize, measure, record and perform statistical process analysis** on dings/chips in nozzles and thermal insulation damaged during manufacturing, processing and/or flight (16c)
6. **Process improvements to** thermal protection system (**TPS**) waterproofing and densification processes that reduce hazard levels to personnel (specific near-term need). Automate spaceport TPS processes and support development of new TPSs that do not require waterproofing or densification (general longer-term need). (20a)
7. **Character recognition inspection systems** for vehicle and ground system inspections (using technologies such as automation, robotics, expert systems and neural networks) (25b)

more.....

# KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

## Process and Human Factors Engineering Technologies High Priority Needs

8. Predictive technologies to **model human factors and the effects of potential human errors** on spaceport and range operations. Technologies supporting human error analysis for investigating the combinations of factors contributing to degradation of worker abilities to perform tasks successfully. Technologies for analysis and quantification of human reliability in spaceport and range operations. Advanced methods to quantify human error probabilities in novel tasks and new situations with no previous experience base. (37)

Contact: [Martin.J.Steele@nasa.gov](mailto:Martin.J.Steele@nasa.gov)





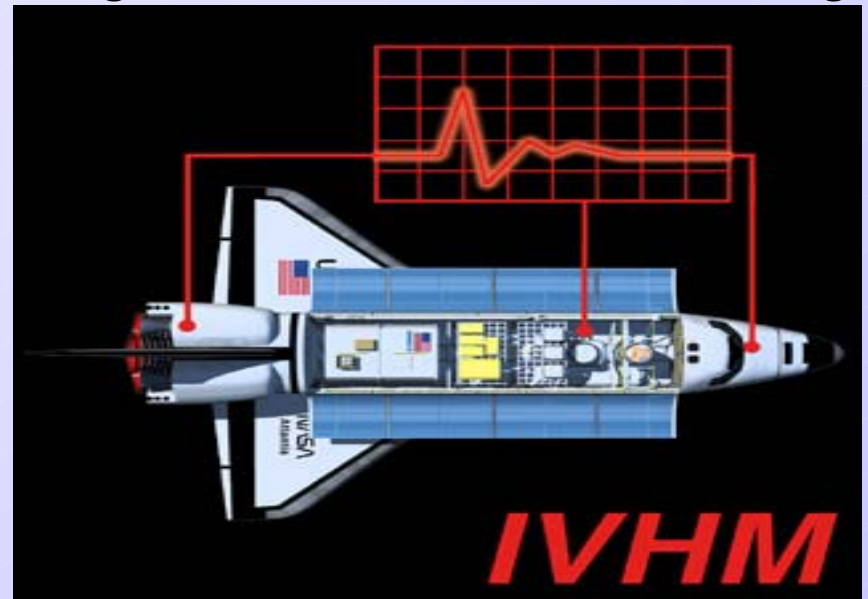
# Command, Control & Monitoring Technologies

## Current Activities



**Checkout and Launch Control System**

## ***Informed Maintenance: Integrated Vehicle Health Monitoring***



# Kennedy Space Center

## Command, Control and Monitor Technologies

Sensors and  
Data Acquisition

Spaceport Systems  
Health & Maintenance

Advanced Software &  
Computing Architectures

Simulation & Situational  
Awareness

- Develop technology that enables future affordable, responsive and safe spaceports
- Reduce the cost of access to space while increasing safety
- Reduce and eliminate unique interface and infrastructure requirements
- Support robust, fault tolerant designs in both software and hardware systems

# KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

## Command, Control and Monitor High Priority Needs

1. Better (remote, wireless) **leak detection of hazardous gases** (1)
2. Integrated Vehicle Health Maintenance (**IVHM**) (2a)
3. **Non-invasive Flight Readiness Verification** (5)
4. Analytical Tools for mission analysis (8d)
5. **Advanced Communications** Technology (13c)
6. High Data Rate Communication (16a)
7. Common Ground Infrastructure for multiple vehicles (20c)
8. **Auto-verification of loaded software** (24)
9. Remote and Distributed testing (25a)
10. **Advanced measurement technology** (**non-intrusive**, better representation of environment) (25e)
11. **Wireless avionics networks** (34b)

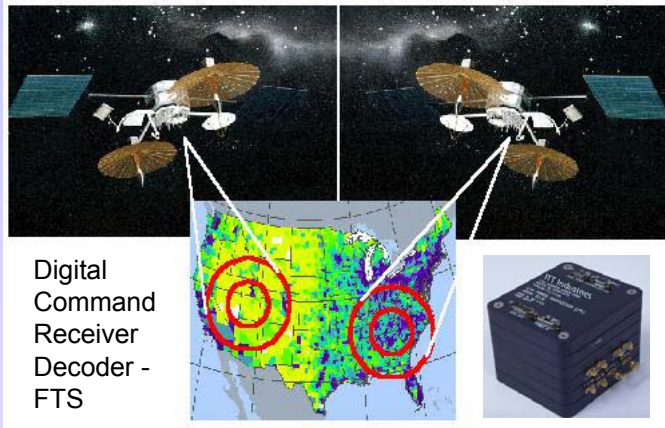
Contact: [Bob.Waterman@nasa.gov](mailto:Bob.Waterman@nasa.gov)



