## Project Management at NASA Kennedy Space Center



Charles A. Gambaro, FAC-P/PM PMP

PMI Puerto Rico Chapter 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium

November 3-4, 2011



- Kennedy Space Center Past, Present & Future
- Overview of KSC Non-Conventional Facilities
- Other Non-Conventional Projects
- Project Approach at KSC
- Project Management Challenges



## Historical Programs at KSC Mercury (1961-1963)

- First American in Space
- ♦ Gemini (1965-1966)
  - First "Space Walk"
- Apollo (1968-1972)
  - First Man on the Moon
- Space Shuttle (1981-2011)
  - Service to Low Earth Orbit









## **Historical Programs at KSC**

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  - First Docking of 2 Spacecraft
- Apollo (1968-1972)
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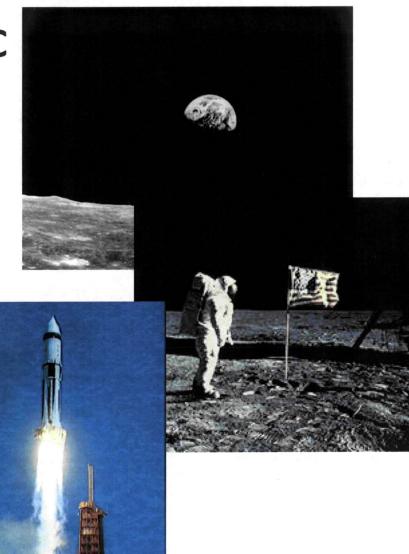




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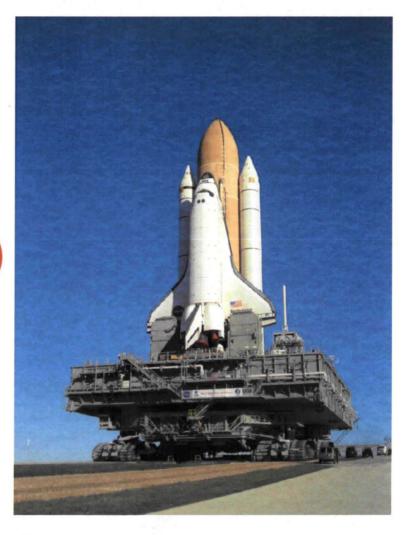




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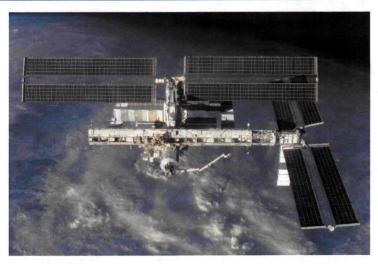


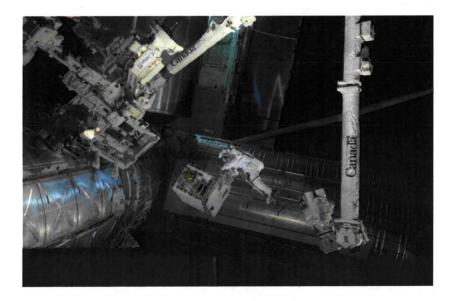




# Future Programs International Space Station Science Research

- Space Launch System (SLS)
  - Capability to Explore Beyond the Moon
- Commercial Partners
  - Reliable Service to Low Earth Orbit









## **Future Programs**

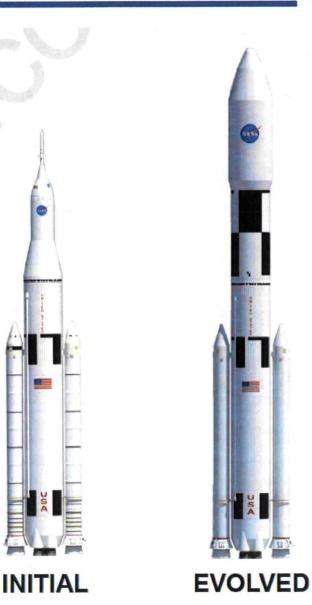
- International Space Station
  - Science Research

## Space Launch System (SLS)

- Capability to Explore Beyond the Moon
- Commercial Partners
  - Reliable Service to Low Earth Orbit

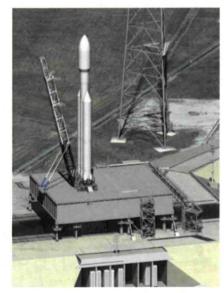






## **Future Programs**

- International Space Station
  - Science Research
- Space Launch System (SLS)
  - Capability to Explore Beyond the Moon
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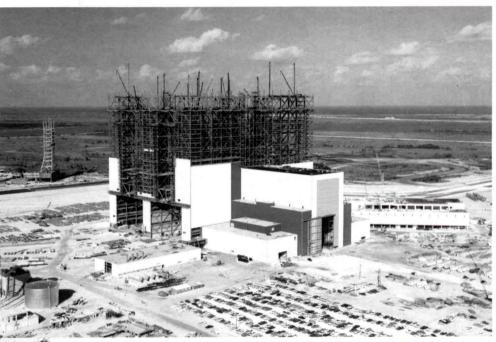
# Facilities are designed to receive and process flight hardware

