AIAA News

The New AIAA Website Coming Soon!

Launch Date to be Announced in Coming Days

AIAA is pleased to announce the impending launch of the new AIAA website, featuring numerous upgrades and enhancements sure to improve the AIAA member/user experience. During the project lifecycle, significant development work was performed in order to:

- Redesign the entire site using the latest technology
- Improve navigation
- Improve search capabilities
- Improve integration with our Association Management System (AMS)

Additional improvements include a single sign-on for AIAA and extranet sites, an improved membership upgrade process, and a newly designed shopping cart to make purchasing easier. Please stay tuned for the official announcement!

50th AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting to be Held in Nashville

AIAA will host leaders from academia, government, and industry in Nashville, TN, at the 50th AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting, including the New Horizons Forum and Aerospace Exposition, 9–12 January at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center. Featuring a series of keynote addresses and panel discussions, the gathering will explore “Advancing the Science of Flight Technology,” with the New Horizons Forum putting a special emphasis on “Transforming Air and Space Transportation for the Future.”

Full Story >

New Editor-in-Chief Sought for the Journal of Aerospace Computing, Information, and Communication

AIAA is seeking an outstanding candidate with an international reputation to assume the responsibilities of editor-in-chief of AIAA’s Journal of Aerospace Computing, Information, and Communication (JACIC). The chosen candidate will assume the editorship at an exciting time, as AIAA re-launches its electronic library with new features and functionality. Although JACIC was originally envisioned as an electronic-only, rapid-review journal, the new editor-in-chief will be able to take advantage of the new platform’s capabilities to enhance JACIC’s reputation and better fulfill its mission. Interested candidates are invited to send letters of application describing their reasons for applying, summarizing their relevant experience and qualifications, and setting out initial priorities for the journal. For guaranteed consideration, applications and all required materials must be received at AIAA Headquarters by 30 January 2012, although applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Full Announcement >

Honors & Awards

Distinguished Lecturers to Speak at 50th AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting

9–12 January, Nashville, TN

AIAA is pleased to announce that the following lectures will be presented during the 50th AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting, including the New Horizon Forum and Aerospace Exposition, taking place 9–12 January at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center, Nashville, TN.

Full Story >

J. Leland Atwood Award Seeking Aerospace Engineering Educators

This award, recognizing aerospace engineering educators for outstanding contributions, is jointly sponsored by AIAA and ASEE Aerospace Division.

More Info >

Fellow Announcement Update

The 2012 Fellows will be announced in late January 2012.

Call for Nominations

Don’t miss this opportunity to nominate a colleague for an AIAA award! Awards accepting nominations include the new Hypersonics Systems and Technologies Award, the George M. Low Space Transportation Award, the de Florez Award for Flight Simulation, and the Haley Space Flight Award, among others. Nomination materials and letters of reference are due to AIAA by 1 February 2012.

More Info >

Featured Products

New Release
Real World Design Challenge Mentors Needed!
Scientists, Engineers and Mathematicians Needed to Help Mentor High-School Engineering Teams!

The Real World Design Challenge (RWDC) is an annual high school competition run by a public-private partnership pursuing the goal of sustainably increasing the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) workforce. Teams of 3–7 secondary school students will design a plane, looking at the forces of flight – lift, weight, thrust, and drag – with the goal of enhancing performance and fuel efficiency.

The registrations for the RWDC have increased 42% this year! We have 38 states participating with Governors and Lt. Governors supporting the “Governor’s Challenge” in each state. The Challenge is going into the fourth year of operation and has 9.5% of U.S. high schools involved making it the fastest growing STEM competition in the country.

We need scientists, engineers and mathematicians to help mentor the RWDC Teams. Your involvement will help to make this year’s Challenge a success!

(Pictured: 2011 RWDC Challenge Winners. Credit: RWDC )

Meet Some of the AIAA Foundation’s Scholarship Winners for 2011–2012

Meet the AIAA Foundation 2011–2012 Scholarship Winners. Helping college students as they work to earn their degrees has long been one of the cornerstones of the AIAA Foundation. For the 2011–2012 academic year, the Foundation awarded 30 undergraduate and 13 graduate awards to outstanding students in the aerospace field. Below, meet some of our winners, as we offer congratulations to all of our winning students and their faculty.

(Pictured: Stephanie Lengyel, who graduated Magna Cum Laude from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in May 2011)

Serving on a Technical Committee and Interested in Standards?

