

NASA RANGE SAFETY PROGRAM 2005 ANNUAL REPORT

NASA Headquarters

The Office of Safety and Mission Assurance (OSMA) at NASA Headquarters works to assure the safety and success of all NASA activities by developing, and overseeing the implementation of Agency-level policy and requirements related to safety, reliability, maintainability, and quality assurance. The NASA Range Safety Program functions as an element of OSMA. The OSMA approves and promulgates Agency-level range safety policies and requirements, designates the NASA Range Safety Manager, and funds and oversees Range Safety Program activities.

OSMA representatives worked regularly with Agency range safety personnel and participated in a number of range safety related projects and initiatives throughout 2005. The final development and approval of NPR 8715.5, *Range Safety Program* was a major accomplishment for 2005 that required extensive coordination between Agency range safety personnel and the OSMA. (The *Range Safety Policy* article of this annual report describes the NPR 8715.5 development effort and discusses key aspects of this new NASA policy and requirements document.) Other range safety related activities supported by or led by OSMA in 2005 include:

- **Expendable Launch Vehicle (ELV) Payload Safety:** The OSMA is leading an effort to develop a new NASA ELV Payload Safety Program. The OSMA has established a team of personnel with ELV payload safety expertise from throughout the Agency. This team is developing NASA policy and associated requirements applicable to launch processing and launch of ELV payloads, associated interface hardware, and ground support equipment used for payload operations. This new Program will include a revised safety review and approval process applicable to all NASA ELV payload projects. (see related article)
- **Range Commanders Council (RCC):** OSMA representatives actively participated in semiannual RCC Range Safety Group (RSG) Main Committee meetings in 2005, and regular RSG Risk Committee meetings. (see related article)
- **Independent Assessments:** OSMA representatives teamed with NASA Range Safety Program personnel to conducted assessments of the range safety process and facilities at Dryden Flight Research Center and Wallops Flight Facility. The assessment team also performed a special review of the Space Shuttle Program's efforts at the Johnson Space Center to satisfy NASA range safety requirements for Space Shuttle return-to-flight. (see related articles)
- **Research and Technology Development:** The OSMA funds and oversees safety related research and technology development projects

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throughout the Agency. Range safety projects for 2005 included the Global Positioning System Operational Information Laboratory at Wallops Flight Facility, the Joint Advanced Range Safety System Project at Dryden Flight Research Center, and the Autonomous Flight Safety System Project at Kennedy Space Center and Wallops Flight Facility. (see related articles)