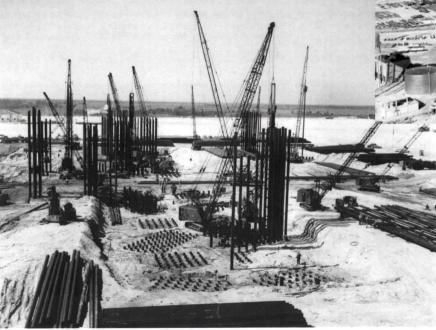
- Vehicle Assembly Building (VAB)
- Launch Control Center (LCC)
- Crawlerway
- Launch Pads
- Crawler Transporter
- Mobile Launcher



## **Vehicle Assembly Building**

Built in 1960s Occupies 8 acres





4225 steel piles 65,000 cy concrete



## **Vehicle Assembly Building**

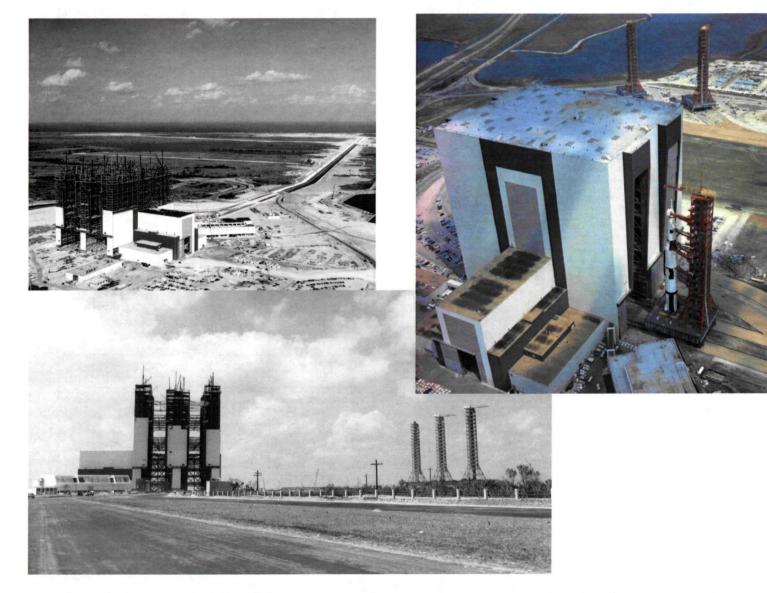


5 bridge cranes 325-ton, 250-ton, 175-ton

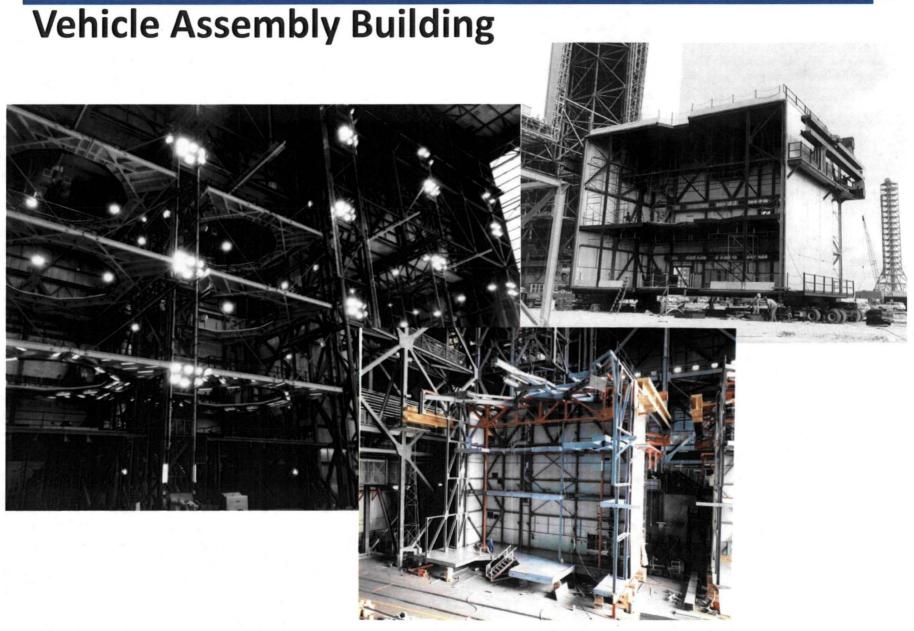
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## **Vehicle Assembly Building**

