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Contact: Jessica Pieczonka
(281) 212-6252

KIESTER NATIVE HONORED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPACE PROGRAM

HOUSTON, TX (June 23, 2008) – Kiester native and United Space Alliance employee Ronald Aadsen was recently recognized as a Space Flight Awareness (SFA) honoree for his work in support of NASA's Space Shuttle and International Space Station programs at Johnson Space Center.

A Minnesota State University – Mankato graduate, Aadsen serves as a flight simulation engineer and was recognized for his outstanding performance that significantly improved systems in the Flight Operations Trainer (FOT) facility used to train flight controllers how to detect and respond to anomalies during a flight. FOT equipment was upgraded to improve the fidelity of training, improve reliability, as well as reduce the manpower required to operate and maintain them. Aadsen's efforts resulted in a significant cost savings of more than 10,400 employee hours.

As an SFA honoree, Aadsen traveled to Kennedy Space Center where he received a tour of the complex and viewed the launch of Space Shuttle Discovery on May 31.

"I worked with many talented and dedicated engineers to implement the upgrades to the FOT," said Aadsen. "This team made the project successful and no individual could have done it alone. I am thankful to be recognized for my portion of that team effort."

Aadsen currently resides in Boerne, Texas with his wife Lori. The couple's oldest son, Joshua, is a graduate student at Washington University in St. Louis and is also attending Concordia Seminar in St. Louis, Missouri. Their youngest son, Gabriel, is attending Concordia University in Austin, Texas.

The SFA Program is a NASA safety and awareness managed motivational program geared at ensuring that every employee involved in human space flight is aware of the importance of their role in promoting astronaut safety and mission success in the critical, challenging task of flying humans in the hostile environment of space by communicating and educating the government and industry workforce about human space flight.

United Space Alliance is a world leader in space operations with extensive experience in all aspects of the field. Headquartered in Houston, USA has 10,000 employees working in Texas, Florida and Alabama. Currently, 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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