

# Reshaping NASA's Aeronautics Research Program

October 4, 2005

**Dr. Lisa Porter**

Senior Advisor for Aeronautics

- Our Goals:
  - Re-establish our **dedication to mastery of the core competencies of Aeronautics** in subsonic (rotary & fixed wing), supersonic, and hypersonic flight;
  - Focus research in areas that are appropriate to NASA's unique capabilities; and
  - Directly address the needs of the Next Generation Air Transportation System (NGATS) in partnership with the FAA and other agencies.

- **Fundamental Aeronautics Program**

- Establish Projects that provide continual, long-term investment in the fundamentals and that build upon that investment to develop system-level, multidisciplinary capabilities that will enable both civilian and military communities to build platforms that meet their specific needs.
- Establish a National Assets Program to ensure that the essential Wind Tunnel Facilities are maintained.

- **Aviation Safety Program**

- Focus research in areas that are appropriate to the unique capabilities of NASA.
- Create strong, technically sound projects in Integrated Vehicle Health Management, Aging Aircraft, Integrated Resilient Aircraft Control and Integrated Intelligent Flight Deck Technologies.

- **Airspace Systems Program**

- Realign to address the Air Traffic Management R&D needs of the Next Generation Air Transportation System as defined by the Joint Planning & Development Office (JPDO).

**All projects in each program will have multi-year plans with clearly defined milestones that will demonstrate measurable progress**

- **NASA will take responsibility for the intellectual stewardship of the core competencies of Aeronautics for the nation.**
  - Reinvest in our in-house expertise
    - Ensures the availability of a world class resource (personnel and facilities) ready to be drawn upon by civilian and military communities, and other Government agencies.
    - Ensures our ability to support the endeavor of Aeronautics for decades to come.
- **We will form strong partnerships with Universities**
  - Integrate students and faculty as true partners in our research projects
    - Enables replenishment of workforce at both NASA and in industry
- **Industry partnerships**
  - Shift from near-term, evolutionary procurements to long-term, intellectual partnerships
    - Ensures ability to provide long-term, stable investment in capabilities that will benefit all of industry.

- **Support of Vision for Space Exploration**

- Space exploration relies on the fundamentals of aeronautics. E.g,



- Recent gap-filler situation highlighted our inadequate investment in fundamentals of turbulence, Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD), and aerothermodynamics.
- Integrated Vehicle Health Management will also be a critical core competency for space exploration.

- **Healthy Wind Tunnel Infrastructure**

- Benefits for NASA, DoD, industry and academia