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Mr. Altemus received his B.S. degree in Aeronautical Engineering from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University and his M.S. degree in Engineering Management from the University of Central Florida. He joined NASA's Kennedy Space Center and the Space Shuttle Program in 1989 where he held progressively more responsible positions working in Space Shuttle operations, launch, and landing activities. He served as the *Columbia* Reconstruction Director after the loss of the Shuttle *Columbia* on February 1, 2003. Here he managed over 400 engineers, scientists, and technicians from multiple NASA field centers, government agencies, and contractor organizations responsible for cataloging, identifying, and assembling over 85,000 pieces of *Columbia* wreckage. The reconstruction team, under Mr. Altemus' leadership, was recognized by the *Columbia* Accident Investigation Board as instrumental in understanding the initial breach and breakup sequence that led to the destruction of *Columbia*. In January 2005, he joined the Johnson Space Center serving as the Deputy Director of Engineering and was subsequently selected as Director in July 2006. He is the leader and steward of the Johnson Space Center's engineering capabilities in support of all human spaceflight programs, projects, and technology activities assuring alignment with NASA's strategic goals. He actively leads the conceptualization, development, testing, and evaluation of aerospace systems for use in human space flight for low earth orbit and planetary missions. He is a recipient of the 2011 NASA Federal Engineer of the Year, both Distinguished and Meritorious Presidential Executive Rank Awards, NASA Exceptional Service Medal, Johnson Space Center Certificate of Commendation and Kennedy Space Center Director's Award.