# Range Technologies

## Current Activities

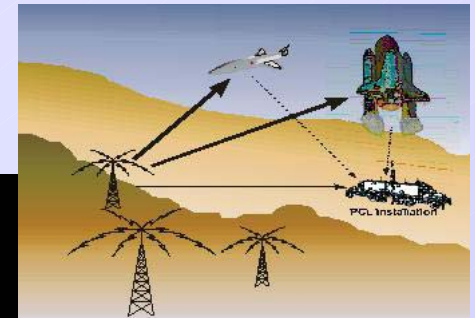
### Space Based Range



### Spaceport (Ground Based) Range Systems

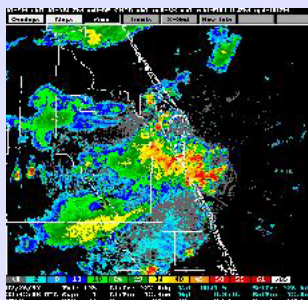


Passive Coherent Location



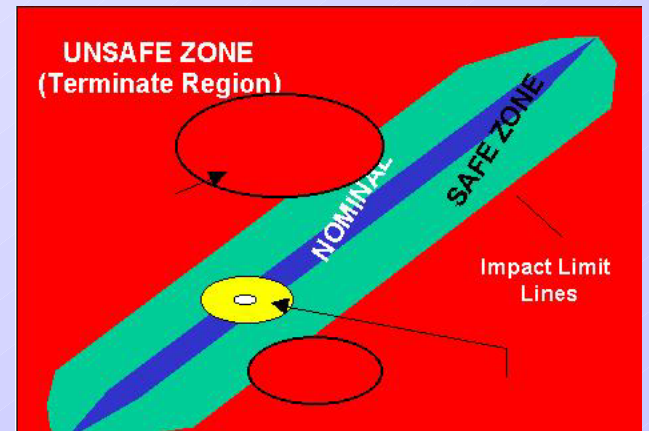
Autonomous Flight Safety

### Decision Models and Simulation



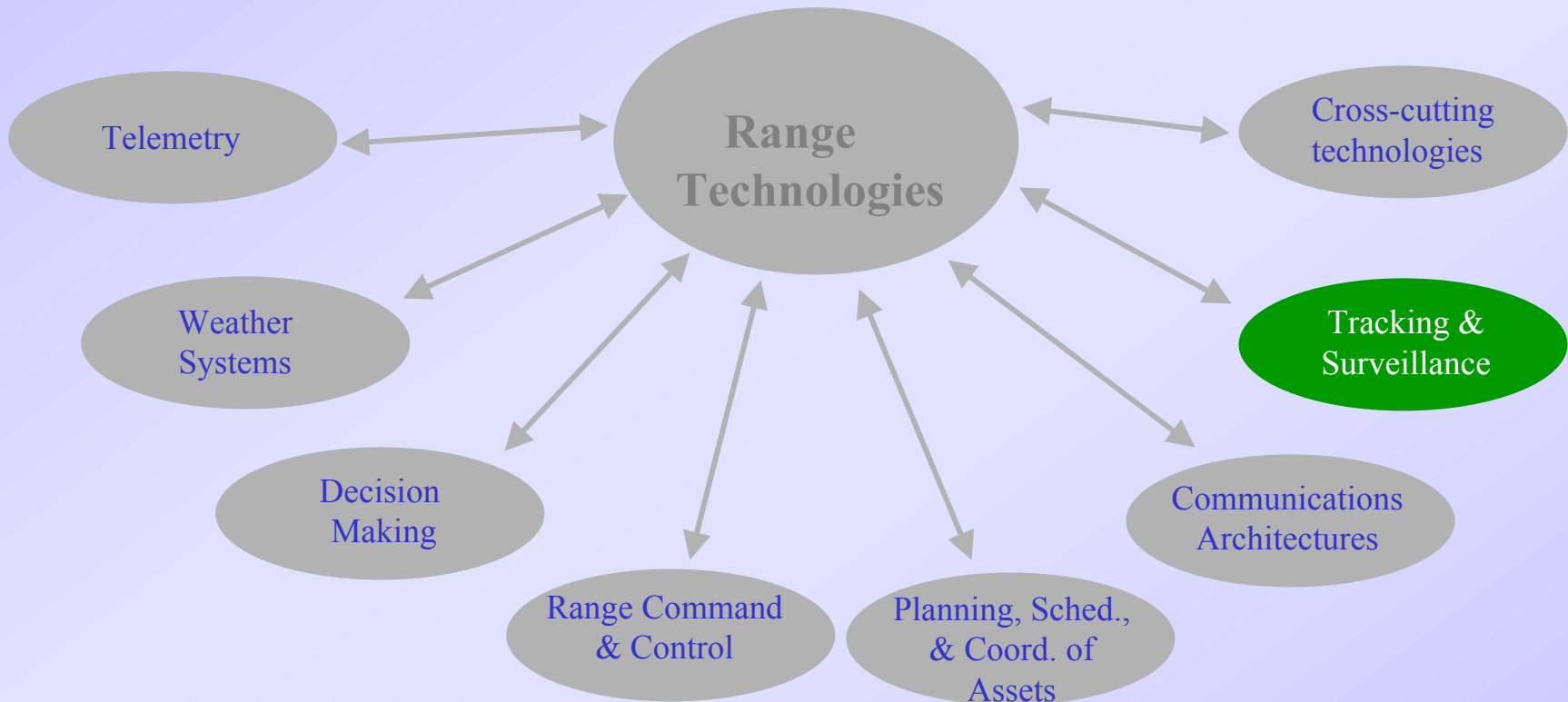
### Range Information Systems Management

