

Philip E. "Pepper" Phillips
Manager, Ground Systems Development and Operations Program

Philip E. "Pepper" Phillips was named the program manager of the Kennedy Space Center (KSC) Ground Systems Development and Operations Program in June 2011. His program is responsible for the planning and development of the required facilities; ground systems; test and verification; logistics; and prelaunch, launch, and recovery operations for NASA's Space Launch System/Multi-purpose Crew Vehicle as well as providing multi-use infrastructure to enable commercial and other Government spacecraft and launch providers. He is responsible for managing a Program organization that includes over 440 civil servants and 1,100 contractors with an annual budget of more than \$400 million.

Prior to his current assignment, Phillips served as the director of the Constellation Project Office in support of the Agency's Constellation Program. His organization was responsible for the planning and development of the required facilities; ground systems; test and verification; logistics; prelaunch, launch, and recovery operations for NASA's lunar/mars human exploration program. He held the deputy director position prior to his assignment as the director.

Phillips also served as deputy director of the KSC Shuttle Processing Directorate. The directorate's responsibilities included processing and launching three Space Shuttles – Discovery, Atlantis and Endeavour – and managing a workforce of approximately 5,400 civil service and contractor employees. In this capacity, he served as the alternate Technical Manager Representative (TMR) for the Space Program Operations Contract at KSC.

Phillips' career with NASA began at KSC in 1987. During his career he held numerous positions of increased responsibilities. He was a NASA test director, convoy commander, NASA vehicle manager for Endeavour, chief of the Process and Analysis Branch, flow director for Endeavour, and chief of the Shuttle Processing Business Office. Phillips served two 6-month details away from KSC: one at Johnson Space Center (JSC) in the Shuttle Program Office, and one at NASA Headquarters in the Office of Safety and Mission Assurance.

NASA has rewarded Phillips' service with several distinguished awards including the NASA Distinguished Service Medal, the Meritorious Presidential Rank Award, the NASA Exceptional Service Medal, the Astronaut Corp's Silver Snoopy Award, and several KSC Certificate of Commendations and Achievements.

Phillips graduated from Astronaut High School in Titusville, Fla, and received a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering from the University of Alabama in 1985. In 1996, he earned a Master of Science in engineering management from the University of Central Florida.

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