



**PRESS INFORMATION**

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**UNITED SPACE ALLIANCE RECOGNIZES  
SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR HONOREES**

HOUSTON, Texas (August 20, 2009) – United Space Alliance recognized companies in seven different categories with its 2008 Supplier of The Year distinction for outstanding service and commitment to human space flight.

Braddock Metallurgical Aerospace Services, Inc.; A&M Electronics; Reed Educational Services, LLC; JES Tech; Jenks Metals; Fort Walton Machining; and VACCO Industries received the supplier of the year award for the companies' contributions to USA's business goal of safe Space Shuttle and International Space Station operations.

"It takes the cooperation and support of an innovative and multifaceted network of businesses to provide the unique goods and services required for successful human space flight," said Don Herring, USA Director Supplier Relations. "Our 2008 award recipients are committed to excellence in quality, safety and mission success and we're proud to have them as members of the USA team."

Braddock Metallurgical Aerospace Services, Inc., recognized in the small business category, is based in Boynton Beach, Florida, and has been a supplier of heat treating processes for USA for 20 years. The company was recognized for its attitude toward excellent quality and on-time delivery as well as its certification processes that meet USA's safe space flight goals.

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A&M Electronics of Stafford, Texas, honored in the small disadvantaged business category, provides USA with tools, batteries, chemicals, adhesives, and corrosive materials in addition to electronics. A&M has been a USA supplier since 2000 and earned today's award for its excellent communications and commitment to reliable products at reasonable costs.

Reed Educational Services, LLC received the supplier of the year award in the woman-owned business category. The company located in Pasadena, Texas, works with USA on computer programming classes. A USA supplier since 2005, the company was recognized for its professionalism, outstanding class instructors and innovative delivery of the training in any USA location.

JES Tech, recognized in the SBA HUBZone small business category, is located in Houston and has been supplying USA with Information Technology and mail room services since 2004. The company was honored for its value-added IT services, including the delivery and installation of hundreds of USA newly refreshed computers, and its innovative approach of teaming with the nonprofit organization, Genesys Works, to provide opportunities for inner-city youth.

Jenks Metals, honored in the veteran-owned small business category, is located in Orlando and has been a USA supplier of metallic raw materials since 1996. The company was recognized for its high quality technical support and commitment to meeting USA's needs and its positive working relationship with many engineers across USA to support a variety of human space flight goals.

Fort Walton Machining, recognized in the service disabled veteran-owned small business category, has supplied USA with build-to-print hardware and assemblies for the Orbiter, Solid Rocket Boosters and Constellation components for four years. The company, located in Florida, earned the supplier of the year distinction for its effective management, cost reduction techniques, and safety initiatives.

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VACCO Industries, honored in the large business category, is in El Monte, California and has been a USA supplier since 1998 and provides filters, elements, seals, flow control valves and other miscellaneous items that support the Shuttle program. The company earned recognition for its consistent outstanding quality, knowledgeable and capable staff, and support in helping with the success of the past several Shuttle missions.

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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From left to right: Mark White, USA Director Procurement and Subcontracts; Bobbie Jessie of JES Tech; Tim McDonald of Fort Walton Machining; Tony Gonzalez of VACCO Industries; Steve Hutchinson of Braddock Metallurgical Aerospace Services, Inc; Marie Reed of Reed Educational Services, LLC; Bill Chan of A&M Electronics; Bill Hollingsed of Jenks Metals; Mike Jones, USA Vice President Logistics and Material.

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