



IT and Comm Services

KSC/IT Knowledge Sharing With JAXA/IT

July 29, 2010

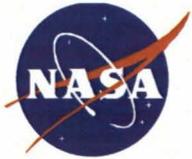


Meeting Purpose/Introduction

Kevin Zari/Paul Davis



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- IT knowledge sharing with JAXA
 - Beneficial to JAXA's creation and introduction of IT systems for Japanese Human mission and launch site operations.

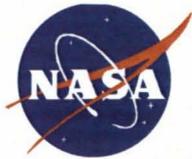


Kennedy Space Center Big Picture

Stacie Turner



- **15,000 Civil Service and contractor employees**
- **Major Programs & Support Contracts**
 - ❖ Space Shuttle – Space Program Operations Contract (SPOC)
 - ❖ International Space Station – Checkout, Assembly, and Payload Processing Services (CAPPS)
 - ❖ Launch Services - ELVIS (Expendable Launch Vehicle Integrated Services)
 - ❖ Constellation
 - ❖ Base Operations – Institutional Support Contract (ISC)
- **How does IT fit into the “Big Picture”**
 - ❖ 2 major contractors—IT, communication services, and desktop support to many of KSC’s employees in the major programs and support contracts
 - Information Management and Communications Support (IMCS)
 - Outsourcing Desktop Initiative of NASA (ODIN)



IT Services Summary

Chuck Brown



The Information Management and Communications Support (IMCS) contract at the Kennedy Space Center provides:

- Management and Technical Performance Services including system operations, maintenance, sustaining engineering, systems engineering, customer requirements tracking, test team interface, analyses and assessments.
- Services are provided to all Program and Institutional customers.



IMCS Structure



- **3.0 Technical Services**

- 3.1 Computer Services
 - » 3.1.1 Data Center Operations
 - » 3.1.2 Software Engineering
- 3.2 Cable Plant Services
- 3.3 *Transmission Services*
- 3.4 Networks, Telephones, and Network Security Perimeter
 - » 3.4.3 Telephone Services
- 3.5 Imaging Services
 - » 3.5.1 *Surveillance Television*
 - » 3.5.2 Media Production and Distribution
 - » 3.5.3 *Spacecraft Processing, Launch, and Landing Imaging*
 - » 3.5.4 Non-Engineering Imaging
- 3.6 Graphics Services
- 3.7 Audio/Visual (A/V) and Presentation Support Services
- 3.8 *Timing Services*



IMCS Structure

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- 3.9 Voice Communications
 - » 3.9.1 Paging and Area Warning
 - » 3.9.2 Radio Services
 - » 3.9.3 *Operational Intercommunication System (OIS)*
 - » 3.9.4 *Audio Distribution Systems*
 - » 3.9.5 *Voice Recording Systems*
 - » 3.9.6 *Fixed Audio Systems*
 - 3.10 Electromagnetic Measurement and Analysis Services (Option)
 - 3.11 Publications Services
 - 3.12 Printing, Reproduction, and Micro-imaging Services
 - » 3.12.1 *Printing and Reproduction*
 - 3.13 Engineering Data Center
 - 3.14 Library Services
 - 3.15 Maximo Application Support Services
 - 3.16 Forms Services
 - 3.17 IT Security Services
 - 3.18 Center-Managed Outreach Services
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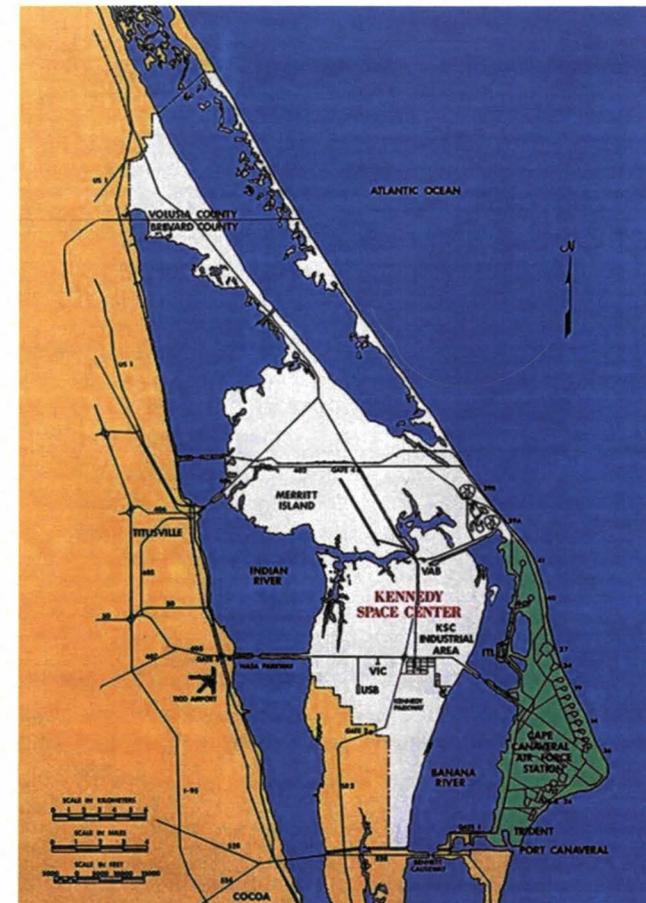
Breadth of Current Services



