NORTHROP GRUMMAN NEWS

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Northrop Grumman Partners with NASA Ames on Mission To Look for Water at Moon's South Pole

Redondo Beach, Calif. – May 12, 2006 – Northrop Grumman Corporation (NYSE:NOC), in support of NASA Ames Research Center, has been selected to build a spacecraft that will travel to the moon to look for water ice at the lunar south pole in October 2008.

The Lunar Crater Observation and Sensing Satellite (LCROSS) mission will seek out water ice in one of the moon's permanently shadowed craters. Water is a key ingredient for supporting future human outposts on the moon and for providing the hydrogen and oxygen to make rocket fuel.

"This program along with the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter are the first two missions of the President's Vision for Space Exploration to reach the surface of the Moon and will be critical in shaping future exploration missions," said Maureen Heath, vice president, Civil Space, Northrop Grumman Space Technology. "Northrop Grumman is pleased to be supporting Ames on this fast-paced, streamlined mission and in its role as architect for the Robotic Lunar Exploration Program."

Northrop Grumman will provide the spacecraft and overall integration, which includes adapting the spacecraft subsystems for launch, providing radiator-equipment panels, the propulsion system, thermal and communication systems, software algorithms and system engineering. Ames is responsible for mission management, science, operations, and payload/instrument development.

LCROSS is a secondary payload, which will accompany the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter to the Moon aboard an Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle (EELV). It consists of two main components, an Earth Departure Upper Stage and a Shepherding Spacecraft.

On approach to the Moon, the Shepherding spacecraft will position the upper stage for a precision impact, separate and perform a braking maneuver so as to observe the upper stage impact into the moon. Sensors on the Shepherd will monitor and the upper stage debris plume, prior to flying through, and sample and characterize the plume to assess for the presence of water ice or vapor. Shortly after the first impact, the

Shepherd will also impact the moon as well, creating a second opportunity at a different site to study the nature of the lunar regolith.

Northrop Grumman Corporation is a global defense company headquartered in Los Angeles, Calif. Northrop Grumman provides technologically advanced, innovative products, services and solutions in systems integration, defense electronics, information technology, advanced aircraft, shipbuilding and space technology. With approximately 125,000 employees and operations in all 50 states and 25 countries, Northrop Grumman serves U.S. and international military, government and commercial customers.

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