If you volunteer on an AIAA Technical Committee and your group is working on or thinking about working on a standard, we want to help! As a volunteer, you provide an invaluable service by contributing to the development of new standards as well as updating current standards process. We can offer helpful guidance on streamlining the standards development process. Please contact the TAC Liaison for Standards or the AIAA Program Manager for Standards.

Conferences and Events

Important Aerospace Sciences Meeting Deadlines Are Approaching

Just a few weeks remain before we celebrate 50 years of aerospace pioneering at the AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting including the New Horizons Forum and Aerospace Exposition in Nashville, TN. Be sure to register by 4 January 2012 to save up to $100 off the onsite registration fee. You won’t want to miss this exciting event, packed with high-level keynotes, panelists, quality technical sessions, and multiple networking opportunities to celebrate this important anniversary year. Don’t forget to reserve your hotel room, as the room block will only be held through 20 December 2012. Registration and all travel information including information on room reservations and shuttle transportation can be found on the conference website at www.aiaa.org/events/asm.
Don't Forget About the Networking Opportunities at the Aerospace Sciences Meeting

Are you looking for additional networking and learning opportunities at ASM 2012? Come visit the presentation stage in the exhibit hall during your scheduled conference breaks. You can mingle with other attendees over a cup of coffee and listen to exhibitors provide interesting information on current trends in the industry. The current ASM presentation stage schedule can be found online, in the final program at the conference, at the entrance of the exhibit hall, and in front of the stage. AIAA staff and ASM exhibitors look forward to seeing you in Nashville in January!

Three Exciting Events Taking Place at the Aerospace Sciences Meeting

- **Tuesday, 10 January, Sessions 292-CW-1 and 119-CW-2: Career and Workforce Development Workshop** – Get a jump start on your career and attend the Career and Workforce Development Workshop. This workshop will feature a series of presentations to guide and position you to get the most out of your career.

- **Tuesday, 10 January, 1900–2130 hrs: Young Professional Networking Reception** – This is a great chance for young professional members of the Institute, professionally employed members under the age of 35, to meet other members and make new contacts.

- **Wednesday, 11 January, 1400 hrs: Speed Networking** – Get on the fast track. Start building your career network today!

First Timers Social at the Aerospace Sciences Meeting

8 January (Sunday), 1900–2030 hrs
Ryman Studio Room N&O
Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center
Nashville, TN

Join us for a special session aimed at achieving the most value from your attendance at the Aerospace Sciences Meeting. Especially useful for first time attendees, the social will offer the opportunity to meet with other professionals and young members who are experts at navigating the many sessions, speakers, paper presentations and receptions. An informal short program will be followed by networking time! To RSVP please contact joannez@aiaa.org.

Engineers as Educators Workshop

11 January 2012, 1900–2200 hrs
Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center
Nashville, TN

Sharing your passion for aerospace with K–12 students is important—and you never get another chance to make a first impression. This workshop will give you insights into how to approach a classroom talk, a mentoring situation, or an informal interaction with after-school or scouting groups. You will get practical tips for interacting with students and teachers, how to make your presentations grade level appropriate with some real zing, and low-cost easy activities that can be done with any age students. Taught by AIAA master teachers, you will gain insights into how the classroom works and how to be successful.

If your local section is interested in conducting this workshop in your community, we encourage the section to send a representative to attend the workshop and learn how it used as a program offering for the section, conducted by one of your own educator associates.

Each workshop is limited to 50 people, so register today!

Workshop on AIAA Standards: Make an Impact

Wednesday, 11 January 2012, 1400-1500 hrs
Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center
Nashville, TN

A standards group is developing tools that will affect the way you work. Are you involved? From researcher to reviewer, there are many ways those in the aerospace community can participate in the AIAA Standards System Effectiveness, every topic is covered.
Abstract Reminders for Upcoming AIAA Conferences

The abstract deadlines for several AIAA conferences are next month. Submitting your paper to conferences is an excellent way to receive recognition and gain exposure to your work. Additionally, presenting at conferences gives you the opportunity to build your professional network and interact with peers. Please be reminded of the following upcoming abstract deadlines:

- **AIAA/SSMO Multidisciplinary Analysis and Optimization Conference**
  - Event Date: 18-20 September 2012 in Indianapolis, IN. Submit your abstract today at www.aiaa.org/events/mao.

- **ISSMO Multidisciplinary Analysis and Optimization Conference**
  - Event Date: 14–18 October 2012 in Reston, VA. Submit your abstract today at www.aiaa.org/events/issmo.

- **AIAA/IFAS Aeronautics Conference**
  - Event Date: 7–8 November 2012 in Orlando, FL. Submit your abstract today at www.aiaa.org/events/ifaas.

