On behalf of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Office of Small Business Programs (OSBP) I am proud to present the first edition of our biannual Small Business report update. The report highlights numerous aspects of OSBP, including Fiscal Year 2016 Small Business Industry Award winners, small business outreach events, and companies making a difference at NASA.

NASA prides itself on working with Small Businesses to achieve its mission. As an organization, we believe in our slogan, “Where Small Business Makes a Big Difference.” This report will illustrate high-tech small businesses that are at the forefront of our missions and who are making contributions to their local communities.

I want to thank the companies in this report for fostering relationships throughout NASA. These companies not only assist in the success of the Office of Small Business Programs but also the overall success of NASA’s missions.

Regards,

Glenn A. Delgado
Associate Administrator
NASA Office of Small Business Programs

In 2017, the entire National Aeronautics and Space Administration family celebrated National Small Business Week April 30 through May 6. Every year since 1963, the President of the United States has issued a proclamation announcing National Small Business Week, which recognizes the critical contributions of America’s entrepreneurs and small business owners.

More than half of Americans either own or work for a small business, and they create about two out of every three new jobs in the United States each year.

As part of National Small Business Week, NASA takes the opportunity to highlight the impact of outstanding entrepreneurs, small business owners, and partners from all 50 states and U.S. territories. We also highlighted the current Agency SBIA winners, which can be viewed online at: https://osbp.nasa.gov/award-industry-winners.html. At NASA, we’re on a journey to Mars and small businesses are helping us get there.

In fact, our partners in the small business community have always been at our side as we made each giant leap in exploration. Small businesses are core contributors to the Agency’s mission. Over 1,600 small businesses are supporting NASA future mission requirements including Orion and the Space Launch System.

Every day, small businesses work to create 21st-century jobs, drive innovation, and increase America’s global competitiveness.
Small Business Saturday

Saturday, November 25, 2017, is Small Business Saturday—a day to celebrate and support small businesses and all they do for their communities. NASA and organizations across the country will be supporting local small businesses. NASA is proud of the contribution small businesses make to NASA’s mission. On Small Business Saturday, the Office of Small Business Programs (OSBP) will highlight the benefits of small businesses to NASA’s missions by sharing content on social media using the hashtags: #NASA and #SmallBusinessSaturday.

Small businesses are a key part of NASA’s supply chain. More than 800 small businesses contribute to the success of the Orion Program located in 47 out of 50 states. OSBP will host a Small Business Saturday Facebook Event and photo contest where everyone is encouraged to participate. Join the event and post a photo showing how you support small business by using the following hashtags on social media: #NASA and #SmallBusinessSaturday. You can also like the NASA Office of Small Business Programs pages by searching NASA OSBP on Twitter and Facebook.

Participate on Twitter by following and tweeting your photos to @NASA_OSBP using the hashtags #NASA and #SmallBusinessSaturday. The best photos that show the most small business pride on Facebook and Twitter will have a feature in the next OSBP newsletter!

Small businesses enrich their communities and transform lives, and the NASA family is proud of the contribution small businesses make to the Agency mission.

Did You Know at NASA…

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year 2016</th>
<th>$5.25 billion</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50.7% Prime</td>
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<tr>
<td>49.3% Subcontracting</td>
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In FY 2016:
$5.25 billion was ultimately obligated to Small Businesses.
- 50.7% of this was at the prime level ($2.66 billion)
- 49.3% was at the subcontract level ($2.59 billion)

In FY 2017:
- $2.7 billion was obligated at the prime level.
- Subcontracting data is not available until January 2018.

Small Business Industry Awards

The NASA Small Business Industry Awards (SBIA) recognize outstanding Small Business Prime Contractors, Small Business Subcontractors, Large Business Prime Contractors, and Mentor-Protégé Agreements that support NASA in achieving its mission.