### Weather Instrumentation and Systems



Development of unique technologies to:

- Provide control
- Supply measurement data
- Ensure safety of launch and test operations



# KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

## Range Technologies High Priority Needs

1. Technologies/capabilities for **automated mission data feedback** (including vehicle performance data, and weather and atmospheric information (8c))
2. **Localized weather forecasting** capabilities supporting pre-launch, launch, landing and range operations. Mesoscale comprehensive weather/hazard assessment models (12)
3. TDRSS compatible transceiver that can be used on existing and future launch vehicles to receive flight termination commands transmitted through space-based assets (digital command receiver decoder) (20b)
4. Reentry landing systems and **airspace management techniques**, including the desired tracking and monitoring systems (32a)

Contact: [Richard.A.Nelson@nasa.gov](mailto:Richard.A.Nelson@nasa.gov)

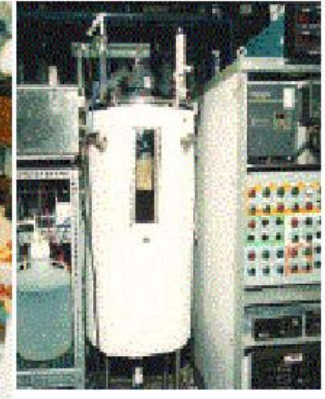
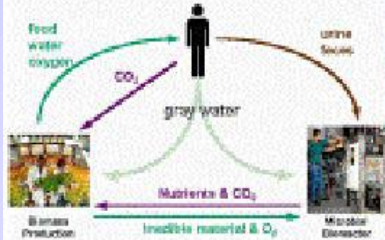


# Biological Sciences

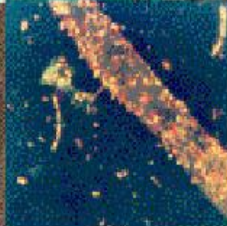
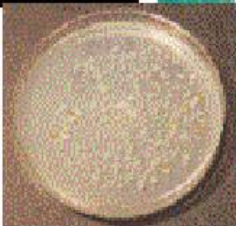
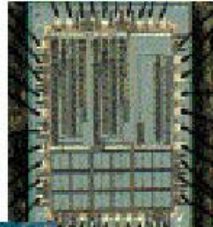
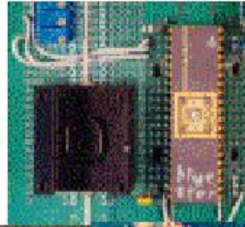
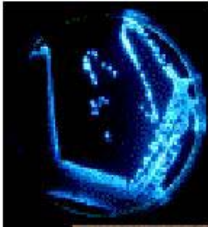
## Current Activities

