AIAA Members Attend Talk by NASA Marshall Space Flight Center Director

by Ken Philippart

Members of the Greater Huntsville Section attended a presentation by NASA Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC) Director and AIAA Associate Fellow Todd May. Mr. May was the featured speaker at the November breakfast meeting of the Huntsville Chapter of the National Space Club.

Mr. May briefly discussed the center's role in transition planning and execution after the recent Presidential Election. He explained that no decisions have been relayed affecting MSFC's roles or programs but that MSFC had prepared a series of informative papers outlining the need, capabilities and projected evolution of the Space Launch System (SLS). He then outlined some of the SLS accomplishments and milestones and reiterated his belief that SLS was the right vehicle to meet the country's requirements for heavy lift and human-rated spaceflight. At the



conclusion of his remarks, Mr. May fielded questions from the audience.

Other members who attended the breakfast presentation included Randy Lycans, Mark Becnel, Naveen Vetcha, Ken Philippart, Gabe Xu, Kyle and Michelle Knox, Paul and Pam Collopy, Alan Lowrey, Sami Habchi, Terry Abel, Shankar Mahalingam, Keith Hollingsworth, Tim Pickens, and Chris Crumbly.