In FY 2016, the Agency-level SBIA winners were:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency-Level Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year</th>
<th>Cepeda Systems and Software Analysis, Inc.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Huntsville, AL</td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.cepedasystems.com">http://www.cepedasystems.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>Agency-Level Small Business Subcontractor of the Year</th>
<th>Atec, Inc.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stafford, TX</td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="https://www.atec.com">https://www.atec.com</a></td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency-Level Large Business Prime Contractor of the Year</th>
<th>Jacobs Technology, Inc.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tullahoma, TN</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.jacobs.com">http://www.jacobs.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>Agency-Level Mentor-Protégé Agreement of the Year</th>
<th>Teledyne Brown Engineering, Inc. (Mentor)</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Huntsville, AL</td>
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<td><a href="https://tbe.com">https://tbe.com</a></td>
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|                                                        | University of Nevada, Las Vegas (Protégé) |
|                                                        | Las Vegas, NV                             |
|                                                        | https://www.unlv.edu                      |

Small Business Improvement Plan Initiatives

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration’s Small Business Program continues to make strides in order to meet or exceed our negotiated Small Business Administration (SBA) goals. The Agency is on a progressive path and is striving to achieve another “A” on its annual SBA Scorecard. The initiatives and objectives, created biennially at the Small Business Improvement Plan (SBIP) meeting, serve as evidence that the Agency remains focused on connecting with both our internal and external small business program stakeholders to assist NASA in achieving our mission.

The FY 2018 and FY 2019 SBIP initiatives and objectives are outlined as follows:

1. **Program Development**: Implement a set of pre-award procurement activities designed to increase opportunities for small businesses.
2. **In-Reach/Outreach**: Promote small business awareness and participation by utilizing innovative techniques.
3. **Training**: Implement a strategic training plan to promote the NASA Small Business Program.
Small Business Outreach at NASA

NASA HBCU/MI Technology Infusion Road Tour
On August 17, 2017, the One Percent Historically Black College/Minority Institution (HBCU/MI) goal was incorporated into the NASA FAR Supplement (NASA Procurement Notice 17-4). As other prime contractors may have experienced, NASA’s challenge is meeting and exceeding the HBCU/MI goal, both in prime and subcontracts.

Our newest initiative is the NASA HBCU/MI Technology Infusion Road Tour. Now in its second year, the initiative was created in collaboration with the Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD) and Office of Education (OE) with support from the Office of Procurement and the Office of Strategic Infrastructure.

The Road Tour networking events are designed to assist NASA and large prime contractors meet or exceed the mandated HBCU/MI goal through utilization of the NASA’s programs (i.e., SBIR/STTR, Mentor-Protégé Program, etc.).

To date, more than $10 million in task orders and contracts have been awarded from NASA’s prime contractors to schools participating in the Road Tour.

Aerospace Small Business Industry Day, Museum of Flight
Seattle, Washington
The NASA Office of Small Business Programs is constantly evolving and learning how to expand its reaches outside of NASA Center areas. In the Fiscal Year (FY) 2016/2017 Small Business Improvement Plan, one initiative was to create Regional Outreach Events that would foster expansion and new relationships. Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 ended with an incredible Regional Outreach event on September 26, 2017. The Washington Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) partnered with NASA to host the Aerospace Small Business Industry Day at the Museum of Flight in Seattle, WA. This event created opportunities for small businesses and diverse firms to participate in a day of learning and networking with NASA representatives from several NASA Centers as well as NASA Primes.

The presentations by NASA Primes highlighted how to establish a business relationship with NASA as well as insights into their professional experience with the Agency. The formal presentations were followed by one-on-one matchmaking sessions where firms had an opportunity to share their capabilities with NASA representatives and Primes.

Tiffany Scroggs, Program Director for the Washington Procurement Technical Assistance Center expressed her enthusiasm about the event by stating, “Washington PTAC was delighted to host the event and provide an opportunity for Washington State’s highly capable engineers and manufacturers to learn how to participate more in the NASA supply chain.”

