

ORION

CREW EXPLORATION VEHICLE

WEEKLY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



12.17.10



Progress continued on the Crew Module Ground Test Article at the Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans, Louisiana with the completion of the match-drilling of holes in the TPS Structure (shown above) for the attachment of the TPS Backshells. Next the team will continue with the installation of the various simulators and instrumentation.

A ceremony was held recently (shown right) at the Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans, Louisiana to highlight the successful completion of the Orion Crew Module Ground Test Article fabrication, proof pressure testing and final outfitting. Orion Project Manager, Mark Geyer (shown bottom right with astronauts Nick Patrick and Charlie Hobaugh along with JSC Deputy Center Director Ellen Ochoa) addressed the group by noting the importance of the fabrication of the Orion Ground Test Article and commending the team for their hard work. Early in 2011, the Orion Ground Test Article will be shipped to the Lockheed Martin space facility in Denver, Colorado for performance testing to ensure the vehicle can meet the challenges of ascent, on-orbit operations and safe landing.





Education and Public Outreach

Pam Melroy (Lockheed Martin’s Director and Deputy Program Manager for Space Exploration Initiatives Program Office) spoke to 5th – 8th grade students at the Einstein Charter School (shown above right) located near NASA’s Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans, Louisiana. The former astronaut not only spoke to the group, but also spent time with small groups of students (shown above left) who aspire to be future engineers, scientists or pilots.

Orion Intern Harry McDonald recently completed a significant project before returning to Kansas State University. Harry (Shown right in the mockup amid the numerous changes that he made) completely updated the configuration of components in the Low Fidelity Mockup to match the Orion 607A configuration with low fidelity components. Thanks Harry for your diligent work!

