AIAA News

Babbitt, Bolden, Bigelow, LaHood Keynote the 14th Annual FAA Commercial Space Transportation Conference

LaHood Urges Attendees to "Keep Dreaming Big"

Dr. George C. Nield, the FAA’s Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation, welcomed a packed house of attendees to the 14th Annual FAA Commercial Space Transportation Conference on the morning of Wednesday, 9 February, in Washington, DC. Nield provided some opening remarks and then welcomed the two morning keynote speakers, the Honorable Randy Babbitt, FAA Administrator, and the Honorable Charles Bolden, NASA Administrator. Babbitt reminded the assembled crowd that while they strive for success, safety should continue to be at the top of their list. He re-emphasized President Obama’s words from his State of the Union address, declaring to the attendees that they should “dream big and build big.” He reiterated that he is “100% behind the commercial space endeavor,” and that the goal is to make it as routine as taking a shuttle from Washington, DC to New York.

Following Babbitt’s remarks, Bolden spoke about the need for commercial space to provide access to low earth orbit so that NASA can achieve its goal - to explore. Bolden said NASA's leaders are “big fans of commercial space,” and that the agency has a long history of working with industry. Bolden concluded his remarks by stating that the “industry needs to get out of the single-mindedness of ‘transportation,’” and that there exists a “need to grow destinations in low earth orbit.” He predicted that “this industry is going to turn things around for our Nation.”

Honors & Awards

Call for Associate Fellow Nominations

Now is the Time to Start Thinking About Who is Eligible for Associate Fellow

Associate Fellow candidates are people who have accomplished or have been in charge of important engineering or scientific work, or who have done work of outstanding merit or have otherwise made outstanding contributions to the arts, sciences, or technology of aeronautics or astronautics. Nominees must be AIAA Senior Members and have at least twelve years of professional experience.

Associate Fellow nominations are due 15 April and references are due 15 May. To submit a nomination, please visit Membership Upgrades on the AIAA Web site.

AIAA Aerospace Spotlight Awards Gala to Confer Top Honors

Event Will Also Recognize Newly Elected AIAA Fellows and Associate Fellows

AIAA is pleased to announce the 2011 recipients of its most prestigious awards. Presentation of these awards, and the recognition of the newly elected Fellows and Honorary Fellows of AIAA, will take place at the AIAA Aerospace Spotlight Awards Gala, 11 May at the Ronald Reagan Building.

BOD Elections Now Open

Vote Online!

The dedicated volunteers who lead AIAA are elected each year by the membership. Voting is your opportunity to set the direction of the Institute by selecting those leaders.
VOTE ONLINE! Visit www.aiaa.org/BODvote, log on with your Member ID, and follow the on-screen voting instructions. Candidate statements also can be viewed. Voting deadline is 12 April 2011.

More Info >

2011 Foundation Educator Achievement Award Winners Announced

Every two years, the AIAA Foundation recognizes up to seven outstanding educators for their accomplishments in exciting K–12 students about math and science, and in preparing them to use and contribute to tomorrow’s technologies.

The 2011 winners were announced during the 49th AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting, which took place in Orlando, FL, 4–7 January 2011. Each recipient of the Educator Achievement Award along with a guest will receive an expenses-paid trip to Washington, DC for the Aerospace Spotlight Awards Gala on 11 May. The visit includes a tour of Washington, DC, plus travel and lodging. It’s a trip and celebration they’ll never forget.

Please join AIAA in congratulating these seven incredible educators. They are responsible for inspiring their students to aim high and dream big. Their impact on their students is seen every day as those students compete successfully in various competitions and continue to study Science, Technology, Engineering or Math at some of the best universities. We interviewed outstanding educators and asked why they do what they do......and got some very insightful answers.

(Pictured: One of seven of AIAA’s 2011 Educator Achievement Award winners, Ben McLuckie, watches video with some of his students) Full Story >

Careers in Aerospace

So, you want to join the aerospace industry?

The aerospace industry offers a wide array of career choices. There is a job for everyone in one field or another in the industry. Your first step is to prepare a foundation for your future career. Most engineering jobs require a heavy concentration of math and science – and the preparation starts in middle and high school. There is also a need for business developers, marketing personnel, finance and accounting – all possibilities that you can research by visiting company Web sites and job boards, and by networking.

Photos From the Aerospace Sciences Meeting Ready To View

Photos from the 49th AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting, which took place 4–7 January in Orlando, Florida, are now available online for AIAA members to view.