IT and Comm Services

Statistics

- 800 Miles of major cables
- 495,084 Cable Pairs
- 488 Manholes with 54 miles of duct bank
- 270 miles of Fiber Optics
- 3000+ Fiber Optic circuits
- 3000+ OIS units, 1024 channels
- 3000 Radios, 85 nets
- Paging in every building at KSC
- 300+ Countdown and timing displays
- 200+ Video Cameras
- 700+ Video Monitors
- 150 Film Cameras (up to 400 Frames/second)
- 16,000+ Computer Network connections
- 18,500 Telephones





ODIN Services

Jimmy Gonzalez



- Scope of ODIN at KSC
 - Desktop services (e.g., desktop, laptop, and workstation support, Windows, Mac and UNIX platform are available)
 - » Each seat includes the necessary IT support services
 - Hardware and software support e.g., installation, maintenance, and technology refresh
 - Hardware technology refreshment every three (3) years
 - Software tech refresh within one year of latest release from vendor, with concurrence from NASA
 - Administration, relocation, and network access
 - Customer support and training
 - Server services (e.g., file, print, e-mail, and application servers)
 - Exchange 2007, SQL 2003, Cold Fusion, etc.



ODIN Services

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- » Each seat includes the necessary IT support services (cont.)
 - Support HSPD-12 compliance for two factor authentication, SmartCard readers, Privilege Management and Data at Rest (DAR)
 - ODIN Help Desk
 - Single point of contact
 - Tracks problem from initial call through resolution, including support redirected to other service providers
 - Mobile computing services (e.g., cell phones, Blackberry's, iPhones and pagers)
 - Administrative and back office server support (e.g., file, print, e-mail, application, and internal web servers)
 - Additional services include network printers, backup services, web conferencing, file shares, etc.
-



IP Networking at KSC

Bryan Boatright



IT and Comm Services

- Multiple different IP network environments in operation to support a wide variety of requirements & customers at Kennedy Space Center
 - Multiple wired & wireless networks deployed to support Mission, “Institutional” (onsite NASA/partner personnel), Guest (Visitors or Press) & special purpose functions.
- Connections to external partners/corporations/organizations largely supported through existing NASA WAN Communication Systems
 - Dedicated Lines only used for special circumstances & normally to closed nets
 - » Legacy Mission telemetry and support circuits still largely supported this way
 - » Increasing trend towards IP based services , but still on “closed” nets.
 - IP based traffic sent via either Internet, or NASA Wide Area Networks via direct network tail circuits
 - » Support outbound corporate /partner client access from on-site systems
 - » Very limited support for network-to-network VPN tunnels between KSC and external partners/corporate (special circumstances only)
 - » The KSC Network Security Perimeter (firewall) provides initial IP-based access controls between external and KSC networks



