

X-Authentication-Warning: spinoza.public.hq.nasa.gov: majordom set sender to owner-code-q using -f
X-Sender: prichard@mail.hq.nasa.gov
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Version 4.3.2
Date: Thu, 13 Feb 2003 10:24:47 -0500
To: code-q@lists.hq.nasa.gov
From: Pamela Richardson <prichard@hq.nasa.gov>
Subject: POC at LaRC for Columbia information requests
Sender: owner-code-q@lists.hq.nasa.gov

Recently, a friend of mine from LaRC called to offer information to our Columbia efforts on research done at LaRC in the early 80s regarding on-orbit tile repair for Shuttle. With Pete's help, I was able to obtain the information and it has been provided to Mark Kowaleski and Ron Moyer. Anyone is welcome to make a copy, it is in my office.

Through the effort, I did, in my thank yous to the people at LaRC, ask if LaRC has defined a POC for Columbia information requests. Del Freeman has named Mark P. Saunders, Deputy Director, Space Access and Exploration Program Office, as that person. (m.p.saunders@larc.nasa.gov). In my communications, I indicated that if LaRC could provide such a name, I would ask all of Code Q to work through that person.

Thanks, Pam

~~~~~  
Pamela F. Richardson  
Aerospace Technology Mission Assurance Manager  
Enterprise Safety and Mission Assurance Division, Code QE  
Office of Safety and Mission Assurance, NASA Headquarters  
300 E. Street, S. W., Washington, DC 20546  
phone: 202-358-4631, fax: 202-358-2778

~~~~~  
"The meek can *have* the Earth. The rest of us are going to the stars." --- Robert Heinlein
"We have to learn to manage information and its flow. If we don't, it will all end up in turbulence." --- RADM Grace Hopper
~~~~~

**Roger Mielec, 07:31 AM 2/14/2003 -0500, REPORT "Protecting the Space Shuttle from Meteoroids ar**

X-Sender: rmielec@mail.hq.nasa.gov

X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Version 4.3.2

Date: Fri, 14 Feb 2003 07:31:29 -0500

To: prutledg@hq.nasa.gov, dthomas@hq.nasa.gov, rmoyer@hq.nasa.gov,  
pnapala@hq.nasa.gov, Mark Kowaleski <mkowales@hq.nasa.gov>,  
Faith.Chandler@hq.nasa.gov, prichard@hq.nasa.gov, gwhite1@hq.nasa.gov,  
rpatrica@hq.nasa.gov, jmullin@hq.nasa.gov, alee@hq.nasa.gov,  
Michael Stamatelatos <mstamate@hq.nasa.gov>

From: Roger Mielec <rmielec@hq.nasa.gov>

Subject: REPORT "Protecting the Space Shuttle from Meteoroids and  
Orbital Debris (1997)"

A report:

<http://search.nap.edu/books/0309059887/html/>

**Roger Mielec, 07:48 AM 2/14/2003 -0500, REPORT: Orbital Debris: A Technical Assessment (1995)**

X-Sender: rmielec@mail.hq.nasa.gov

X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Version 4.3.2

Date: Fri, 14 Feb 2003 07:48:20 -0500

To: prutledg@hq.nasa.gov, dthomas@hq.nasa.gov, rmoyer@hq.nasa.gov,  
pnapala@hq.nasa.gov, Mark Kowaleski <mkowales@hq.nasa.gov>,  
Faith.Chandler@hq.nasa.gov, prichard@hq.nasa.gov, gwhite1@hq.nasa.gov,  
rpatrica@hq.nasa.gov, jmullin@hq.nasa.gov, alee@hq.nasa.gov,  
Michael Stamatelatos <mstamate@hq.nasa.gov>, rmielec@hq.nasa.gov

From: Roger Mielec <rmielec@hq.nasa.gov>

Subject: REPORT: Orbital Debris: A Technical Assessment (1995)

Orbital Debris: A Technical Assessment (1995)

<http://www.nap.edu/books/0309051258/html/index.html>

X-Authentication-Warning: spinoza.public.hq.nasa.gov: majordom set sender to owner-code-q using -f

X-Sender: jlloyd@mail.hq.nasa.gov

X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Version 4.3.2

Date: Tue, 18 Feb 2003 11:25:24 -0500

To: smadir@lists.hq.nasa.gov

From: Jim Lloyd <jlloyd@hq.nasa.gov>

Subject: Fwd: Columbia SMA Teleconference

Cc: Code-Q@lists.hq.nasa.gov

Sender: owner-code-q@lists.hq.nasa.gov

Sorry if this is duplicative. I tried to send out notices earlier but these evidently did not make it through. I am resending this once again in hope that it is successfully sent this time.