Featured Products Hot Off the Press

2011 AIAA Products and Services Catalog

The 2011 AIAA Products and Services Catalog is now online! Discover all there is to AIAA – membership, public policy, journals, magazines, standards, books, ebooks, conferences, the AIAA Foundation, professional development courses...and more.

Remember that purchases made directly through AIAA help support our mission and programs. Start Shopping Today!

You Can Look it Up

The AIAA Electronic Library

Now Available in the AIAA Electronic Library

- AIAA Journal, Vol. 49, Issue No. 2
- Journal of Aircraft, Vol. 47, Issue No. 6
If you are a high school or middle school student or parent, we encourage you to explore our Web site, www.askpolaris.org Contained within it are tips from experts on what is needed to make college choices – the first step in your journey.

Our publication, Careers in Aerospace gives you great information about what you need to study, and profiles some of our members who hold interesting jobs in the industry. Feel free to download it and get started!

More Info >

New Editor-in-Chief Sought for the Journal of Aircraft

Thomas Weeks, current Editor-in-Chief of the AIAA Journal of Aircraft, will step down from his position at the end of 2011, after 32 years of service. We are seeking an outstanding candidate with an international reputation for this position. This is an open process, and the final selection will be made only on the basis of the applicants’ merits.

Interested candidates are invited to send a letter of application describing their reasons for applying, their relevant experience and qualifications, and their initial priorities for the journal, along with a resume and a complete list of published papers.

To be assured of consideration, applications and all required materials must be received at AIAA Headquarters by 1 March 2011, although applications will continue to be accepted until the position is filled.

Read Complete Announcement >

Author Wanted for AIAA Education Series Textbook

The AIAA Education Book Series is seeking authors for a textbook on TRANSONIC AERODYNAMICS. The existing books are 20 or more years old, and the topic has matured greatly in the interim. If interested, contact: Editor-in-Chief Joseph A. Schetz (ptiger@vt.edu) and/or AIAA Books staff member David Arthur (DavidA@aiaa.org).

As the Final Space Shuttles Launch ... Be a Witness to History

Visit the AIAA Electronic Library Today!

Professional Development Courses on Tap

Electro-Optical Systems for Aerospace Sensing Applications
27–28 March 2011
AIAA Infotech@Aerospace Conference
St. Louis, Missouri
More Info >

Design of Aircraft Structures
2–3 April 2011
AIAA/ASME/ASCE/AHS/ASC Structures, Structural Dynamics, and Materials Conference (and co-located conferences)
Denver, Colorado
More Info >

Fundamentals of Composite Structure Design
2–3 April 2011
AIAA/ASME/ASCE/AHS/ASC Structures, Structural Dynamics, and Materials Conference (and co-located conferences)
Denver, Colorado
More Info >

Structural Dynamics in Mechanical Design
2–3 April 2011
AIAA/ASME/ASCE/AHS/ASC Structures, Structural Dynamics, and Materials Conference (and co-located conferences)
Denver, Colorado
More Info >

Fundamentals of Hypersonic Aerodynamics
9–10 April 2011
AIAA International Space Planes and Hypersonic Systems and Technologies Conference
San Francisco, California
More Info >

To learn more about these courses or to register visit www.aiaa.org/courses.

Remember – When you register for a professional development course, you will receive a FREE Conference Registration (sessions only) to the conference where your course is scheduled!

Quick Takes

NASA Seeks Space
As NASA’s space shuttle program nears its end, the Institute, in coordination with AIAA’s History Technical Committee, is aiming to capture as many of your shuttle program experiences and insights as possible, as they will help define this historic era in human spaceflight. Whether you drew up the first blueprints, or saw the shuttle through every launch, we are interested in hearing from you. As the space shuttle program nears its final two liftoffs, your stories, and associated images, will be shared with the world via the AIAA Web site, with an upcoming “Final Launch” web page, and you can be a part of it! To date, participants in this initiative include Robert Crippen, former NASA Astronaut, and former AIAA president; Arnie Aldrich, AIAA Fellow and former NASA Director, National Space Transportation System (Space Shuttle Program) and Associate Administrator for Space Systems Development; and Carl Ehrlich, AIAA Associate Fellow, among others.

It’s easy to participate: just submit your stories, pictures (and/or links to published video clips) to Lawrence Garrett, AIAA’s Web Editor. Please limit your stories to 500 words; and include no more than two pictures as e-mail attachments. Video clips that you wish to share must be posted to YouTube, and the link provided to AIAA).

(Pictured: Space Shuttle Discovery at dusk. Credit: Ben Sarao, Senior Member, AIAA History Technical Committee.)

