



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jessica Pieczonka
(281) 212-6252

HUTCHINSON NATIVE RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS NASA AWARD

JOHNSON SPACE CENTER, Texas (July 2009) – Hutchinson native and United Space Alliance employee Jeffrey Tuxhorn 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 programs at Johnson Space Center (JSC).

Astronauts Chris Feguson, Eric Boe, Shane Kimbrough, and Steve Bowen presented the award to Tuxhorn 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.

Tuxhorn was recognized with the Silver Snoopy for his outstanding efforts as a Rendezvous and Proximity Operations trainer for six Space Shuttle crews. He also co-developed the Rendezvous Pitch Maneuver successfully used on all International Space Station missions. In addition to his expert instruction, Tuxhorn also meticulously follows pre-flight rendezvous issues and provides comments and suggestions tailored to the specific mission to the commander.

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.

- end -