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# The Integrator

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## A Message from the Associate Director of Projects for Networks and Mission Services

**T**hese are exciting times! Since our last publication we celebrated some successes and bid a few farewells. And, as we went to publication we were eagerly anticipating John Glenn's return to space! Many of the scientific and engineering accomplishments are described in articles within this newsletter. It is exhilarating to participate in an organization whose contributions have such a positive impact on the space community.

Amidst ongoing activities are several beginnings and ends. A ceremony was held in October to mark the closure of the Bermuda Tracking Station after three decades of service to NASA and other programs. The official opening of the Guam Remote Ground Terminal (GRGT) was celebrated with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on July 15, 1998. Congratulations to the team which completed operations implementation on schedule and under budget. The GRGT facility, together with the two existing ground terminals in New Mexico, enables complete worldwide real-time communications support for NASA's Space Network customers. In combination with the Space Network Projects Demand Access implementation it approaches the long sought after concept of having a spacecraft be a node on the internet! These events characterize our commitment to provide our customers with tailored and flexible technology at the lowest possible cost.

Also cause for celebration was the successful attempt by spacecraft controllers to regain control of the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) spacecraft. The pervasive optimism and dedication displayed by the European Space Agency (ESA), NASA, and contractor team involved in the recovery effort is applauded.

A significant milestone was also met in achieving completion of the Year 2000 Office of Management and Budget

Renovation milestone on schedule. Major progress has also been achieved in preparations for ground network support of Far Ultraviolet Spectroscopic Explorer (FUSE), Quick Scatterometer (QuikSCAT), Landsat-7, and Earth Observing System (EOS) AM-1.

The award of the Consolidated Space Operations Contract (CSOC) to Lockheed Martin Space Operations is a major milestone within our community. Lockheed Martin and over 40 subcontractors will be responsible for the delivery of Agency-wide space operations services. I am looking forward to working closely with the Space Operations Management Office (SOMO) and Lockheed Martin team as we work together to establish a more efficient, cost-effective, customer-focused space operations architecture.

As we continue to move forward, it is important to remember the challenges we have faced and the successes we have achieved. We must maintain our optimism and energy, and focus our talents on providing an exceptional level of service to our customer community. The space community, and our role in it, is evolving. I encourage each of you to consider your role in this changing environment and take advantage of opportunities to improve your relationships with your customers. Responsive mission and data services continue to be an essential ingredient to the success of NASA's mission. Together, we can achieve continued success as we implement NASA's strategic direction. I truly hope each of you is as excited about the future as I am.

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### Highlights in This Issue...

Guam Remote Ground Terminal Is Open for Business.....	page 2
NASA Recovers the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory!.....	page 16
Leonid Meteor Storm Approaches: Satellites Beware! .....	page 20