Submit Your Story >

**AIAA Releases 2011 Key Issues Facing Aerospace**

Every year, AIAA identifies critical aerospace policy issues and makes recommendations for addressing them. The range of these issues spans the far-reaching objectives of the Institute and our industry.

Check our database for AIAA's official policies and positions on the issues that concern you most. You'll even find procedures for writing AIAA public policy statements, and regular updates on the status of future papers.

More Info >

**Upcoming AIAA Corporate Member Events**

- 4 March 2011, Washington, DC, will co-host the NASA Future Programs Presentation at NASA Headquarters.
- 11 May 2011, Washington, DC, will host the Aerospace Spotlight Awards Gala.
- 2 June 2011, Williamsburg, Virginia, will host the Aerospace Today…and Tomorrow: An Executive Symposium.
- 3 June 2011, Williamsburg, Virginia, will host an industry partners meeting in coordination with Aerospace Today…and Tomorrow: An Executive Symposium.
- 3 August 2011, San Diego, California will host an industry partners reception in coordination with the Joint Propulsion Conference.
- 29 September 2011, Long Beach, California will host an industry partners reception in coordination with the SPACE 2011 Conference.
- 30 September 2011, Canoga Park, California will host an industry partners meeting and facility tour at Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne.

**Technology Graduate Fellowship Applicants AIAA Members Encouraged to Apply**

NASA is seeking applications from graduate students for the agency’s new Space Technology Research Fellowships. Applications are being accepted from accredited U.S. universities on behalf of graduate students interested in performing space technology research beginning in the fall of 2011. The deadline for submitting fellowship proposals is 23 February. Information on the fellowships, including how to submit applications, is available on NASA's Web site.

**NSTC Aeronautics Subcommittee Releases R&D Plan**

On 4 January 2011, the National Science and Technology Council released the updated National Aeronautics Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RDT&E) Infrastructure Plan. This plan is a companion to the National Aeronautics R&D Plan and will help determine the availability and adequacy of the RDT&E infrastructure necessary to achieve national aeronautics R&D goals. AIAA members have been instrumental in the development of the R&D Plan by providing institutional expertise, as well as ongoing feedback in regards to the subcommittee's proposals.

More Info >

**Flood Insurance Through Liberty Mutual**

Do you think you need flood insurance only if you live near water? Think again. Floods can be caused by heavy rainfall, melting snow, clogged
More Information on AIAA Corporate Membership >

Engineers’ Week is 20–26 February 2011
Many Activities Featured in Which You Can Participate

AIAA partners with the National Engineers’ Week Foundation to celebrate and publicize the engineering profession. This year, Engineers’ Week is 20–26 February, and the goal is “Reach, Respect, Recognize.” AIAA celebrates National Engineers’ Week through events in its local sections. These events reach out to previous, current and future generations of engineers through many types of programs. Visit the AIAA Engineers Week Web page to learn more about upcoming E-week events, listed by Region and then Section, with a section contact.

AIAA Standards Working with ANSI to Deliver the Latest Standards Information to AIAA members

The AIAA Standards department is working with ANSI to deliver the latest Standards information to our members. To learn more about Standards, check out the links below. If you are interested in becoming involved in the Standards process, please contact AIAA’s AIAA Director of Standards.

- **ANSI Publishes the Power of Standardization to Educate about Standards and Conformance**
  To help illuminate the role of standards in our everyday lives, ANSI has published the educational piece, The Power of Standardization. This educational document gives the complete A-Z on standards: what they are, who creates them, and why they are so important to our everyday world.

- **Newly Published Edition of United States Standards Strategy Supports U.S. Competitiveness and International Trade**
  ANSI is pleased to announce the release of the updated United States Standards Strategy (USSS) – Third Edition. The Strategy articulates the principles and tactics that guide how the United States develops standards and participates in the international standards-setting process.

- **ANSI White Paper Examines Copyright Implications of Voluntary Consensus Standards in Regulation**
  A newly published ANSI white paper examines the copyright implications of incorporating of voluntary consensus standards by reference into regulation. The document is intended for U. S. standards developers, government officials, and other stakeholders.

Attention AIAA Members

The February issue of Aerospace America is now available online for AIAA members. Don't miss this month's feature article, “A New Boom in Supersonics,” in which author J. R. Wilson discusses how the renewed interest in supersonics has begun shining the spotlight on an area long overshadowed by space projects – the first ‘A’ in NASA. The author also expresses how “technical, environmental, and fiscal challenges remain, but advances such as ‘reshaping’ the sonic boom into a low rumble have boosted prospects for routine commercial supersonic flight, a dream that refuses to die.”