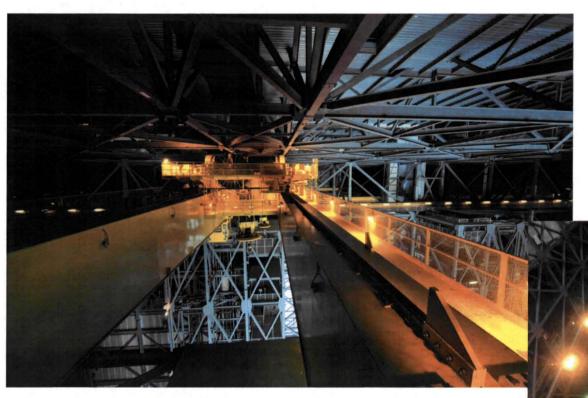








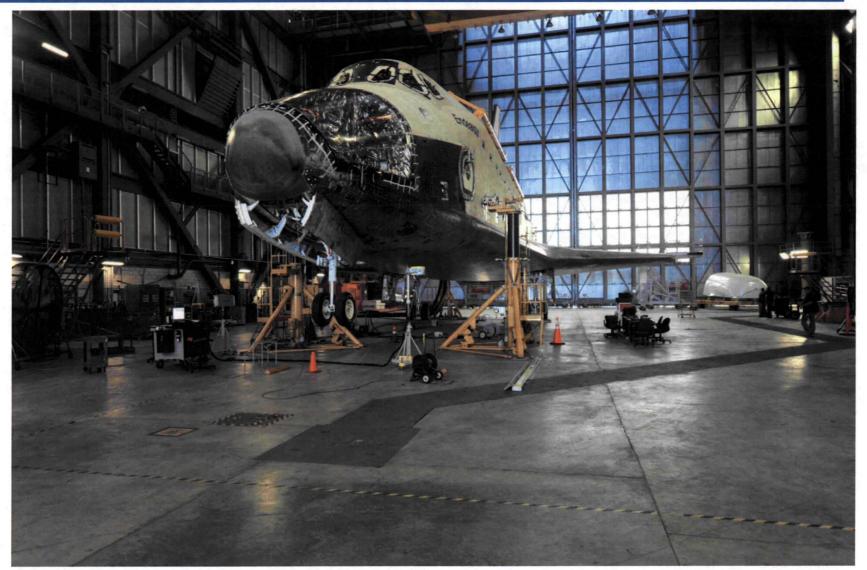
## **Vehicle Assembly Building**



## 325 Ton Bridge Crane

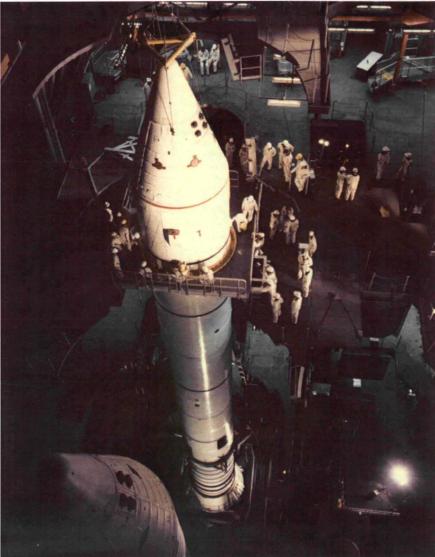


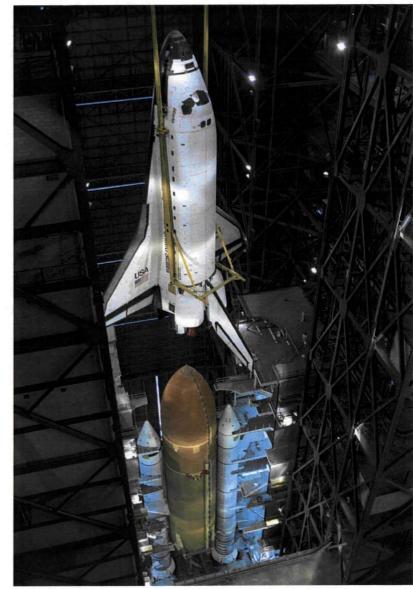






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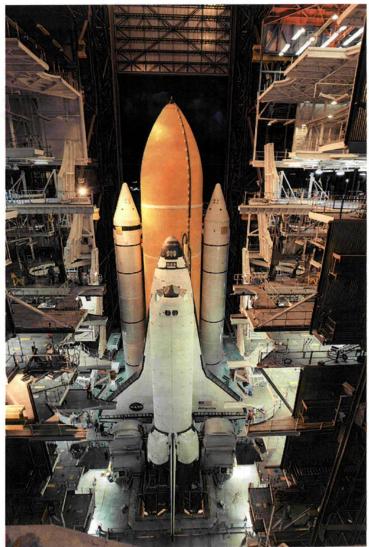