### Bioregenerative Life Support System

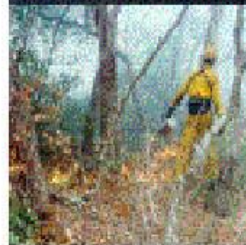
#### Material Integration



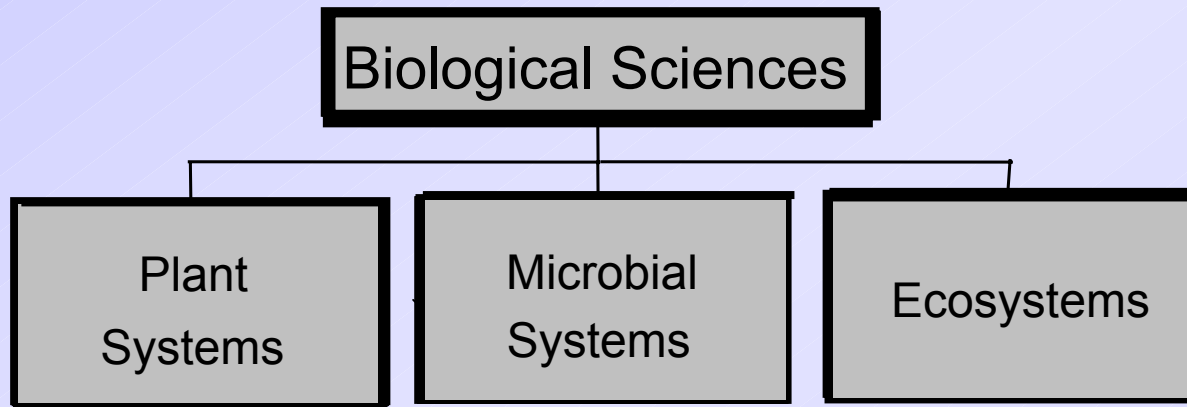
### Fundamental Biology



### Ecological Monitoring



# KENNEDY SPACE CENTER



## Goals

- Develop fully integrated, regenerative systems that provide air, water, food and resource recovery from wastes
- Obtain fundamental knowledge of the evolution and development of terrestrial organisms and ecological systems in altered environments
- Obtain fundamental knowledge of the genomic and structural development of microbial communities in closed systems
- Gain scientific understanding and develop technologies to support sound management and conservation of our Spaceport Technology Center's ecological resources



# Demographic Challenges

- The U.S. home grown student pipeline is shrinking
  - Industry demand for S&E skills is increasing
  - Minority representation is only one-third of the representation in the U.S. population at large
- Current NASA S&E Workforce
  - Average age is 46
  - Average retirement age is 61
  - 50% have obtained a Master's degree or Ph.D.
  - 59% are in positions at GS-14 and higher
  - 37% are classified as Aerospace Engineers
  - 25% will be eligible to retire by September 2008

# Targeted Competencies

- Identified “At-Risk” based on information from NASA’s competency management system

Systems Engineering

Test Engineering

Mission Assurance

Human Factors

Nuclear Engineering

Integration Engineering

Design & Development Engineering

Quality Engineering & Assurance

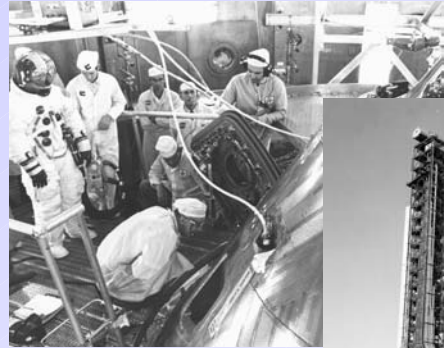
Business Management

Mission Execution

To Apply:

<http://www.nasajobs.nasa.gov>

# KSC's Reputation

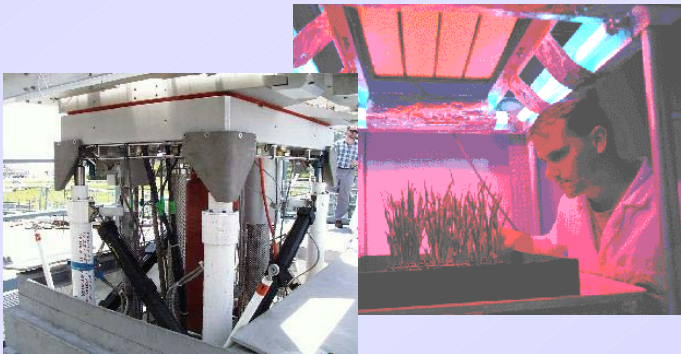


**We:**

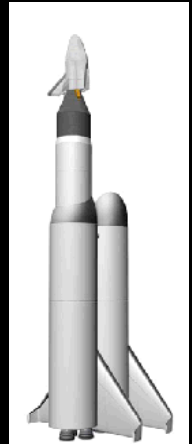
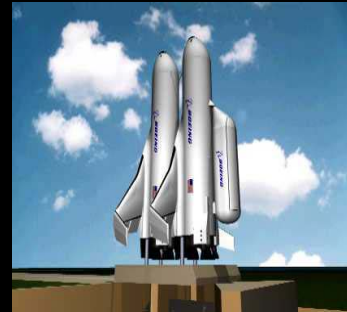
***“Make it Work”***

***“Prepare for the Next Generation...”***

***“Pursue Innovative Business Partnerships”***



# Spaceport of the future



*RLV Concepts*

**The United States**



**The Earth**



***Advanced Spaceport and Range Technologies will benefit current and future spaceports on the Earth, moon, Mars, and beyond***



**The Solar System**



**And the Universe**