- **AIAA/ATRC Aircraft Design, Integration, and Optimization Conference**

- **AIAA/ARS TechCom Conference**
  - Event Date: 6–8 December 2012 in Orlando, FL. Submit your abstract today at www.aiaa.org/events/ars.

- **AIAA/SAE Transportation Research Conference**
  - Event Date: 10–12 December 2012 in Reston, VA. Submit your abstract today at www.aiaa.org/events/arts.

For more information, contact AIAA’s Standards Program Manager at amyb@aiaa.org.

**ATIO/MA&O 2012 Call for Papers Open**

In 2012, AIAA brings together two of its premier conferences, the 12th AIAA Aviation Technology, Integration, and Operations (ATIO) Conference and the 14th AIAA/ISSMO Multidisciplinary Analysis and Optimization Conference. Practicing engineers, researchers, and policymakers will interact to explore ideas, share research, and discuss the preeminent issues in design, optimization, and synthesis. Technical papers are currently being solicited in a wide variety of topics and are due by 7 February 2012. The conferences are set for 17–19 September 2012 in Indianapolis, IN. Submit your abstract today at www.aiaa.org/events/atio or www.aiaa.org/events/mao.

**Registration for 2012 FAA Commercial Space Transportation Conference Now Open**

Registration is now open for the 15th Annual FAA Commercial Space Transportation Conference, to be held 15–16 February 2012 in Washington, D.C. This annual conference features a dynamic mix of technical information and commercial space business and policy issues. Subjects range from risk assessment and space weather to the latest developments in legislation and government funding opportunities. You’ll meet the “movers and shakers” of the commercial space industry, and learn about the latest issues and developments that keep them awake at night. Join us for this unique event and meet the people who are making “commercial” the new future of space. Register today.

**Two Classified AIAA Conferences in Monterey, CA**

- **AIAA Strategic and Tactical Missile Systems Conference**
  - Event Date: 24–26 January 2012 in Monterey, CA. The AIAA Strategic and Tactical Missile Systems Conference and AIAA Missile Sciences Conference will combine, 24–26 January 2012, to provide one major event for the missiles systems community.

- **AIAA/ATIO Conference**
  - Event Date: 25–26 January 2012 in Monterey, CA. The AIAA Strategic and Tactical Missile Systems Conference and AIAA Missile Sciences Conference are long-standing AIAA conferences serving the weapons community. These conferences will be co-located as a single event for the first time in 2012, providing a forum for the exchange of information on a larger scale than was possible at separate events. The combined event will feature both programmatic and technical information while fostering beneficial networking opportunities. Material presented and attendance allowed at the event will be at the SECRET/U.S. ONLY clearance level. All attendees and speakers must have a SECRET clearance in order to participate. Register Today!

**Member Spotlight**

AIAA Congratulates Dr. Stephanie TerMaath

AIAA has selected Stephanie TerMaath for its Member Spotlight for December 2011. Dr. TerMaath is a senior engineer at Applied Research Associates, and a member of the incoming 2011 AIAA Associate Fellows class.

TerMaath has been a member of AIAA for 11 years, and is currently a member of the Structures Technical Committee. She has also served as the Deputy Director for Young Professionals for Region IV from 2005 to 2006, and was the Orange County Section’s Vice Chair for Young Professionals from 2001 to 2002. When not engaged in AIAA work, Dr. TerMaath is an active volunteer with the USO, supporting America’s military men and women.

Like most of the subjects of this monthly Member Spotlight column, TerMaath first developed an interest in aerospace as a child when she would stand in her parent’s backyard watching aircraft arriving at, and departing from, the Air Force base. Her Air Force parents, and the time that TerMaath had to watch planes “whizzing through the air,” left her “awestruck” and fueled her dream of one day contributing to the nation’s defense.

When asked what advice she would give those engineers embarking on their careers, TerMaath stated that engineers need to spend time learning engineering fundamentals and developing networks within the workplace. Pointing out the need for fundamental knowledge, TerMaath counseled, will allow engineers to develop sound engineering judgment which will be invaluable to them later on in their careers. These skills are critical to perform “reality checks” on the complex calculations they will perform during their career. She pointed out that while computer simulations will give you an answer for an engineering problem, an engineer who had taken time to master the fundamental knowledge of the profession would be able to tell if the computer provided answer was the correct one. She advised beginning engineers to always do a back of the envelope calculation to make sure the numbers being provided by the computer are reasonable, because “you never want to be the one presenting obviously incorrect numbers, and justifying them.”
The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) is the world's largest technical society dedicated to the global aerospace profession.