Teleconference scheduled for 1 pm today is postponed until tomorrow.

Jim

Reply-To: jlloyd@mail.hq.nasa.gov

X-Originating-IP: 68.100.166.170

X-URL: <http://mail2web.com/>

From: "jlloyd@mail.hq.nasa.gov" <jlloyd@mail.hq.nasa.gov>

To: smadir@lists.hq.nasa.gov

Cc: Code-Q@lists.hq.nasa.gov

Subject: Columbia SMA Teleconference

Date: Tue, 18 Feb 2003 10:27:42 -0500

X-OriginalArrivalTime: 18 Feb 2003 15:27:42.0502 (UTC) FILETIME=[476F0460:01C2D762]

X-MIME-Autoconverted: from quoted-printable to 8bit by bolg.public.hq.nasa.gov id KAA14519

Dear SMA Directors,

I am postponing today's SMA teleconference until tomorrow (Wednesday) at 1 pm est.

Jim Lloyd

-----  
mail2web - Check your email from the web at  
<http://mail2web.com/> .

**Question:**

**The Shuttle program has lost two spacecraft in 112 flights for a rate of one in every 56 flights. What does that say about NASA's risk assessment process when the median probability of LOV has, according to the analysis, improved from one in 145 flights in 1995 to one in 245 flights in 1998?**

**Answer:**

The probability of a frequent event can be reasonably well estimated from available statistics as the number of outcomes of interest divided by the total number of trials. For rare events such as the catastrophic failure of the Space Shuttle, this approach does not yield meaningful results. The catastrophic failure of the Space Shuttle cannot be accurately calculated by dividing the number of such accidents by the total number of flights because the total number of flights is small. Therefore, one needs to construct a mathematical model based on a methodology called probabilistic risk assessment. This model will yield a probability distribution whose mean, or average, typically describes the probability of interest. As more Shuttle flights occur and the experience database increases, the calculated distribution can be updated using statistical techniques (e.g., Bayesian updating) that yield a new distribution, which generally tends to have a narrower uncertainty range than the previous distribution and a mean that tends to be lower than the previous one if the number of successes are much greater than the number of failures.

To: Alan Feinberg <afeinber@hq.nasa.gov>  
From: Michael Stamatelatos <mstamate@hq.nasa.gov>  
Subject: Re: Fwd: shuttle risk  
Cc: pete.rutledge@hq.nasa.gov  
Bcc:  
Attached: C:\Documents and Settings\mstamate\Desktop\Question of

Al:  
Here is the answer.  
Michael

At 03:08 PM 2/12/2003 -0500, you wrote:  
Gentlemen,

Here's the question: how would you answer this?

As we discussed, Pete, respond to me.

Thanks,

al f.

Subject: shuttle risk  
To: afeinber@hq.nasa.gov  
From:  
Date: Wed, 12 Feb 2003 15:02:44 -0500

Hi Al, and thanks for helping me out on this question which i failed to ask--

The shuttle program has lost two spacecraft in 112 flights, for a rate of one in every 56 flights. What does this say about NASA's risk assessment process when the median probability of LOV has, according to the analysis, improved from one in 145 flights in 1995 to one in 245 flights in 1998. sorry for not asking this before. thanks for your help and best regards/Guy Gugliotta-The Washington Post

X-Sender: afeinber@mail.hq.nasa.gov  
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Version 4.3.2  
Date: Fri, 14 Feb 2003 11:50:55 -0500  
To: mstamate@mail.hq.nasa.gov  
From: Alan Feinberg <afeinber@hq.nasa.gov>  
Subject: PRA RTQ's

Mike -

Lemme know if this works.

