

Mission Success

Bulletin

October 26, 2005

On-line

Michoud reopens October 31

Michoud Operations will reopen for all employees on Monday, October 31. Already, 1,200 employees have returned to Michoud, with more coming every day, while about 200 more continue to support In-Flight Anomaly (IFA) team investigations and Business Operations activities in Huntsville, Ala.

With the return of ET-120 from the Kennedy Space Center last week, and the improved condition of the facility, the time is right to reopen.

"Our employees have worked very hard to get this facility ready for the workforce again, and now that two tanks have returned for retrofitting, we've got work to do," said **Marshall Byrd**, vice president & general manager. "I welcome everyone back."

Production work is progressing on many fronts. The ET-119 Protuberance Airloads (PAL) ramps have completed backscatter radiography, a form of Non-Destructive Evaluation (NDE), with terahertz imaging scheduled next. ET-120 is scheduled to move to Building 420 later this week to begin initial NDE work. After NDE is completed, the PAL ramps on ET-119 and ET-120 will be removed. Also, ET-123 PAL ramps will be dissected to support the IFA team investiga-



After off-loading from the barge, ET-120 moves to Building 103 Through Aisle.

tion.

Technicians have completed several enhancement sprays on high fidelity PAL ramp mock-ups and a second developmental robotic PAL ramp spray. Production crews are continuing detail fabrication work on harnesses and signal conditioners for Developmental Flight Instrumentation – to assess the cable tray flight environment for a possible PAL ramp removal in the future.

Meanwhile, repair work is progressing at the facility.

Interim repairs have been completed on the roofs of the Vertical Assembly Building (VAB) and Building 303 where tanks are stored; Cell A in the VAB is ready for cleanup and checkout prior to the resumption of production activities; and platforms in Final Assembly have been reinstalled to reactivate Position 2 for future work.

Lockheed Martin continues to pursue options for employees with damaged or flooded

Chapman, Scheuermann appointed to NASA posts

John Chapman has been named NASA's External Tank program manager. He succeeds Sandy Coleman



Chapman

who served in the post two years and has been appointed transition manager to facilitate shuttle propulsion knowledge and expertise to Marshall Space Flight Center's Exploration Launch office.

Chapman, previously chief engineer for Shuttle Propulsion at the Marshall Center, is a 25-year NASA veteran. He has been involved with the shuttle since its development, holding nearly every shuttle office manager, deputy manager and business manager post.



Scheuermann

Chapman holds an industrial engineering degree from the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Patrick Scheuermann

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Bus transportation popular with employees

Will bus ridership continue to grow as more employees report to work?

Already, 125-150 employees ride the seven buses daily to and from Michoud – one from Baton Rouge, one from Hammond, and five buses departing at different times from Slidell. And bus service begins from LaPlace on October 31.

Chester Crook, a 28-year employee who works mechanical system & test in the Vertical Assembly Building, rides the Hammond bus. After his home took 11 feet of water in St. Bernard Parish, he rented a home in Hammond and wants to buy there now.

“I lost my truck in St. Bernard, and my wife uses our other vehicle to go and get her medicine,” Crook says.

About the bus service, Crook responds, “It’s wonderful, definitely wonderful. Everything Lockheed Martin has done – it’s above and beyond.”

Thermal Protection Systems mechanic **Jeff Hall** takes one of the Slidell buses and says the ride is quicker now that one-half of the Twin Spans is open. Hall’s family lives at his mother-in-law’s home since his Slidell home flooded. He too lost a vehicle in the hurricane, and his wife uses the other one to pick up their children from school and run errands.

A 23-year employee who’s busy on PAL ramp mock-ups, Hall hopes the bus transportation continues. “I think it’s great. I’m going to keep riding the bus all the time.”

Irvin Verdin, a 24-year veteran in Production Operations, also likes the Slidell bus. “I’m grateful for it because of the traffic and especially when we had federal agents escorting us – we would have never got to work if we had to drive our own vehicles in a situation like that.”

Verdin, who says he’s lucky with only three holes in his



This week 11 percent of Michoud’s employees are taking the bus to and from work.

Slidell roof, wants to ride the bus as long as he can. “I don’t want to fight that traffic. As more people come in, especially with one lane on I-10, the traffic’s going to get heavier.”

Living farther away in Baton Rouge is **Philip Miles**, a process engineer/chemist, who evacuated there two months ago just before his Uptown house flooded with seven feet of water. He estimates his house won’t be livable for a year.

To him the Baton Rouge bus has been a godsend. “Before, it was horrendous driving, wore me out.”

To ride a bus, just show up at the appointed Park and Ride location.

“For future buses, the tough part is finding the Park and Ride lots,” says **Bill Olson**, Facilities & Environmental Operations. “We do have a commuter lot under the West Bank Expressway near Oakwood Mall for employees across the river. But I need to know if there’s interest.” If interested, call Olson at 257-1034.

Michoud is also considering buses from Kenner-Metairie, Covington-Mandeville, the West Bank and Picayune, Miss.

The bus schedule is changing to reflect traffic patterns and work schedules. Check mafstatus.com for updates. ■



Employees presented Sen. Vitter with a plaque made from a tree that fell during the storm.