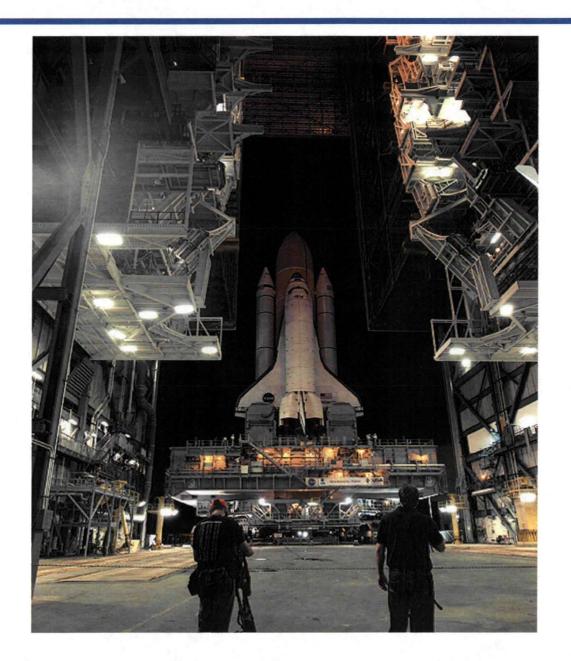


## **Vehicle Assembly Building**









## **Vehicle Assembly Building**











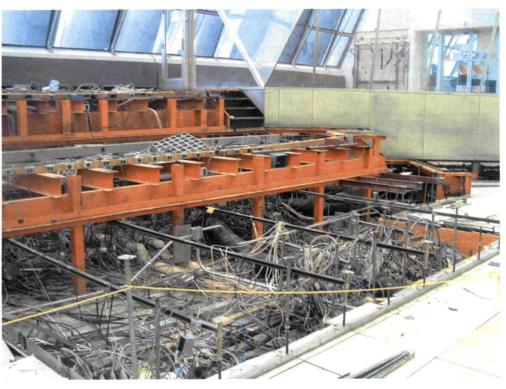




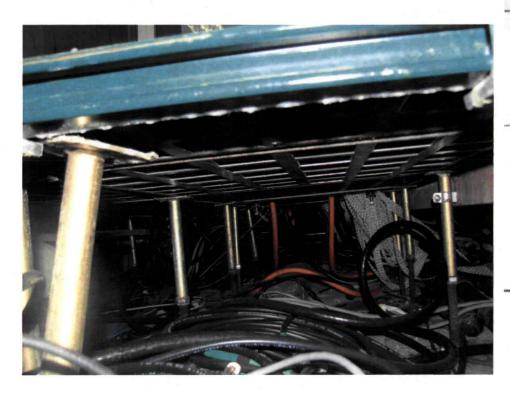
















## Launch Control Center (LCC)



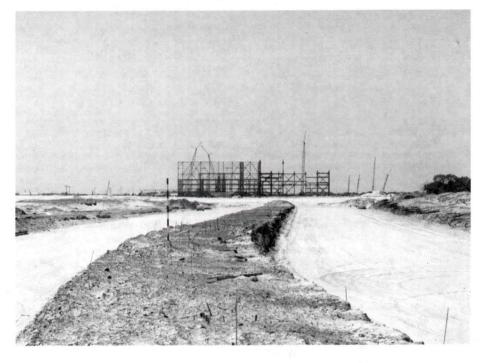


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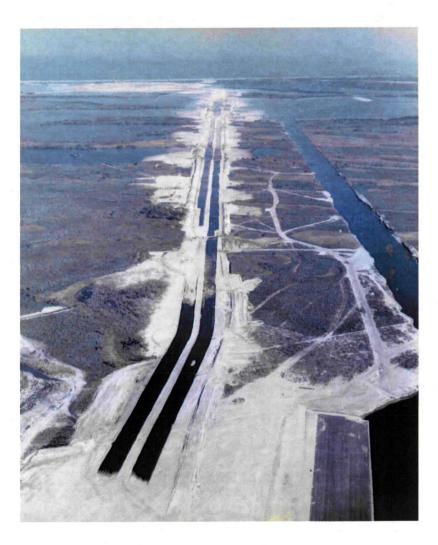
The Young – Crippen Firing Room