Thanks again for your help!

- Al F.

P.S. Forgot to bore you with this bit of info before: my brother is a retired sociology professor at the University of Cincinnati who has published research (using computer modeling) on how people/families react in fires, and how/why neighborhoods change.

 PRA RTQ.doc

Subject: Media query  
Importance: normal  
Priority: normal  
Date: Mon, 24 Feb 2003 12:36:13 -0600  
X-MS-Has-Attach:  
X-MS-TNEF-Correlator:  
Thread-Topic: Media query  
thread-index: AcLcM5syeUp9WkgSEdeElwBQBAl7hA==  
From:  
To: <mstamate@hq.nasa.gov>  
X-OriginalArrivalTime: 24 Feb 2003 18:36:13.0097 (UTC) FILETIME=[9B8D5990:01C2DC33]

Dr. Stamatelatos --

I'm working on a story about NASA's adopting of PRA methods to assess risks in the shuttle program and the International Space Station. I would like to interview you. Please let me know the protocol for arranging such an interview.

Best,

=====  
This e-mail message is intended only for the personal use of the recipients(s) named above. If you are not an intended recipient, you may not review, copy or distribute this message.

If you have received this communication in error, please notify the Houston Chronicle Postmaster (postmaster@chron.com) immediately by e-mail and delete the original message.

=====



X-Sender: afeinber@mail.hq.nasa.gov  
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Version 4.3.2  
Date: Wed, 12 Feb 2003 15:08:07 -0500  
To: prutledg@hq.nasa.gov, mstamate@hq.nasa.gov  
From: Alan Feinberg <afeinber@hq.nasa.gov>  
Subject: Fwd: shuttle risk

Gentlemen,

Here's the question: how would you answer this?

As we discussed, Pete, respond to me.

Thanks,

al f.

Subject: shuttle risk  
To: afeinber@hq.nasa.gov  
From:  
Date: Wed, 12 Feb 2003 15:02:44 -0500

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also did analysis on a home movie of the B-52 crash up in Wash. State some years ago. And he did work for the Navy on the F-14 ramp strike by a female pilot.

Cognitech has several DoD and CIA clients, but they are not currently doing anything for NASA.

Anyway, if you get a chance to make the suggestion, I believe is the right guy to deblur the launch video. NASA's current efforts -- based on averaging of 10 frames -- is guaranteed to obscure any damage. The attached pdf illustrates one alternative that Lenny can bring to bear.

X-Sender: wfrazier@mail.hq.nasa.gov  
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Version 4.3.2  
Date: Tue, 04 Feb 2003 09:58:51 -0500  
To: mstamate@hq.nasa.gov  
From: "Wayne R. Frazier" <wfrazier@hq.nasa.gov>  
Subject: Old shuttle risk study by Pate-Cornell  
Cc: jilloyd@hq.nasa.gov, prutledg@hq.nasa.gov, jlemke@hq.nasa.gov,  
jlyver@hq.nasa.gov

Jack Mannix from legal just called me. They are looking for a 1990 study by Elizabeth Pate-Cornell at Stanford on Shuttle Risk Analysis. I think I remember Bob Weinstock working that from here out of Code Q funds. Does anyone have a copy. Apparently its getting some press.

