

NASA RANGE SAFETY PROGRAM 2005 ANNUAL REPORT

Status Reports

Kennedy Space Center KSC Range Safety Manager

NASA operates and uses ranges for the purpose of launching, flying, landing, and testing space and aeronautical vehicles and associated technologies. These activities often present hazards which can pose significant risk to life and property. It is NASA policy to mitigate and control the hazards and risks associated with range operations. To assist in these functions, all Centers are required to appoint a Range Safety Representative. In addition to keeping the HQ NASA Range Safety Manager informed of all activities related to range safety, the representative also provides the same office with an annual summary of all range safety activities associated with each program. Other primary duties include leading and/or participating range safety activities as designated by the Center Director or vehicle program manager and coordinating requests for any variance to a range safety requirement.

The current KSC Range Safety Manager has been very busy with a number of range safety related activities. He was a key player in three independent assessments. The first, February 05, was at Dryden's Range Safety Systems Office (RSSO) to review the findings and corrective action status from the previous assessment in 2002 and then evaluate the RSSO Flight Analysis Function. The second, in April 05, was at JSC to evaluate their plans regarding implementation of the draft policy and requirements of NPR 8715.5, Range Safety Program; and evaluate the public risk assessment tools used to determine the public risk levels incurred as a result of vehicle entry and support entry decision-making. Again in April, the KSC Range Safety Manager led a team to evaluate the adequacy of the Wallops Flight Facility (WFF) range safety ground systems supporting NASA missions. It included both the mobile assets as well as the fixed systems on WFF. A second objective of this assessment included reviewing the findings and corrective action status from the previous RSO assessment in 2002. He will also be part of a proposed contractor launch services audit in FY 06.

Other range safety activities include:

- NASA POC to Range Safety Group – Presented RTF briefing and inputs to their Risk Committee
- Documenting approval of range safety non-conformances/variances for all applicable launches
- Coordinated on a KSC/AF MOU defining roles and responsibilities between NASA Range Safety and AF Range Safety
- Coordinated on development of a KSC Shuttle Program Contingency Action Plan.
- Key player in finalizing NPR 8715.5, "Range Safety Program"

NASA RANGE SAFETY PROGRAM 2005 ANNUAL REPORT

- Participated in a myriad of SMA Readiness Reviews (SMARR), Launch Vehicle Readiness Reviews (LVRR), Flight readiness Reviews (FRR), KSC's SMA Readiness Reviews (SARR) and numerous other launch related meetings
- Supporting all Shuttle and Expendable Launch Vehicle Range Safety Panel meetings
- Finalized a draft of Shuttle Launch and Landing Range Safety Risk Management Plan
- Coordinating with NASA (Shuttle program, SMA Director, Chief Legal Counsel and Associate Director) and Air Force (45th and 30th SW), to procure safety console positions in both AF Operations Centers for NASA launch operations
- Led a KSC team in developing the Shuttle Landing Implementation Plan that was in place for STS-114
- Spearheaded using the Self Service Management Tool (SSMT) program to determine the location of KSC workforce during launch and recovery operations

These are just a sampling of the myriad of range safety functions routinely covered throughout the year. The KSC Range Safety Representative responsibilities have proven critical in safeguarding this Center's workforce, the general public and high value property.