IP Networking at KSC

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- Center access to global Internet via NASA provided Wide Area Networks
 - NASA Integrated Services Networks(NISN) – redundant high speed backbones with multiple Internet peering points & direct connections to the major NASA partners/contractors
- Network environment is multivendor, with single vendor concentrations along subsystem/functional lines to minimize integration /interoperability issues
 - Trying to return to open standards based architectures after a long period of unsuccessfully deploying vendor-proprietary solutions.
 - Emphasis on unique network services delivery sometimes dictates a solution best provided by another vendor rather than using those from by existing vendor.
- Communications Systems that directly support Flight/Life Critical Human Spaceflight functions undergo multiple additional Validation & Verification processes (such as System Assurance Analysis)



Remote Access



- Externally Accessible internal IT systems
 - Systems designed to be externally accessed done so via direct firewall openings.
 - Remainder via some form of VPN or “Extranet” solution
 - Access via VPN usually comparable to onsite levels of access
 - » Some special purpose VPN variants limit access to only a few IT systems
 - Mail & other services provided via Agency level systems external to KSC
- Multiple forms of remote access are provided to meet different requirements
 - Client based Virtual Private Networks – both IPSEC & SSL clients
 - » Preconfigured IPSEC Clients available for Windows, Mac OS, Linux/Unix, some Mobile OSes
 - » SSL VPN Browser support for the standard Agency Web Browsers (IE, Firefox & Safari)
 - » Limited Restrictions beyond that today – evaluating Network Access Control (NAC) options
 - Legacy Dial-in Modem lines (local & toll-free) still available – limited use
 - All forms of remote access use Two Factor Authentication (SecurID tokens)



Remote Access

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- User support/assistance
 - Majority of user support provided 0700-2200 hours Mon-Fri
 - Authenticated “web portal” resources available 7x24x365 (user configuration/help guides, client software downloads, etc.)
 - Support email address normally monitored off -hours by remote technical team – best effort support outside of support windows
 - Extended support available for specific events if requested (& funded)
 - Likely to move to Agency provided service in the coming 1-2 years, with increased support hours but fewer “custom” solutions



Operations of Information Systems



- Multiple Outsource contracts in use today
 - Firm Fixed Price (Desktop Services) or Cost Plus (remainder)
 - Mission Support Contractors have own IT support services for “program unique” IT services
 - » Increasingly less delivery of infrastructure services & focusing on more mission or contract specific services
- Local Area Networks still managed by Center Communications Contractor
- Wide Area Networks support by the Agency Unified NASA Information Technology Services (UNITeS)
 - Future trend is to roll all services in an Agency-wide suite of IT contracts
 - » NASA Information Technology Infrastructure Integration Program (I3P)



Operations of Information Systems

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IT and Comm Services

- Chargeback Methodology
 - “Common” network infrastructure services used by all programs/projects are Agency funded baseline
 - Communications services required or used only by a specific program/project are funded by that program/project - Some direct consumption based charges
- IT Resource Management
 - KSC IP address pools are managed at the top level by the Information Management and Communications Support (IMCS) contractor
 - » Now using an Agency required commercial IP Address Management application for documentation, DNS & DHCP services
 - » Some pools of addresses are sub-allocated to the program/project level
 - Desktops are managed by the KSC Outsourcing Desktop Initiative of NASA (ODIN) contractor
 - Increasing use of automation for system management, monitoring & reporting
 - » Multiple Agency required solutions being deployed



Operations of Information Systems

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IT and Comm Services

- Contractor IT Systems
 - Contractor IT Systems must comply with NASA IT Requirements/Governance
 - » This approach sometimes creates issues between the major NASA Organizations
 - Many “incentives” (positive and negative) for the Contractors to use NASA provided or required Information Technology Resources being utilized
 - Non-utilization (where permitted) of these “Agency standard IT resources” may have a higher cost to the contractors to remain “independent”.
- IT Security Requirements
 - Security starts with the Contract Language
 - » NASA is playing “catch-up” trying to make sure the standard security clauses are included in all contracts (NASA FAR [1852.204-76](#) , Security Requirements for Unclassified Information Technology Resources.).
 - The Federal Government has many laws (ex. FISMA) in place that require all Federal and contractor support systems meet minimum security requirements, regardless of the location of the systems
 - » Frequent changes to U.S. Government policy and law makes this a challenge
 - Performance metrics, audits, and monitoring tools are the most commonly used approaches to ensure contractors continue to meet minimum IT security requirements.