Wayne

~~~~~  
Wayne R. Frazier
NASA Headquarters - Code QS
Office of Safety and Mission Assurance
Washington,DC 20546-0001
Ph: 202 358-0588 Fax: 202 358-3104
~~~~~

"Mission success starts with safety"

X-Sender: jlloyd@mail.hq.nasa.gov  
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Version 4.3.2  
Date: Tue, 04 Feb 2003 10:26:12 -0500  
To: "Wayne R. Frazier" <wfrazier@hq.nasa.gov>, mstamate@hq.nasa.gov  
From: James Lloyd <jlloyd@hq.nasa.gov>  
Subject: Re: Old shuttle risk study by Pate-Cornell  
Cc: prutledg@hq.nasa.gov, jlemke@hq.nasa.gov, jlyver@hq.nasa.gov

I recall seeing the study and recall it being on workmanship and its relationship to goodness of tile application. The study also treats the risk in a probabilistic sense. Maybe Bill Loewy could do a search on the web if it might be available externally or on the servers if internally. I think it predates Bob Weinstock but I may be wrong unless it was worked through Vitro. I would bet it is somewhere where we might have all the supporting documents for risk assessment.

At 09:58 AM 2/4/2003 -0500, Wayne R. Frazier wrote:

Jack Mannix from legal just called me. They are looking for a 1990 study by Elizabeth Pate-Cornell at Stanford on Shuttle Risk Analysis. I think I remember Bob Weinstock working that from here out of Code Q funds. Does anyone have a copy. Apparently its getting some press.

Wayne

~~~~~

Wayne R. Frazier
NASA Headquarters - Code QS
Office of Safety and Mission Assurance
Washington,DC 20546-0001
Ph: 202 358-0588 Fax: 202 358-3104

~~~~~

"Mission success starts with safety"

Jim

From: "Dr. J. Steven Newman" <snewman@hq.nasa.gov>  
To: <dvecellio@arescorporation.com>, <snewman@hq.nasa.gov>, <boconnor@hq.nasa.gov>, <prutledg@hq.nasa.gov>, <jlloyd@hq.nasa.gov>, <pnapala@hq.nasa.gov>, <wfrazier@hq.nasa.gov>, <fchandle@hq.nasa.gov>, <Tom.Whitmeyer@hq.nasa.gov>, <mkowales@hq.nasa.gov>, <wbihner@mail.hq.nasa.gov>, <jlemke@hq.nasa.gov>, <Laura.W.Doty@nasa.gov>, <Humberto.T.Garrido@nasa.gov>, <Amanda.H.Goodson@nasa.gov>, <Michael.D.Smiles@nasa.gov>, <yolanda.y.marshall@nasa.gov>, <mark.d.erminger@nasa.gov>, <A.H.Phillips@larc.nasa.gov>, <Wentworth.O.Denoon@nasa.gov>, <jmullin@hq.nasa.gov>, <alex.c.adams@nasa.gov>, <Clifton.T.Arnold@nasa.gov>, <matthew.bettridge@fema.gov>, <Steven.Brisbin-1@ksc.nasa.gov>, <david.m.browne1@jsc.nasa.gov>, <mc card@mail.hq.nasa.gov>, <jcastell@mail.hq.nasa.gov>, <ron.castleman@fema.gov>, <Nick.A.Cenci@nasa.gov>, <Lawrence.R.Davis@nasa.gov>, <John.Dollberg-1@ksc.nasa.gov>, <james.duffer@fema.gov>, <moises.dugan@fema.gov>, <mgaier@mail.hq.nasa.gov>, <Mark.Gordon-1@ksc.nasa.gov>, <dominic.l.gorie1@jsc.nasa.gov>, <mgreenfi@mail.hq.nasa.gov>, <Michael.Haddad-1@ksc.nasa.gov>, <wharkins@mail.hq.nasa.gov>, <william.j.harris1@jsc.nasa.gov>, <William.Higgins-1@ksc.nasa.gov>, <malcolm.j.himel1@jsc.nasa.gov>, <jerry.b.holsomback1@jsc.nasa.gov>, <Sharolee.Huet-1@ksc.nasa.gov>, <Bruce.Jansen-1@ksc.nasa.gov>, <m.s.johnson@nasa.gov>, <Wayne.Kee-1@ksc.nasa.gov>, <mlandano@mailhost4.jpl.nasa.gov>, <Roger.Langevin-1@ksc.nasa.gov>, <Edmundo.Lebron-1@ksc.nasa.gov>, <jlyver@mail.hq.nasa.gov>, <roy.w.malone@nasa.gov>, <pmartin@mail.hq.nasa.gov>, <daniel.j.mullane@nasa.gov>, <rpatrica@mail.hq.nasa.gov>, <pphilip@mail.hq.nasa.gov>, <eraynor@mail.hq.nasa.gov>, <scott.a.seyl1@jsc.nasa.gov>, <lsirota@hq.nasa.gov>, <mstamate@mail.hq.nasa.gov>, <Michael.Stevens-1@ksc.nasa.gov>, <Burton.Summerfield-1@ksc.nasa.gov>, <david.f.thelen1@jsc.nasa.gov>, <Randall.Tilley-1@ksc.nasa.gov>, <swander@hq.nasa.gov>, <Vernon.W.Wessel@grc.nasa.gov>, <gwhite1@mail.hq.nasa.gov>, <david.w.whittle1@jsc.nasa.gov>, <gary.w.johnson@nasa.gov>, <Oscar.Toledo-1@nasa.gov>, <joan.w.broadfoot@nasa.gov>, <deborah.s.bazan1@jsc.nasa.gov>, <Brenda.P.Willis@nasa.gov>, <john.h.casper1@jsc.nasa.gov>, <david.cazes1@jsc.nasa.gov>, <Joseph.C.Cianciola@nasa.gov>, <frank.l.culbertson1@jsc.nasa.gov>, <Angela.V.Daniels@msfc.nasa.gov>, <Diana.Heberling@ssc.nasa.gov>, <marla.g.duhon1@jsc.nasa.gov>, <keith.w.dyer1@jsc.nasa.gov>, <richard.d.gardner1@jsc.nasa.gov>, <whill@mail.hq.nasa.gov>, <cheryl.a.inman1@jsc.nasa.gov>, <Leigh.Martin@msfc.nasa.gov>

<hugo.e.martinez1@jsc.nasa.gov>, <desiree.c.patterson1@jsc.nasa.gov>, <Robert.Nagy-1@ksc.nasa.gov>, <cyndi.l.skains1@jsc.nasa.gov>, <Stephen.Ernest-1@ksc.nasa.gov>, <elizabeth.torres1@jsc.nasa.gov>, <Vicki.W.Rorex@msfc.nasa.gov>, <angelia.d.walker@nasa.gov>, <rosalyn.m.patrick@nasa.gov>, <randall.h.tucker@nasa.gov>, <foster.e.anthony@nasa.gov>, <mike.kennedy@msfc.nasa.gov>, <allan.k.layne@nasa.gov>, <rmoyer@mail.hq.nasa.gov>, <ajohnson@mail.hq.nasa.gov>, <Donald.J.Campbell@grc.nasa.gov>, <prichard@mail.hq.nasa.gov>, <Thomas.W.Hartline@nasa.gov>

X-your-intranet: <http://107team.intranets.com>

X-Intranets-helpdesk: <mailto:help@intranets.com>

Date: Tue, 04 Feb 2003 15:38:02 GMT

X-mailer: AspMail 4.0 4.03 (SMT412E7EF)

Subject: 107-Team

X-OriginalArrivalTime: 04 Feb 2003 15:38:09.0679 (UTC) FILETIME=[6B7A21F0:01C2CC63]

107-Team

Reminder: This functionality is operating on a third party server operating under an approved, NASA NPG 2810 compliant IT security plan.

As discussed in our telecons the site operates under a set of special ground rules: No ITAR Data, No Export Controlled Data, No Competition Sensitive Data. We can add to that No Investigation Sensitive Data.

Please call if you have any questions (202-358-1408).

Regards/Steve

The site will continue to support NASA SMA community in communication (members & contacts) and public domain information / document / link exchange to support NASA SMA 107-activity.

We are working with GRC and NASA IT community to implement an Enhanced Security functionality that will allow sharing of sensitive information (data covered under ITAR/Export Control). More on this capability in the near future.