## Crawlerway



Approx 5 miles total length from VAB to Pads 39A & 39B







Crawlerway





130 feet wide 4 foot limerock base 4"-8" river rock surface

27

## **Project Approach**



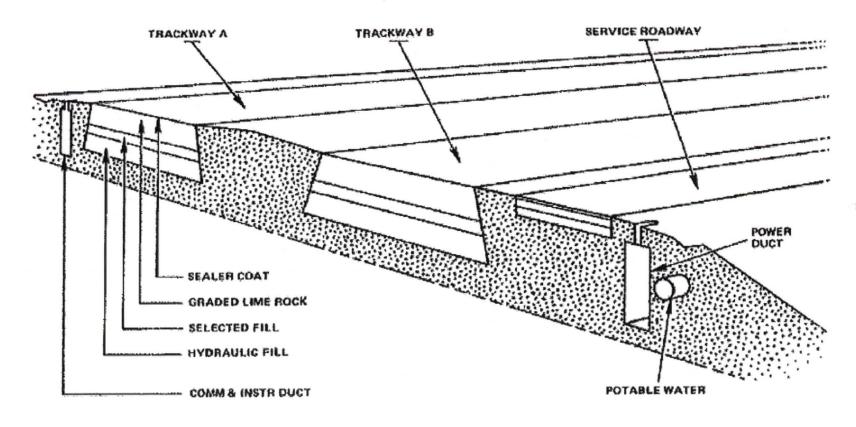
## Crawlerway



#### **Project Approach**



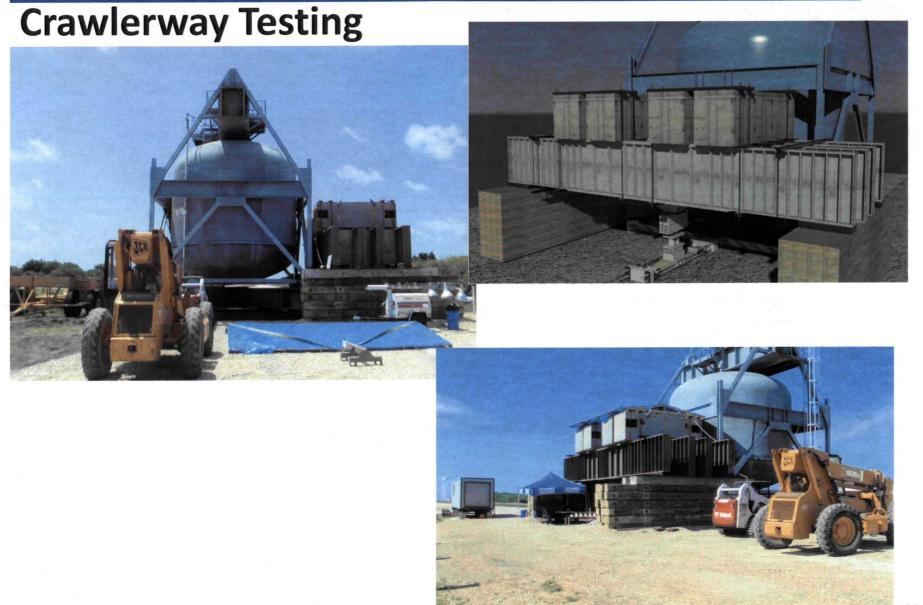
#### Crawlerway PROFILE OF TYPICAL CRAWLERWAY SECTION



(NOT TO SCALE)

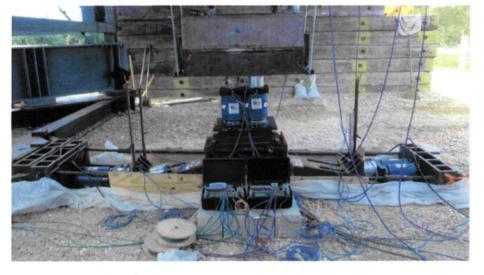
Typical cross section of crawlerway, as the design took shape in early 1963.







