

ABSTRACT AND BIOGRAPHY

Reuse of Software by Programs and Projects

As a flight operations Center, NASA Goddard is responsible for developing a wide range of software that includes ground systems, flight systems, data analysis tools, etc. One of our most important responsibilities as an innovative research and development organization is to smartly manage how we share our advancements in software development to further other NASA missions. Examples of the benefits for smartly sharing software are: (1) correctly crediting the author(s) and funding/program source; (2) protecting NASA against external infringement that could potentially cost the government more funding; (3) helping target potential contributors or users for further application; and (4) establishing strategic value of NASA software assets. The directives for how this is done are NPD 2820.1C, NASA Software Policy, and NPR 2210.1A, External Release of NASA Software. The implementation of this process at Goddard is administered by the Innovative Partnership Program (IPP) Office. Software release process maps; software catalogue; and software release mini-courses are examples of some of the tools and activities the Goddard IPP Office employs to ensure the proper means of expediting the release of software for reuse by NASA government and contractor researchers to meet program and project needs. This presentation will highlight the ins and outs of reporting, protecting, and sharing software among programs and projects.

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As a Technology Transfer Manager within the NASA GSFC's Innovative Partnerships Program (IPP) Office, Mr. Mecum is responsible for the identification, review, planning, and evaluation of advanced aerospace technologies for potential patenting, software release, and/or licensing options in addition to the negotiation of mutually beneficial partnerships between NASA and private industry, academia, and/or other government organizations.

Prior to joining IPP, Mr. Mecum spent 12 years as a Reliability Engineer in GSFC's Office of Flight Assurance, where he served as the Parts Program Manager for several satellite flight projects including Landsat 7(LS7), Extreme Ultraviolet Explorer(EUVE) and the X-Ray timing Explorer(XTE).

Mr. Mecum holds a Master of Engineering Management, from George Washington University, Washington, DC, and a B.S., Electrical Engineering, from the University of Maryland, College Park, MD.