How We Make the Leap

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1988. He began his federal career at Langley in 1953 as an aeronautical research intern. After serving in the U.S. Air Force, he returned to Langley in 1958 of SES executives may receive the rank of Distinguished Executive and only five percent may be named Meritorious Executive.

Partnership Will Preserve the Past

The Apollo Lunar Excursion Module Simulator (LEMS), used to help train every astronaut who set foot on the moon, has been transported to the New Horizons Technical Center (NHTC) in Hampton. At New Horizons, students will restore the historic landmark and prepare it for display in the Virginia Air and Space Center in downtown Hampton.

The NHTC will perform the work in partnership with Langley, the National Historic Landmarks Commission and the Virginia Air and Space Center. "We think of space as the future, but now we have to think about preserving the past in space," said NHTC Director Dr. Ralph W. Johnson, referring to the four-way partnership that will preserve the lunar module.

The module was part of the Lunar Landing Research Facility, a unique resource that allowed NASA to train Apollo astronauts to fly in a simulated lunar environment. Neil Armstrong, Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin and 22 other astronauts used the facility to practice landing problems they would encounter in the last 150 feet of descent to the surface of the moon.

A crane lifts the Apollo Lunar Excursion Module Simulator (LEMS) in preparation for its move to the New Horizons Technical Center for refurbishment. The national landmark will be displayed locally.

"While refurbishing," stated Principal Dr. Patrick M. Konopnicki, "the students will learn the engineering design and construction principles of the