## Crawlerway





Testing various gravel surfaces with a Crawler Shoe





Each Pad encompasses 160 acres Built 50 feet above sea level





## Launch Pads



FSS 347 feet tall RSS rotates 120° LO2 and LH2 Fuel Farms

#### Flame Trench 42 feet deep, 450 feet long





## Launch Pads





## Launch Pads





## Launch Pads





# Launch Pads









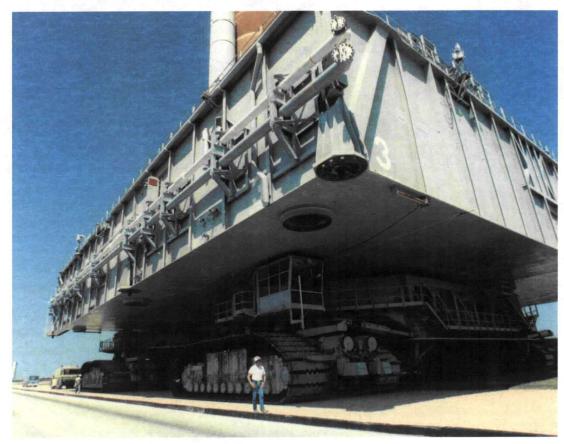








# **Crawler Transporter & Mobile Launch Platform**



Travels at 1 mph Gets 35 feet/gal Level up to 5% grade

Weighs 6 million pounds 131 feet long, 114 feet wide



# **Mobile Launch Platform & Mobile Launcher**









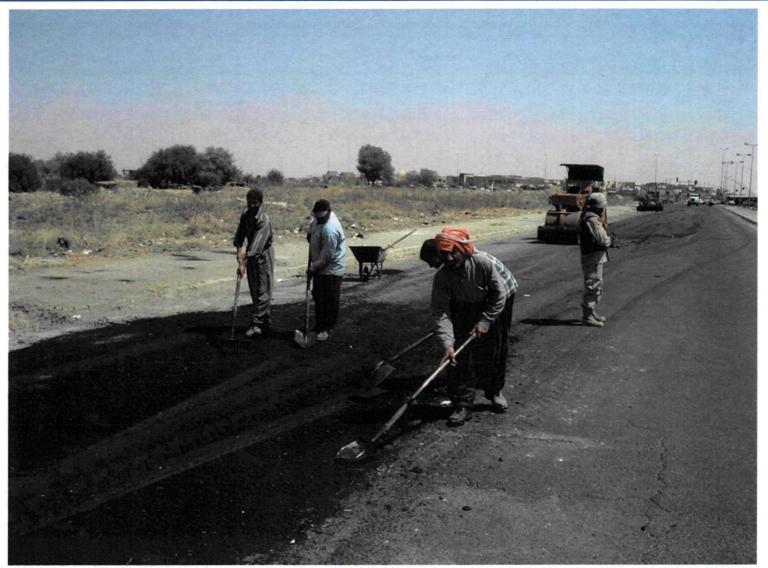








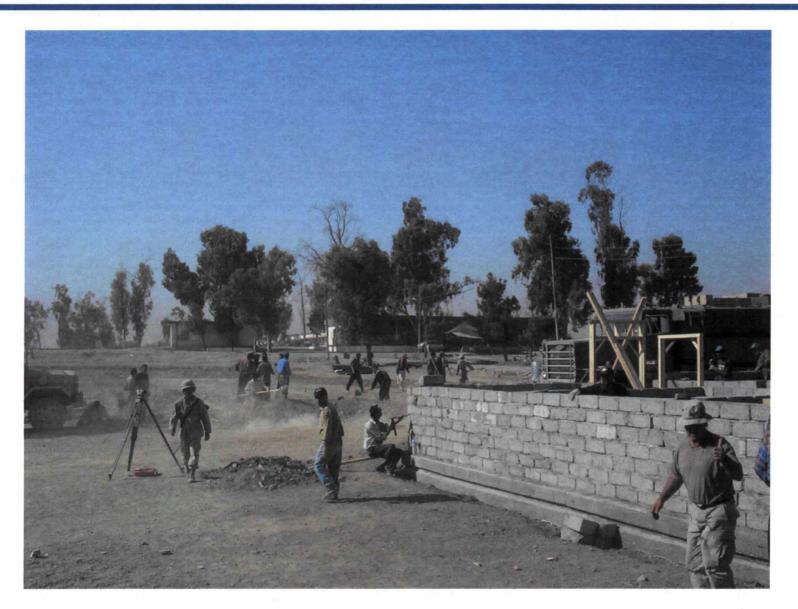




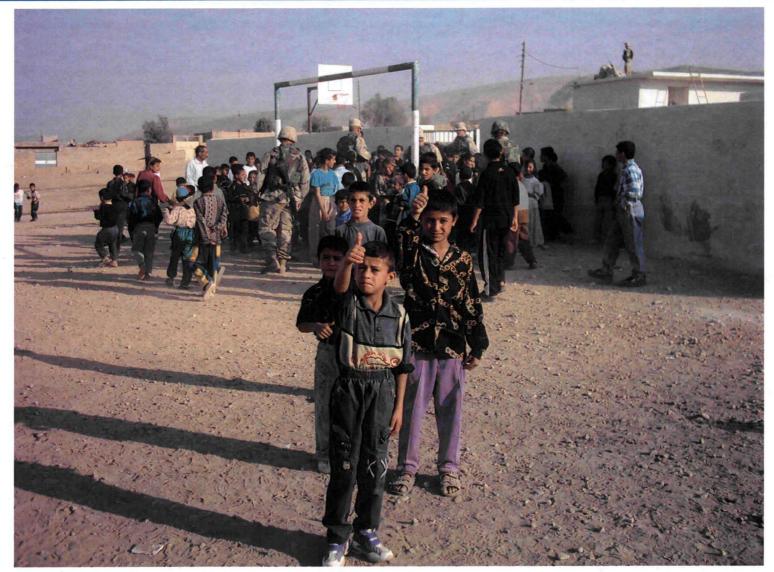




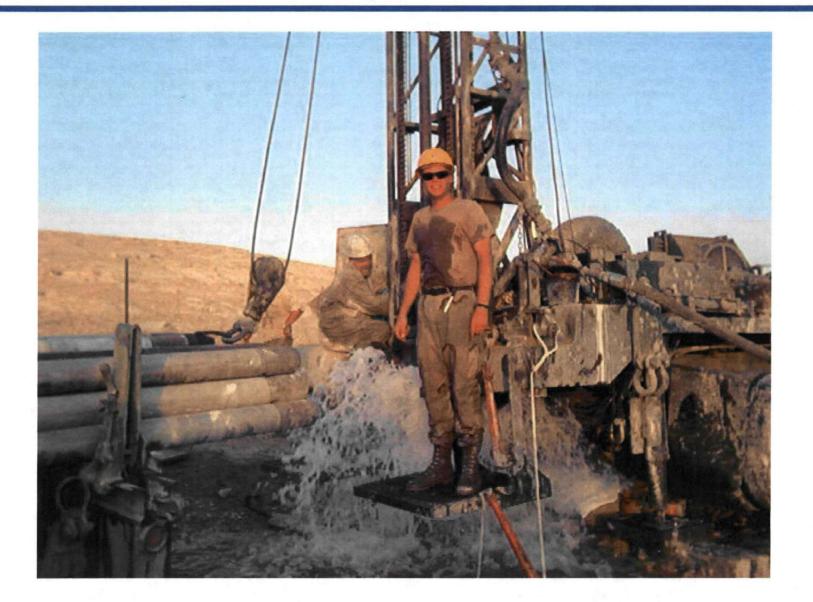




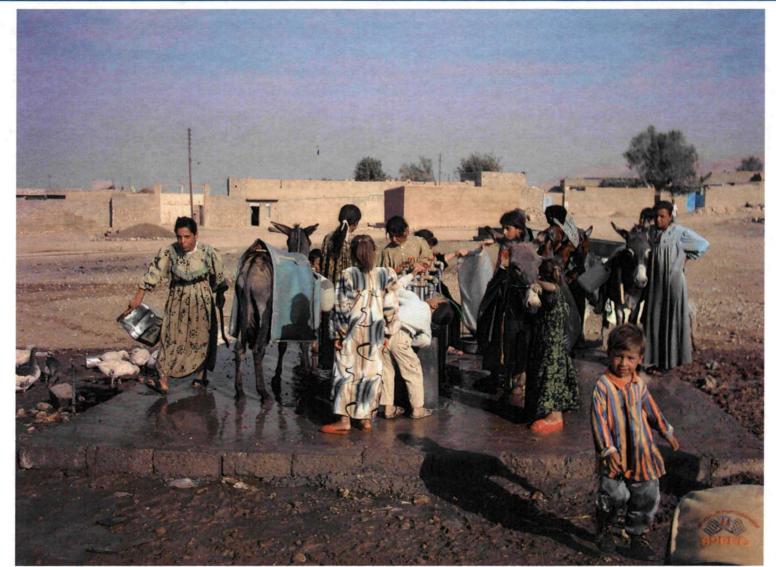




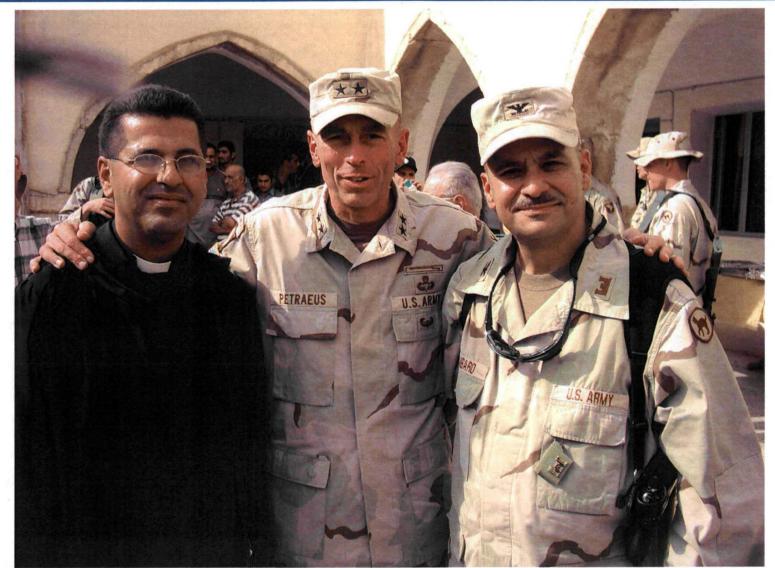














# The successful project manager must:

- Gain Knowledge from Previous Project Managers and Mentors
- Apply Lessons Learned from Previous Project Experiences
- Draw on experience to provide a vision of the End State required to satisfy known and assumed requirements based on Concept of Operation
- Ensure that all stakeholders are engaged throughout the process
- Must fully understand what must be done to successfully accomplish each activity
- Assemble and Trust a project team with the right skills to bring the project in on time and within budget.
- Allow project team to develop a strategy to design, procure, implement, verify, validate and turn over project for operations to process intended need. Make final decision on strategy to employ
- Develop schedule that supports development and operational readiness dates
- Develop budget that provides for all phases of the project, equipment, labor force, and contingencies. Develop yearly operating Plan (Plan vs. Actual expenditures). Be able to explain variances against your operating plan.

