

LEONARD S. NICHOLSON

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET

NAME: Leonard S. Nicholson

ORAL HISTORY: 18 JULY 2007

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV, 1961
- Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV, 1963

PRE-NASA EXPERIENCE:

- Unknown

NASA EXPERIENCE:

NASA Manned Spacecraft Center/Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX (1963-2000)

- Aerospace Engineer, Systems Integration Section, Space Vehicle Design Branch, Spacecraft Technology Division, Engineering and Development Directorate (1963)
- Aerospace Engineer, Systems Integration Section, Spacecraft Integration Branch, Advanced Spacecraft Technology Division, Engineering and Development Directorate (1963-1966)
- Aerospace Engineer, Systems Analysis Section, Systems Engineering Branch, Advanced Spacecraft Technology Division, Engineering and Development Directorate (1966-1967)
- Senior Engineer, Earth Resources Office, Applications Project Office, Science and Applications Directorate (1967-1969)
- Technical Assistant to Manager, Advanced Projects Office, Advanced Missions Program Office (1969-1970)
- Space Station Project Office, Engineering and Development Directorate (1970-1972)
- Project Definition Office, Future Programs Division, Engineering and Development Directorate (1972-1973)
- Technical Assistant to Manager, Apollo Spacecraft Program Office (1973-1975)
- Technical Assistant to Manager, Shuttle Payload Integration and Development Program Office (1975-1977)
- Deputy Manager, STS Operations Office, Shuttle Payload Integration and Development Program Office (1977-1978)
- Manager, STS Operations Office, Shuttle Payload Integration and Development Program Office (1978-1980)
- Manager, Payload Integrations and Operations Office, Space Transportation System Operations (1980-1982)

- Technical Assistant to the JSC Director (1982)
- Manager, Mission Integration Office, Space Shuttle Program Office (1982-1983)
- Manager, Mission Integration Office, National Space Transportation Systems Program Office (1983-1985)
- Manager, STS Integration and Operations Office (1985-1989)
- Deputy Director, National Space Transportation System Program, National Space Transportation System Program Office (1989-1991)
- Director, Space Shuttle Program, Space Shuttle Program Office (1991-1993)
- Acting Director/Director, Engineering Directorate (1993-2000)
- Chief Engineer, Office of the Director (2000)

POST-NASA EXPERIENCE:

- Boeing Company, Houston, TX (2000-Present)
 - Special Assistant to International Space Station Program Manager (2000-2002)
 - Deputy Program Manager, International Space Station Program (2002-2005)
 - Deputy Program Manager/Program Manager, Northrup Grumman/Boeing Crew Exploration Vehicle Program (2005-2006)
 - Chief Engineer, Constellation Program (2006-Present)

Awards & Citations:

- NASA Sustained Superior Performance Award, 1964
- NASA Sustained Superior Performance Award, 1969
- NASA Sustained Superior Performance Award, 1972
- NASA Sustained Superior Performance Award, 1974
- NASA Exceptional Service Medal, 1975
- NASA Quality Award, 1976
- NASA Sustained Superior Performance Award, 1978
- NASA Outstanding Performance Award, 1979
- JSC Merit Award, 1981
- JSC Certificate of Commendation, 1980
- NASA Special Achievement Award, 1982
- NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal, 1985
- NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal, 1988
- Virginia B. Hughes Exceptional Performance Award, 1988
- Robert R. Gilruth Award, 1992
- Meritorious Executive Award, 1993
- JSC Certificate of Commendation, 1997
- Senior Executive Service Rank Award, 1998
- Robert H. Goddard Astronautics Engineer Award, 2000

REFERENCES:

“ASTP Medals Presented In JSC Awards Ceremony,” Roundup (NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX), 26 September 1975, 1.

“Award Ceremony Honors JSC Individuals, Teams,” Space News Roundup (NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX), 17 July 1998, 1.

“Awards Ceremony Set for December,” Space News Roundup (NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX), 25 October 1985, 3.

“Honors,” Roundup (NASA Manned Spacecraft Center, Houston, TX), 14 April 1972, 2.

“JSC Execs Earn Highest Honors,” Space News Roundup (NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX), 26 April 1993, 1, 4.

“Key Management Assignments,” Space Center Roundup (NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX), 2 June 2000, 6.

Leonard S. Nicholson NASA Biographical Data Sheet (January 1992), Leonard S. Nicholson Biographical File, JSC History Collection, University of Houston-Clear Lake, University Archives, Houston, TX.

NASA Johnson Space Center Telephone Directory (1973-1998), Organization Files, Center Series, JSC History Collection, University of Houston-Clear Lake, University Archives, Houston, TX.

NASA Manned Spacecraft Center Telephone Directory (1963-1973), Organization Files, Center Series, JSC History Collection, University of Houston-Clear Lake, University Archives, Houston, TX.

“Nearly 100 Employees Earn JSC’s Highest Commendation,” Space News Roundup (NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX), 10 October 1997, 7.

“Nicholson Earns Gilruth Trophy,” Space News Roundup (NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX), 2 October 1992, 1.

Norman H. Chaffee to Chairman of Fellow Grade Committee, “AIAA – Honors and Awards,” 13 June 2000, Leonard S. Nicholson Key Personnel File, Awards Office, NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

“Northrop Grumman-Boeing CEV Team Names Deputy Program Manager,” Boeing Company Homepage, Online, http://www.boeing.com/defense-space/space/nasasystems/news/2005/q4/nr_051012n.html (Last Updated: n.d.; Accessed: 28 September 2006).

“Retirement,” Space Center Roundup (NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX), 8 September 2000, 8.

“Return to Flight Awards Presented to JSC Employees,” Space News Roundup (NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX), 16 December 1988, 1.

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