

### ABSTRACT AND BIOGRAPHY

#### **NOAA-N Prime: The Power of Silence**

NOAA-N PRIME was one of a series of polar-observing satellites used for weather and climate prediction. While being rotated (vertical to horizontal) on a turnover cart for a routine procedure in the contractor's facility the satellite fell off the cart, sustaining significant damage. The discussion will also explore what was done in the aftermath of this accident to ensure that it would not happen again. Each of us at NASA has a role to play in ensuring that accidents such as this one are avoided. A first step is to understand how such accidents can happen in the first place.

#### **Edward Rogers**

*Chief Knowledge Officer*

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

Dr. Edward Rogers is currently the Chief Knowledge Officer at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt Maryland. Edward joined NASA in May 2003 as the Center's Chief Knowledge Architect working first in the Safety and Mission Assurance Directorate and then in the Office of Mission Success. He became the Chief Knowledge Officer for the Center in 2006. His programs and initiatives have been embraced not only at Goddard but also within the Agency. He introduced the popular yet simple Pause and Learn (PaL) process, developed a highly effective case study methodology, designed (and runs) the Goddard Road to Mission Success workshop series and promotes knowledge sharing and collaboration across the Center.

Edward received a B.S. in Agronomy from the Ohio State University, a Master's in International Business from the University of South Carolina and a Ph.D. from Cornell's School of Industrial and Labor Relations. The son of a physicist, he grew up in Saudi Arabia, attended boarding school in India and in the 1980s he and his wife performed five years of international relief work in Southern Lebanon. He continues to write and speak about how organizations can foster transparent learning to leverage collective intelligence.

#### **Bryan O'Connor**

*Chief of Safety and Mission*

NASA Headquarters

Bryan O'Connor is Chief of Safety and Mission Assurance for NASA. Bryan O'Connor began active duty with the United States Marine Corps in June 1968. He received his Naval Aviator's wings in June 1970, and served on land and sea assignments in the United States, Europe and the Western Pacific. From 1975 through 1979 O'Connor served as a test pilot with the Naval Air Test Center at Patuxent River, Maryland.

O'Connor was selected for the astronaut program in May 1980. He served as pilot of the crew of Atlantis on a night launch in November 1985 and commander of the crew of Columbia in June 1991, on the first dedicated space life sciences mission. Between flight assignments, he served as Assistant Program Manager (Operations) for the Space Shuttle program, Deputy Director of Flight Crew Operations, and founding Chairman of NASA's Space Flight Safety Panel.

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While at NASA Headquarters, O'Connor led the team that negotiated the framework for the Shuttle/Mir joint U.S./Russian space program. He then directed the redesign and restructure of the International Space Station (ISS) program, and served as Director of the transition from the Freedom to the ISS. In early 1994, he was assigned as the Director of the Space Shuttle program.

O'Connor left NASA in February 1996 to become an aerospace consultant and later served as Director of Engineering for Futron Corporation, a Bethesda Maryland based company providing safety and risk management consulting to DOD, DOE, the FAA, NASA and industry.

In June 2002, Mr. O'Connor rejoined NASA as Associate Administrator, Office of Safety and Mission Assurance (OSMA), at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Headquarters in Washington DC. In August 2004, Mr. O'Connor's title changed to Chief, Safety and Mission Assurance. His office has functional responsibility for the safety, reliability, maintainability and quality assurance of all NASA programs.