NOTE TO EDITORS: COVERAGE OF STS-49; LANGLEY-MADE HARDWARE FEATURED DURING SPACEWALK

Complete audio and video coverage of the STS-49 Space Shuttle mission pre-launch briefings, launch and landing will be available at NASA Langley Research Center for area news media.

STS-49 mission activities will be telecast over NASA's Select television network from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida and can be seen at the NASA Langley News Center, 15 West Taylor Road. NASA's Select television is available on Satcom F-2R, Transponder 13, located at 72 degrees west longitude; frequency 3960.0 MHz, audio 6.8 MHz.

The launch window for STS-49 extends from 7:06 to 7:55 p.m. EDT Thursday, May 7. With an on-time launch, landing would be Thursday, May 14, at 7:01 p.m. EDT at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif.

Endeavour's maiden space flight features rendezvous, repair and reboost of a crippled communication satellite. Also astronauts will perform spacewalks over three consecutive days, a first on a Space Shuttle mission, to demonstrate Space Station Freedom assembly techniques. Truss joint hardware, designed and manufactured at the Langley Research Center, will be used in the experiment called Assembly of Station by EVA Methods (ASEM), scheduled for May 11 and 12.

A series of pre-launch briefings are planned which will provide an overview of Endeavour's first mission. A countdown status briefing will take place at 9 a.m. Wednesday, May 6. Other Wednesday briefings include an INTELSAT briefing at 9:30 a.m., an ASEM briefing at 10:30 a.m., a pre-launch press conference at 12 p.m., a commercial payloads briefing at 2 p.m., and an Endeavour briefing at 3 p.m. A countdown status briefing will be held at 10 a.m. on launch day, Thursday, May 7.

The NASA Langley News Center will be open for the pre-launch briefings and until 1 hour after launch and landing. To originate stories from Langley regarding ASEM, call the Office of Public Affairs, 864-6122.
Structural Mechanics Division, will be available for interviews during the mission. Computer animation of both the Intelsat repair and the ASEM experiment and stills of the Langley-manufactured truss joint are available.

If you plan to send a representative for any of these mission-related activities, please phone the Office of Public Affairs.

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