# **Project Approach**



# The successful project manager must:

- Must be able to sustain audit
- Own all Project requirements
- Must have a Project Integrator that understands all project requirements and acts a gate keeper to insure that requirements, schedule and budget are in balance. Insures that requirements creep does not occur
- Hold Regular Status Reviews for Budget, Schedule, Design and Construction progress. Perform regular field inspections.
- Assign actions and follow up on due date
- Bring in consultants to give you independent assessments
- Manage Risk, Anticipate the Unknowns by making assumptions based on past experience and anticipated requirements
- Remain Flexible
- Utilize Technology Effectively
- Manage Staff Effectively
- See the Big Picture and Work Toward the Success of the Overall Goal
- Lead by Example
- Celebrate Accomplishments

#### **Project Approach**



# **Projects at KSC Follow a Specific Approach:**

- Develop Preliminary Requirements
- Conduct a Study
- Further Requirements Development
- Advance the Design
- Construct, Fabricate and Install
- Activate
- Facility Outfitting
- Support Equipment Construct, Fabricate and Install
- Activate
- Verify and Validate
- Extensive Reporting at Each Phase
  - Program Reviews
  - Design Certifications
  - Operational Readiness Reviews
  - Status Reviews for Budget, Schedule, Design and Construction

# **Typical Project Schedule**

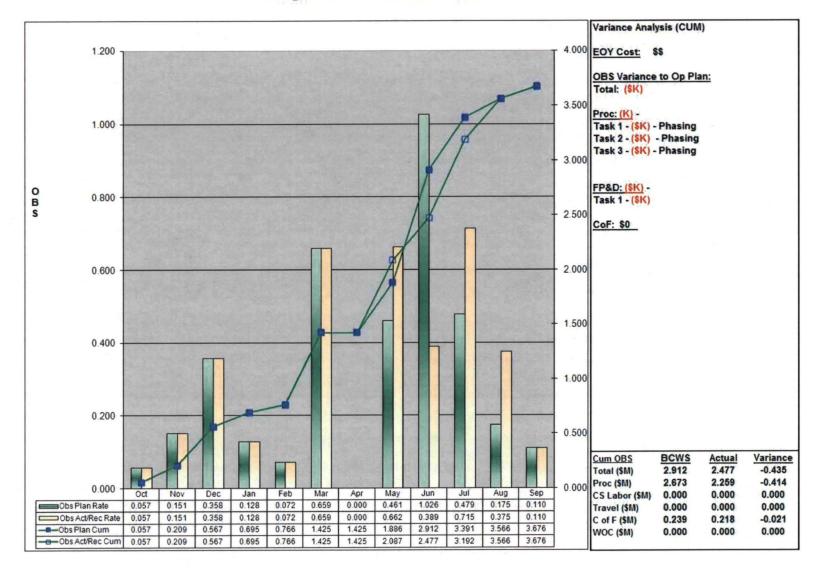


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tivity ID Activity Name		Start	Finish	Original		FY2011		FY2012		FY2013		FY2014		and a second second second	FY2015		FY2016	
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	Demo A&A	03-Oct-11*	02-Jan-12	132					02-04			<b>_</b>						
	Demo	03-Jan-12	04-Jul-12	132								<b>_</b>						
V-147	Design A&A	03-Oct-11*	02-Jan-12	197					02-Jan-12									
V-116	Design	03-Jan-12	31-Dec-12	260														
V-117	A&A	04-Dec-12	31-May-13	132					04-Dec-1									
V-118	Facility Construction	03-Jun-13	30-Jun-15	456			1	t-	¢	3-Jun-13								
V-119	V&V	01-May-15	31-Dec-15	174				1				t	(	May-1	5		31-Dec-	15
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	V&V Integrated	01-Jul-15	31-Dec-15	109				+				t		01-J	II-15 m		31-Dec-	15

#### **Project Performance Tools**



#### **Obligations Performance Metric**



55

# **Project Management Challenges**



- Requirements not fully mature (creates risk)
  - Assumptions change during design / construction
- Schedule
  - ORDs / Project Interdependencies
- Budget / Funding Profiles
  - Design and Construction activitoes are Affected by Funding
- Changing Political Climate
  - Administration Sets Policy
- Servicing Multiple Customers
  - Accommodating NASA and Commercial Interests

# **Common Denominators**



- Project Scope
  - Requirements
  - Documentation Process
- Schedule
  - Operational Readiness Dates
  - Project Interdependencies
- Budget
  - Funding Profiles
  - Contract Vehicles





# **Questions?**