X-Sender: jlloyd@mail.hq.nasa.gov  
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Version 4.3.2  
Date: Tue, 04 Feb 2003 15:34:47 -0500  
To: "Wayne R. Frazier" <wfrazier@hq.nasa.gov>, prichard@hq.nasa.gov  
From: James Lloyd <jlloyd@hq.nasa.gov>  
Subject: Re: Fwd: Re: Old shuttle risk study by Pate-Cornell  
Cc: mstamate@hq.nasa.gov, prutledg@hq.nasa.gov, jlemke@hq.nasa.gov,  
sbrookov@hq.nasa.gov

I have also provided to HCAT who were actually very interested in the excellent illustrations which they have not been able to secure. They have no access to the JSC source data base for the illustrations evidently.

At 02:26 PM 2/4/2003 -0500, Wayne R. Frazier wrote:

I have received a clean copy of the report plus three magazine articles from Michael S. and will take up to Legal per Pete's direction.

W

Pamela please add this to your log of actions done. Sylvia, please close this out on the QS log.

X-Sender: prutledg@mail.hq.nasa.gov  
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Version 4.3.2  
Date: Tue, 04 Feb 2003 10:37:24 -0500  
To: James Lloyd <jlloyd@hq.nasa.gov>,  
"Wayne R. Frazier" <wfrazier@hq.nasa.gov>, mstamate@hq.nasa.gov  
From: Pete Rutledge <prutledg@hq.nasa.gov>  
Subject: Re: Old shuttle risk study by Pate-Cornell  
Cc: jlemke@hq.nasa.gov, jlyver@hq.nasa.gov

Jim,

We had already anticipated the need for the report. Couldn't find it here. I asked Michael S. to call her. Should arrive today via FedEx. I hope our call didn't cause her to give a press conference!!

Pete

At 10:26 AM 2/4/2003 -0500, James Lloyd wrote:

I recall seeing the study and recall it being on workmanship and its relationship to goodness of tile application. The study also treats the risk in a probabilistic sense. Maybe Bill Loewy could do a search on the web if it might be available externally or on the servers if internally. I think it predates Bob Weinstock but I may be wrong unless it was worked through Vitro. I would bet it is somewhere where we might have all the supporting documents for risk assessment.



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Wayne

~~~~~

Wayne R. Frazier
NASA Headquarters - Code QS
Office of Safety and Mission Assurance
Washington,DC 20546-0001
Ph: 202 358-0588 Fax: 202 358-3104

~~~~~

"Mission success starts with safety"

Jim

-----

Peter J. Rutledge, Ph.D.  
Director, Enterprise Safety and Mission Assurance Division  
Acting Director, Review and Assessment Division  
Office of Safety and Mission Assurance  
NASA Headquarters, Code QE, Washington, DC 20546

ph: 202-358-0579  
FAX:202-358-2778  
e-mail: [pete.rutledge@hq.nasa.gov](mailto:pete.rutledge@hq.nasa.gov)

Mission Success Starts with Safety!

~~~~~

Wayne R. Frazier
NASA Headquarters - Code QS
Office of Safety and Mission Assurance
Washington,DC 20546-0001
Ph: 202 358-0588 Fax: 202 358-3104

~~~~~

"Mission success starts with safety"

Jim

jlloyd@mail.hq.nasa.gov, 07:07 PM 2/4/2003 -0500, FW: Former Head of ASAP Sets the Recc

X-Authentication-Warning: spinoza.public.hq.nasa.gov: majordom set sender to owner-code-q using -f  
Reply-To: jlloyd@mail.hq.nasa.gov  
X-Originating-IP: 68.100.166.170  
X-URL: <http://mail2web.com/>  
From: "jlloyd@mail.hq.nasa.gov" <jlloyd@mail.hq.nasa.gov>  
To: hc@hq.nasa.gov, Code-Q@hq.nasa.gov  
Cc: gary.w.johnson@nasa.gov  
Subject: FW: Former Head of ASAP Sets the Record Straight  
Date: Tue, 4 Feb 2003 19:07:22 -0500  
X-OriginalArrivalTime: 05 Feb 2003 00:07:22.0183 (UTC) FILETIME=[8E304570:01C2CCAA]  
X-MIME-Autoconverted: from quoted-printable to 8bit by spinoza.public.hq.nasa.gov id TAA17347  
Sender: owner-code-q@lists.hq.nasa.gov

>From Gary Johnson at JSC; kind of restores ones faith in people's integrity and sense of fairness. Kind of a shame that Richard was out of the country when the media took off in this direction.

