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USA EARNS ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION

HOUSTON, Texas (July 20, 2007) -- United Space Alliance recently achieved ISO 14001 certification for its world-class Environmental Management System (EMS).

USA achieved this rigorous certification, which is published by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) for ensuring that environmental concerns are addressed and met, to demonstrate its commitment to environmental protection.

To achieve the ISO 14001 certification, USA was required to undergo an extensive audit to verify that USA's EMS meets the requirements of the ISO 14001 standard. Along with the documentation review, the auditors performed site inspections and interviewed personnel in order to confirm that USA employees follow the applicable policies and procedures.

USA's audit – which covered all USA locations over a 40 audit-day period – was completed in May, with the auditors reporting nine “noteworthy efforts” and only three minor findings. All three findings have since been closed.

Some of the requirements to obtain and maintain the ISO 14001 certification include identification of all aspects of the an organization's activities and their impact on the environment, setting performance objectives and targets that link back to the organization's environmental policy, implementing an EMS to meet these objectives and checking and taking corrective and preventive actions when deviations from the EMS occur.

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“USA has always had great environmental performance,” said Craig Lovell, Vice President for Safety, Quality and Mission Assurance. “In our obligation to keep the environment safe, we chose to ensure the highest level of compliance for our Environmental Management System. This is especially important because we operate with hazardous materials and co-exist on a wildlife refuge, and at the end of the Shuttle’s mission, we will need to fully understand the environmental baseline of our systems.”

United Space Alliance is a world leader in space operations with extensive experience in all aspects of the field. Headquartered in Houston and employing 10,000 people in Texas, Florida and Alabama, USA is applying its broad range of capabilities to NASA’s Space Shuttle, International Space Station and Constellation programs as well as to space operations customers in the commercial and international space industry sectors.

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