

FORMATION OF THE AIAA SPACE COLONIZATION WORKING GROUP/TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

By

Eric E. Rice, Orbital Technologies Corporation, Madison, WI

INTRODUCTION

Based upon the initiative of Dr. Eric E. Rice, President and CEO of Orbital Technologies Corporation, (ORBITEC), the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) Technical Activities Committee (TAC) has approved the formation of a new AIAA Working Group (WG), under the AIAA Space and Missiles Group, with the intent that a new AIAA Technical Committee (TC) be formed and approved in January 2002. On June 26-27, the first meeting of the WG/TC was held in Madison, WI and the charter, organization, and subcommittees were approved by the attendees. The second meeting is to be held at the Colorado School of Mines, Golden CO, October 22-23, 2001. The proposed charter and subcommittee definition are given below. The paper will summarize the directions and activities of this new organization.

SCTC CHARTER

Promote the identification and development of advanced concepts, science, and technology that will support, enhance and enable permanent human presence in space. The SCTC will foster:

- (1) Key aspects of human space colonization, including: (a) space base operations in orbit, in transit, and on planetary surfaces; (b) robotic/automated and human space exploration and data needs; (c) use of insitu space resources; (d) human colonization in space; and (e) Mars and other planetary terraforming activities [Space Tourism is also being considered at the October 22-23rd meeting];
- (2) Provision of: (a) informed positions; (b) forums for communication, networking, and policy development; (c) creation and distribution of educational materials; and (d) development of technical interchange and awareness on emerging issues to our members, the AIAA, industry, academia, the general public, the federal and foreign governments; and
- (3) Leadership in developing: (a) mission justifications; (b) assessments of environmental, legal and science ethics; (c) identification of technical issues; (d) implementation criteria; and (e) space colonization methods and a credible timetable.

SUBCOMMITTEES

Each subcommittee shall have a Chair and Vice Chair and each member of the TC shall be assigned membership on (1) the Advanced Concepts and Programs, (2) Science and Technology, and (3) at least one other subcommittee. The SCTC shall have the following subcommittees:

- Executive Subcommittee (Officers and Subcommittee Chairs)
- Advanced Concepts and Programs
- Science and Technology
- Conferences and Workshops
- Publications and Website
- Education and Outreach
- External Affairs (TC Liaison Congressional Liaison and CVD)
- Membership
- TC Meetings
- Awards
- Nominations and Elections.