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HUTCHINSON NATIVE RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS NASA AWARD

JOHNSON SPACE CENTER, Texas (July 2009) –Hutchinson native and United Space Alliance employee Roger Luty was recently honored with NASA's prestigious Astronauts Personal Achievement Award, the Silver Snoopy, in recognition of his support of NASA's Space Shuttle and International Space Station (ISS) programs at Johnson Space Center (JSC).

Astronauts Dominic Gorie, Robert Behnken, George Zamka, and Janet Kavandi presented the award at JSC. Known by its identifying character from the Charles Schulz comic strip, the Silver Snoopy Award is presented to those NASA and contractor employees who are nominated by an astronaut or manager for their professionalism, dedication and outstanding support that greatly enhances flight safety and mission success during the Space Shuttle program.

Luty was recognized for his outstanding support of the ISS program as the ISS Systems Integrated Simulation lead software engineer. Through Luty's expertise and dedication he led the development of a software centric training environment using low-cost commodity hardware, common models to the full-task trainer in the Space Station Training Facility and a chip-set of ISS flight software. This software now supports a reduced timeline for the training and certification of flight controllers within a twelve-month cycle.

United Space Alliance is a world leader in space operations with extensive experience in all aspects of the field. Headquartered in Houston, USA has 9,300 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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