Original Message:

-----  
From: JOHNSON, GARY W. (JSC-NA) (NASA) gary.w.johnson@nasa.gov  
Date: Tue, 4 Feb 2003 16:10:51 -0600  
To: ronald.d.dittemore@nasa.gov, linda.j.ham@nasa.gov,  
william.j.harris@nasa.gov, mark.d.erminger@nasa.gov,  
frank.l.culbertson1@jsc.nasa.gov, jlloyd@hq.nasa.gov,  
john.w.young@nasa.gov, jerry.b.holsomback@nasa.gov  
Subject: FW: Former Head of ASAP Sets the Record Straight

Glad to see Richard's trying to do the right thing.

> -----Original Message-----  
> From: HASHIMOTO, RICK (REMOTE-JSC)  
> Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2003 3:59 PM  
> Subject: Former Head of ASAP Sets the Record Straight  
>  
> Former Head of NASA Safety Panel Sets the Record Straight  
> By Brian Berger  
> Space News Staff Writer  
> 03:00 pm ET  
> 04 February 2003  
>

> WASHINGTON -- Much has been made since Saturday of a comment a  
> member of NASA's Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel made during an  
> April 18 hearing before the House Science space and aeronautics  
> subcommittee.

>  
> The member, Richard Blomberg, the former chairman of the panel,  
> told lawmakers that he had "never been as concerned for space  
> shuttle safety as I am right now."

>  
> Less is being made of what he then went on to say:

>  
> "That concern is not for the present flight or the next or  
> perhaps the one after that. In fact, one of the roots of my  
> concern is that nobody will know for sure when the safety margin  
> has been eroded too far. All of my instincts, however, suggest  
> that the current approach is planting the seeds for future  
> danger."

>  
> Blomberg told Space News in a Feb. 4 telephone interview that he  
> felt his comments had been taken out of context by some media  
> organizations.

>  
> "I clearly was not talking about immediate flight risks," he  
> said. "I was talking about the long term planning and the fact  
> that the planning horizon was not realistic if the shuttle was  
> not going to be replaced any time soon.

>  
> Blomberg was in London when the shuttle Columbia disintegrated on  
> reentry Feb.1. When he returned home Monday night, he was  
> chagrined to see that his comments had been taken out of context  
> by a host of media outlets.

>  
> Blomberg has since been trying to set the record straight and has  
> been deluged with phone calls and interview requests from the  
> media.

>  
> Blomberg also told Space News that he doesn't believe that the  
> loss of Columbia is due to NASA or its contractors shirking their  
> commitment to safety.

>  
> "The safety processes were, if anything, more robust than ever,"  
> he said.

>

- > Congressional staffers present at the April 18 hearing also said
- > they felt Blomberg's comments had been largely misconstrued. They
- > said lawmakers took from his comments that NASA is not
- > shortchanging safety today, but that if the agency wishes to
- > continue flying safely into the next decade, larger investments
- > need to be made in upgrades.
- >
- > By November 2002, NASA appeared ready to do just that. An
- > amendment to NASA's 2003 budget request sent to Congress by the
- > White House asked that an additional \$470 million be provided for
- > a space shuttle Service Life Extension Program.
- >
- > Asked if the request for additional funds was responsive to the
- > advisory panel's recommendations, Blomberg said: "I'm not a
- > budget expert, so I don't know whether that's adequate, too much
- > or too little - but its certainly in the right spirit".
- >
- > Blomberg also said he does not believe that NASA's dismissal of
- > advisory panel members in early 2002 had anything to do with the
- > group's conclusions. Blomberg, who resigned his position as
- > chairman of the panel April 1, 2001, said that while he did not
- > agree with NASA's conclusion that more turnover in the panel's
- > membership was needed, he said he does not believe NASA was
- > trying to silence dissenting opinions.