Video Distribution

POC: Chuck Brown



- **Video distribution at KSC**

- Broadband Communications Distribution System (BCDS)-
 - » Broadband cable television system. Provides cable television programming and individual camera views of selected operational areas over a hybrid fiber and coax delivery architecture
- Operational Television (OTV)-
 - » Point to point individual baseband NTSC and ATSC video surveillance camera links to X-Y router for individual video distribution capability to authorized customers.
- IP network cameras
- Public Affairs Office (PAO)
 - » High Definition mass general release video



Video Distribution

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- **Inter-center communication**

- NASA Integrated Services Network(NISN)-
 - » High speed digital data delivery network between centers for both PAO and Engineering video
- Multi-Channel Digital Television (MCDTV) service between Centers- Provides multiple Standard Definition and a High Definition programming to mass market
 - » Programming originates from KSC (during Launch and Landing) and sent via NISN to NASA HQ for broad distribution
- Engineering Analysis Video –High resolution (wavelet compressed) digital video sent between mirrored servers at KS, JSC and MSFC over NISN



Video Distribution

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- **Storing of the video data**
 - Video Tapes
 - » DigiBeta
 - Digital Video Disks (DVD)
 - Blu-Ray Video Disks
 - Backed -up Computer editing and server systems
 - Engineering Imaging Analysis
 - » Mirrored Server and Archive System



Video Distribution

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- **Video Formats**
 - NTSC (scheduled for retirement)
 - ATSC
 - » Standard Definition
 - » High Definition
 - 720P, 1080P
 - Compressed Digital Video
 - » MPEG 2
 - » MPEG 4
 - » DV
 - » IP
 - QuVis (Wavelet Compression)



Ground Processing/Launch Systems

Bryan Boatright



- Individual Mission Contractors/Subcontractors each have a number of unique IT systems/applications for the wide spectrum of functions they support
 - Computer Aided Design/Drawing (CAD)
 - Work Control /Resource Management
 - Documentation /Logistics/ Parts Control
 - Risk Management/Problem Reporting & Corrective Action
- Increased use of workflow technologies & automation for the processing/launch functions
 - Multiple Legacy paper-based processes that are being automated
 - Normally still have a paper based system that can be the fall-back in the event of IT system failure
- NASA has a very mature set of requirements that the systems must ultimately support
- Many integration challenges have emerged over the years where technologies outpaced the governing standards & frameworks



Ground Processing/Launch Systems

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IT and Comm Services

- Remote Ground Launch Systems Monitoring accomplished via “purpose built” telemetry systems developed & refined over many years
 - Primarily via dedicated “hardwire” types of systems initially, but slowly migrating to multiplexed and IP based networking solutions
 - Additional care has to be taken when moving to some of the more modern technologies (such as packet based systems vs. legacy hard wire systems) - different behaviors sometimes resulted unexpected results during testing
 - Performance requirements often exceed those of Commercial Off The Shelf (COTS) based solutions, which then require additional modification to use.
- All Systems that directly support Flight/Life Critical Human Spaceflight functions undergo multiple additional Validation & Verification processes (such as System Assurance Analysis) and are managed with more stringent configuration control & testing processes



Summary

Bryan Boatright



- The mission of NASA IT [organizations throughout the Agency] is to increase the productivity of scientists, engineers, and mission support personnel by responsively and efficiently delivering reliable, innovative and secure IT services. (<http://insidenasa.nasa.gov/ocio/about/index.html>, July 2010)
- IT at NASA/KSC serves to enable KSC's mission (Human Space Flight) in a customer-focused manner by offering a breadth of IT services to support the current and advanced information technology and communications needs of KSC institutional and NASA/KSC program customers.