Vitter thanks employees

U.S. Senator **David Vitter** (R-La.) stopped at the Michoud Assembly Facility on October 13 to express his appreciation to NASA and Lockheed Martin employees for their work during Hurricane Katrina in protecting the facility and for returning to work as soon as they did.

“You came together and helped save this facility much more quickly than anyone would have predicted. This is enormously important to the state of Louisiana and our

country.”

Vitter wished employees the best in retrofitting an External Tank (ET-119) in time to ship it to Kennedy Space Center in February.

“Again, thanks for getting back to work immediately, for building the External Tanks and for making Michoud a very proud and important facility.”

The senator also said that he believes in the country’s new space vision, and that means building big space components here at Michoud. ■

National Guard secures Michoud and neighborhoods

Employees returning to work have grown accustomed to seeing National Guard soldiers at the front gate. Beefing up the facility's security is only one of the soldiers' missions while they live at Michoud.

Their main work is supporting the New Orleans police in the area by patrolling neighborhoods. Sometimes that means retaining suspects until the police arrive. These citizen soldiers have plenty of experience, having returned from a year's duty in Iraq earlier this year.

There's also the humanitarian part of the job – helping residents post-Katrina.

Specialist **John Allen**, a corrections officer when not on active duty, patrolled the 9th Ward. "There are a lot of wild dogs, but also a lot of people with character who are appre-



National Guard Specialist Danny Redington mans the main gate while security officer Rodrigo Samano checks badges.

ciative of us. Lots of artists and artisans. We've been helping them. And they're coming back. It's amazing. You'll see this pile of rubble where there used to be a house and they're

asking us to help them move stuff out so they can begin rebuilding. Just amazing the amount of stamina they have."

Specialist **Oliver Walls**, an asphalt sealer from Tacoma,

Wash., recounted his impressions. "It feels good to help out. It's just really sad and depressing to see all this architecture and history go down in the storm. I want to come back and see the area as it comes back. People want to get back to living their lives."

What struck Specialist **Dwayne Seese**, a diesel mechanic, was a feeling of helplessness when he first saw the neighborhoods. "I feel like I can't do enough. We get a lot of gratitude and we're out there doing everything we can possibly do, but it just doesn't seem like it's enough."

The 104 soldiers, all volunteers from the 81st Brigade in Washington state, returned home this week and will be replaced by 90 soldiers from the 528th Engineering Battalion out of Monroe, La. ■

Volunteer task force to help employees with damaged homes

The Employee Volunteer Organization is assembling a Disaster Aid Task Force to help Lockheed Martin employees prepare their property for reconstruction or help return their home to its condition before Hurricane Katrina hit the area.

As the task force completes work on employees' property, it will link with other community assistance organizations to continue helping in the community.

Please contact Gordon Dyer to be a member of the task force to help other employees or call Gordon if you need assistance with your own property.

Office 504-257-0352

Cell 504-615-9800

gordon.l.dyer@maf.nasa.gov ■



Ride-out crew honored

Vice President & General Manager Marshall Byrd (left) thanks electrician Henry Sissac, Facilities & Environmental Operations, for his contributions as a member of Michoud's ride-out crew during Hurricane Katrina. Human Resources Director Cheryl Alexander assisted in recognizing each member of the ride-out crew, who received a letter of thanks from Lockheed Martin Chairman, President & CEO Bob Stevens. ■

Appointments

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was named chief operating officer of the Michoud Assembly Facility a week before Hurricane Katrina closed the facility. Previously, he served as deputy director of Center Operations at Stennis Space Center, where he helped direct a comprehensive array of institutional services.

Before that, he spent a year as a Legislative Fellow assigned to U.S. Sen. Trent Lott (R-Miss.). Scheuermann has 18 years of NASA experi-

ence in a variety of management positions, including chief, New Business Development; project manager for the National Aerospace Plane activities; and rocket propulsion test engineer at Stennis.

A finalist in the astronaut selection cycle in 1998, Scheuermann holds a mechanical engineering degree from the University of New Orleans where he was named a Distinguished Alumnus of the Year in 2001. ■

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homes to relocate closer to the plant. On bulletin boards in Building 103 and Building 351 cafeteria, employees who have an extra bedroom can get together with others who need temporary housing; and on October 27-29, Michoud will sponsor five Housing Fairs where real estate agents will meet with employees to provide data on available housing nearby. ■

Open Enrollment Reminder

Open Enrollment ends Sunday, November 6. For general information about Open Enrollment, go to www.mafstatus.com/employeebenefits.pdf

The site also includes information about enrolling on-line.

To enroll by telephone, call 866-562-2363 M-F from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Need a packet? Call **Suzette Archie** in HR at 281-283-4121.

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Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company
Michoud Operations
October 26, 2005

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Lindsey Thornhill and Horace Williams

Contributor: Gordon Dyer

Mission Success Bulletin is published by the Communications Department.

Lockheed Martin Family Day at Six Flags on November 5 is cancelled due to Six Flags closing.



Lockheed Martin Ethics Hotline



To report unethical actions, talk with your manager, Human Resources representative or Ethics Officer Feltus Kennedy. The Ethics Hotline is 257-3842.

“Ask before you act.” ■