For Release:

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NASA LANGLEY JOINS NATION IN CELEBRATING SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

President Reagan has proclaimed the week of May 8-14, 1988, as Small Business Week in recognition of the vital role played by our nation's 14 million small businesses. The theme for this year's Small Business Week is "Small Business: Working for America."

National Small Business Week sets the stage each year for small business firms throughout the country to be recognized for their accomplishments. Since 1967, awards commemorating this honor have been presented to selected small business firms as a joint government/industry project. NASA Langley Research Center's nomination, Analytical Services and Materials, Hampton, Va., has been selected to receive the Small Business Administration's Administrator's Award for Excellence. The presentation will be made in Washington, D.C., May 12, during the Twenty-First Annual Joint Industry/SBA Small Business Procurement Conference and Awards Banquet.

Langley will also celebrate Small Business Week by attending the Eighth Annual Small Business Contracting Day May 13 at Norfolk Scope. The goals of the day are to alert the small business community to procurement opportunities with federal, state and

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local governments and to seek additional small business and small disadvantaged business suppliers for government procurements.

It is NASA policy to place a fair proportion of its total purchases and contracts for supplies, research and development, and services with small business concerns. Each year, NASA Headquarters in Washington, D.C., sets socioeconomic program goals for contract awards at each center. For FY 1988, Langley's goals for contract awards to small businesses, to minority/disadvantaged firms, and to women-owned firms are $78 million, $15 million and $4.3 million, respectively.