Conferences and Events

AIAA Congressional Visits Day Key Issues Teleconferences
15–16 March, Washington, DC

If you are attending this year’s Congressional Visits Day program, or you want to learn more about AIAA’s key issues for Congress, AIAA is pleased to offer you a series of webinars which will bring you up to speed on all the issues. Webinar speakers include: Carol Cash, Vice President–Public Policy; Phil Hattis, former Vice President – Public Policy; and AIAA Public Policy Committee members: John Rose, Jason Slagle, Bob Stuever, and Dr. Annalisa Weigle. For call-in information, please visit www.aiaa.org/events/cvd. **Note, there are two remaining webinars on the schedule:** Friday, 18 February, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., and Friday, 25 February, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (all times are East Coast).

For more information on the AIAA Congressional Visits Day program, or to register for the program, please visit www.aiaa.org/cvd, or contact Duane Hyland at 703.264.7558 or duaneh.aiaa.org.

More Info >

Unleashing Unmanned Systems in St. Louis

29–31 March, St. Louis, Missouri

Infotech@Aerospace (I@A), Unleashing Unmanned Systems is AIAA’s premier forum for modern aerospace applications focusing on information-enabled systems, algorithms, hardware, and software. I@A provides a unique opportunity for fostering advances and interactions across these disciplines.

Early bird registration deadline is 28 February. Save by registering now. You won’t want to miss this exciting event!

Register today at www.aiaa.org/events/I@A.

More Info >

9th Annual U.S. Missile Defense Conference and Exhibit (SECRET/U.S. Only)

To access the February issue of Aerospace America please visit www.aiaa.org/myaiaa and log in.

Have an Opinion on a Current Aerospace Topic? Want to Raise an Issue?

Send a note to elainec@aiaa.org and see it posted on Aerospace America’s Virtual Town Hall. Check it out and join in on the discussion.

AIAA Career Center

AIAA is pleased to provide members with a Career Center, with extensive lists of resumes and available positions. A powerful and user-friendly search tool allows you to find the ideal job or candidate.

More Info >

Get the Most Out of Your AIAA Membership

The best place to discover the many ways that you can network with AIAA members is at info.aiaa.org. This is the place to connect with other members in your geographic or technical interest areas. Discover upcoming local events, read the local section and technical committee newsletters, and get in touch with officers and committee members. Make 35,000 connections today!

More Info >
Prospective delegates are invited to participate in the 9th Annual U.S. Missile Defense Conference, set for 21–23 March at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, in Washington, DC.

A key objective of the 9th Annual Missile Defense Conference is to maintain the legacy of providing a world-class, secure environment for all members of the U.S. missile defense community to meet and discuss key issues facing the development, testing, and deployment of missile defense systems in support of national strategic objectives.

Register today. Visit www.aiaa.org/events/missiledefense.

Register Today for Hypersonics in San Francisco

Registration for the 17th AIAA International Space Planes and Hypersonic Systems and Technologies Conference is now open. This year's event will be held 11–14 April at the Grand Hyatt in San Francisco, California. This conference will provide professionals from industry and research institutions, as well as students working in the field of aeronautics and astronautics, an opportunity to meet major contributors from around the world who are working in R&D efforts on hypersonic sustained and accelerated flight. The conference gives a detailed status of the state of the most advanced activities in the field and an excellent overview of the current state of the art in hypersonic and reentry flight. Register today and receive the lowest possible registration rate. Visit www.aiaa.org/events/hypersonics.

AIAA has selected Dr. David Finkleman for its AIAA Member Spotlight for February, 2011. Finkleman is the 2011 recipient of the AIAA Bronze Medal for Excellence in Aerospace Standardization, an AIAA Lifetime Fellow, an active member of the AIAA Standards Executive Council, chair of the Space Operations working group of the International Organization for Standardization Space Operations and Ground Support subcommittee, and an affiliate of the Consultative Committee for Space Data Standards. He is also a Fellow of the American Astronautical Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr. Finkleman currently serves as CSSI senior scientist, and is a leading authority on civil, commercial, and military space systems. At CSSI, Dr. Finkleman is responsible for evaluating and designing orbit estimation and space system
The event, sponsored by AIAA, ASME, ASCE, AHS, and ASC, is an established annual conference widely acknowledged for providing a unique forum dedicated to the latest developments in the collective disciplines of structures, structural dynamics, materials, design engineering, and survivability. The 52nd Conference will also host the 19th AIAA/ASME/AHS Adaptive Structures Conference, the 13th AIAA Non-Deterministic Approaches Conference, the 13th AIAA Dynamics Specialists Conference, the 12th AIAA Gossamer Systems Forum, and the 7th AIAA Multidisciplinary Design Optimization Specialist Conference. For more information visit www.aiaa.org/events/sdm.

