NOTE TO NEWS MEDIA: COVERAGE OF STS-45 SPACE SHUTTLE MISSION

Complete audio and video coverage of the STS-45 Space Shuttle mission launch and landing will be available at NASA Langley Research Center for area news media.

The Shuttle launch window extends from 8:01 to 10:31 a.m. EST, Monday, March 23. Landing is scheduled for 6:08 a.m. EST Tuesday, March 31, at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida, weather permitting. The launch and landing will be telecast over NASA's satellite television network from the Kennedy Space Center and can be seen at the NASA Langley News Center, Building 1218, 3 S. Wright Street, Room 209; the telephone number is 804-864-4937.

Studies of the sun, the upper reaches of Earth's atmosphere and astronomical objects using an international array of instruments in Atlantis' cargo bay will highlight Shuttle Mission STS-45. The crew will also work with a variety of secondary payloads, a NASA Get Away Special payload and the Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment.

Commanding Atlantis will be Charles Bolden, making his third space flight. Brian Duffy will serve as pilot, making his first shuttle flight. Mission specialists include Kathy Sullivan, making her third flight; Dave Leestma, making his third space flight; and Mike Foale, making his first space flight. Payload specialists will be Byron Lichtenberg, making his second flight, and Dirk Frimout, Belgian scientist, making his first flight.

If you plan to send a representative for the launch and/or landing video downlink, please phone the NASA Langley Public Affairs Office, 864-6124.

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NEWS RELEASE REVIEW

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NASA Langley (Jan. 1992)