- >
- > "People in Washington know you don't silence people by letting
- > them go - it just loosens their tongues," he said.
- >
- > NASA spokesman Bob Jacobs said the decision to replace members of
- > the aerospace safety advisory panel dates back to a 1997 by the
- > U.S. space agency's Inspector General expressing concern about
- > the length of service of panel members.
- >
- > In 2001, Jacobs said, a NASA internal report came to the same
- > conclusion. He said the changes in the panel's composition were
- > unrelated to the panel's findings about the space shuttle
- > program.
- >
- > Robert Walker, chairman of the Wexler Group and the former chair
- > of the House Science Committee, said the additional money for
- > shuttle upgrades also reflected a decision by NASA in 2001 to
- > push back the projected retirement date for shuttle from 2012 to
- > 2020 or later.

- >
- > Walker also said he felt Blomberg's testimony had been taken out
- > of context.
- >
- > "What he was concerned about was the talk that NASA was going to
- > continue using the shuttle out to 2020," Walker said. "A lot of
- > us who have looked at this program agreed that in order to have a
- > shuttle that operates that you, you are going to have to spend a
- > lot of money in upgrades to keep it flying safely."
- >
- > Walker said the perspective was different when NASA though it
- > would phase out the shuttle around 2012. In that scenario, he
- > said, he makes more sense to focus investment on the new
- > technologies needed for the new vehicle.
- >
- > "I don't believe that agency was compromising safety by starving
- > [the shuttle program] for funds," he said. "I spent a year
- > looking at this stuff and I really don't think that's a
- > legitimate criticism."
- >
- > Walker served as chair of the Commission on the Future of the
- > U.S. Aerospace Industry. The commission's report, delivered to
- > the White House and Congress in late 2002, recommended an
- > increased investment in the crumbling ground infrastructure at
- > Kennedy Space Center and Cape Canaveral Air Station, the United
- > State's primary launch facilities.
- >
- > Lori Garver, a former NASA associate administrator for policy and
- > plans who now consults to the aerospace industry, agreed that too
- > much was being made of Blomberg's warnings by the media.
- >
- > "Blomberg did not say it was unsafe now, he said it would be in
- > 10 years if NASA didn't increase its investment," she said.
- >
- > "Every single time we fly we believe it is safe or we wouldn't do
- > it," Garver said.
- >
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mail2web - Check your email from the web at

jllloyd@mail.hq.nasa.gov, 07:07 PM 2/4/2003 -0500, FW: Former Head of ASAP Sets the Recd

<http://mail2web.com/> .

From:  
To: "Michael Stamatelatos" <mstamate@hq.nasa.gov>  
Subject: Re: PRA Q&A  
Date: Sat, 8 Feb 2003 14:16:54 -0500  
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 6.00.2600.0000

Thank you, Michael, for the copy. I will be leaving for JSC tomorrow and will be back on Friday. I will also be going to Marshall on the 19th and will be coming back on the 21st. Both of these meetings are for reviews of the Space Shuttle PRA models. I am expecting to resolve our issues. I have talked with the analysts and managers and it looks like we can arrive at justifiable solutions. I can be reached on my

Take care.

----- Original Message -----

From: "Michael Stamatelatos" <mstamate@hq.nasa.gov>  
To:  
Sent: Saturday, February 08, 2003 1:56 PM  
Subject: PRA Q&A

> Here is what I have compiled on PRA, so far, from you and me, as input to  
> the Administrator. He will testify on the Hill next week and we are  
> preparing Q&As on a variety of topics to prep him.  
> Michael

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> \*\*\*\*\*  
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> (Please note change in e-mail address)  
> \*\*\*\*\*  
> "Mission success starts with safety"



To:  
From: Michael Stamatelatos <mstamate@hq.nasa.gov>  
Subject: Re: PRA Q&A  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Attached:

Thanks      Have a good trip. Michael

At 02:16 PM 2/8/2003 -0500, you wrote:

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- > \*\*\*\*\*
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- > (Please note change in e-mail address)
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- > "Mission success starts with safety"