**Aerodynamic Decelerators Conference Goes to Dublin – Register Today!**

Registration is now open for the Aerodynamic Decelerators Conference, set for 23–26 May in Dublin, Ireland. This conference provides the world’s leading scientists, engineers, and promising students within the field of parachute and aerodynamic decelerator systems an opportunity to present recent advances before a knowledgeable international audience. On Monday, 23 May, the day before the conference begins, the ADS Technical Committee will host a one-day ADS Seminar on “Systems Engineering in the Real World: ADS Case Studies” presented by a panel of subject matter experts sharing perspectives from government agencies, industry, and academia, as well as distinctive personal experiences. Register now to receive the best rate for the conference. Visit www.aiaa.org/events/ads.

**Aerospace Today ... and Tomorrow**

*An Executive Symposium*

2 June, Williamsburg, Virginia

Join top executives this June at Aerospace Today...and Tomorrow, the industry’s leading forum on the discussions of today’s aerospace needs and progress for the future. Keynote speakers will include Lori Garver, Maj Gen C.D. Moore II, Mike Delaney, Annalisa Weigel, and many more. Additionally there will be a golf event and reception on 1 June. This is an AIAA Corporate Member event, one you DO NOT want to miss! For more information visit www.aiaa.org/events/att or contact GrantB@aiaa.org. Register today!
Tee Off with the AIAA Foundation

The AIAA Foundation is hosting a golf outing in conjunction with the executive symposium titled Aerospace Today … and Tomorrow, an event that provides a forum for top-level discussions on how the aerospace industry is progressing from both government and corporate perspectives. **Join us on Wednesday, 1 June,** for a fun afternoon of golf and networking on Kingsmill Resort’s award-winning Plantation course in Williamsburg, Virginia, which is also the host site for the Symposium. The cost for golf is $120 per player, with proceeds to benefit the AIAA Foundation’s education programs. Contact Grant Belden at GrantB@aiaa.org or 703.264.7511 for more information and to register.

More Info >

2012 Aerospace Sciences Meeting Call for Papers Submittal Site Now Open

The abstract submission site is now open for the 50th AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting including the New Horizons Forum and Aerospace Exposition. The 2012 Aerospace Sciences Meeting will be held 9–12 January 2012 at the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center in Nashville, Tennessee. Technical papers are currently being solicited in a wide variety of topic areas for this meeting. Abstracts should have a total length of 5–10 pages including figures and tables, and draft papers are encouraged. The abstract deadline is 1 June 2011. To view a complete list of submittal topics or to submit your abstract visit the conference Web site at www.aiaa.org/events/asm.

From the AIAA Space Operations & Support Technical Committee

*Upcoming Space Operations Workshop*

The AIAA Space Operations & Support Technical Committee and the international SpaceOps Committee will be conducting their 17th Annual Improving Space Operations Workshop at the Millennium Harvest House Hotel in Boulder, Colorado, 5–6 April. Sponsored this year by the Southwest Research Institute, the workshop will carry tracks on three major topics: Commercial Space Flight; Space Debris and Spacecraft Operations; and Mission Operations Assurance. Plenary sessions will introduce and summarize each of these tracks. Seats are limited, so register today.

More Info >
**Silicon Valley Space Business on 9 March (Supported by AIAA)**

The French Aerospace Valley Association (FAV) will be visiting California for the purpose of stimulating and promoting collaborative activities in space enterprise development between California and France. If your company is interested in hearing how to do business with European companies and identifying partners, you will not want to miss this opportunity. Join us as we enhance international opportunities and broaden the gateway to the European market.

Limited Seating – Please RSVP to Dianna Minor at 805.349.2633 or californiaspaceauthority.org.

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**California Space Week Coming to Washington, DC (Supported by AIAA)**

It's that time again – time to travel to Washington, DC, to educate federal officials regarding vital space policy issues. We will meet with Congressional members and staff as well as executive branch officials from the White House, Department of Defense, NASA, Department of Transportation, Department of Commerce, and the Department of State to discuss issues related to civil space, national security space, education and workforce, and export controls. California Space Week Washington DC will begin Tuesday, 29 March.

Register today!

Please RSVP to Dianna Minor at 805.349.2633 or californiaspaceauthority.org.