After such a successful event, we are looking ahead to our next Regional Outreach event in May 2018 in Chicago, IL. Please review the Regional Outreach schedule of past and future events below. For more information on NASA Regional Outreach, please visit http://www.osbp.nasa.gov.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 28, 2016</td>
<td>Denver, CO</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 16, 2016</td>
<td>Waltham, MA</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 1, 2017</td>
<td>North Las Vegas, NV</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 26, 2017</td>
<td>Seattle, WA</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 8, 2018</td>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 17–18, 2018</td>
<td>Athens, OH</td>
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NASA is performing a series of tests to evaluate how astronauts and ground crew involved in final preparations before Orion missions will expeditiously exit the spacecraft, if an emergency were to occur on the pad prior to launch. This testing took place the week of Oct. 30, 2017, using the Orion mockup in the Space Vehicle Mockup Facility at NASA’s Johnson Space Center in Houston. In this photo, engineers used fake smoke to imitate a scenario in which astronauts must exit the capsule when their vision is obscured.
Logical Innovations, Inc.

Describe what services or support you provide/provided at the NASA Center(s).
Logical Innovations has been providing exceptional financial, acquisition, administrative, human capital, training, business systems and software development support services, in addition to strategic communications, public affairs/outreach, exhibits, and event management for our NASA customers since 2006. We perform duties for both technical communities and general functional areas while demonstrating the utmost commitment and professionalism.

What is your company’s impact on NASA’s mission?
Since Logical Innovations’ inception in November of 2006, we have adopted NASA’s mission as our own. Just as our name suggests, we pride ourselves on providing innovative solutions for all projects assigned through responsiveness, adaptability, and a drive to exceed expectations. Our work enables NASA civil servants to focus on the mission-critical technical activities of their respective projects and programs while our staff members fulfill the financial, acquisition, and administrative requirements necessary to maintain these projects and programs. Also, through our outreach support, we communicate the NASA message to the general public through publications, exhibits, tours, speakers bureau, and events.

How has your business evolved or grown supporting NASA?
Logical Innovations President/CEO/Founder Denise Navarro’s career began at Johnson Space Center in 1984. Since day one of Logical Innovations in November of 2006, NASA has remained our primary customer, and since then, we have grown and established our presence at numerous Centers across the Agency. We are currently supporting customers at Ames Research Center (ARC), Armstrong Flight Research Center (AFRC), Glenn Research Center (GRC), Headquarters (HQ), Johnson Space Center (JSC), Kennedy Space Center (KSC), and White Sands Test Facility (WSTF). Additionally, we have supported projects at Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC), Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC), and Stennis Space Center (SSC). We continue to strive to branch out into new Centers, ever expanding our reach across the Agency. Logical Innovations has a clear past, present, and future within NASA.

Describe your shining moment with NASA.
Every milestone and accomplishment within NASA are shining moments for us. From our first subcontract at GSFC to our latest contract award at KSC, we have had numerous causes for celebration. In the HQ Office of Small Business Programs publications, we have been highlighted as a small business story by our customers at ARC and GRC. Additionally, we were honored as the 2015 JSC Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year and the 2016 AFRC Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year. Moreover, our current presence at multiple NASA locations—Washington D.C., Northern California, Southern California, Florida, New Mexico, Ohio, and Texas—and the contract awards and work to achieve these are more examples of our shining moments with NASA.

How has working with NASA impacted your local community?
Our growth and accomplishments within NASA have allowed us to 1) prosper and provide continuous improvement in benefits and overall compensation packages for our employees; 2) establish annual scholarship programs for academically-capable/financially-challenged area youth to enable future generations to continue their academics in community colleges and universities; 3) sponsor community projects (e.g., youth STEM programs); 4) support worthy charitable organizations (e.g., cancer research, local food banks); and most recently 5) donate for relief funds and supplies due to natural disasters (e.g., Hurricane Harvey).
COLSA Corporation

Describe what services or support you provide/provided at the NASA Center(s).

COLSA has provided support and services to NASA MSFC and other Centers, for 15+ years for the HOSC International Space Station Payload Operations, Space Launch System (SLS) Program, Space Shuttle Operations, Chandra, and other Projects. These services and support include Project Management; IT Security; CMDM; Data Storage, Retrieval, and Distribution; Software Development; and a 24/7 Security Operations Center.

What is your company’s impact on NASA’s mission?

COLSA provides and/or provided ISS Command and Telemetry processing, Mission Planning Services, Voice and Video Services, Security, and Redundancy for Critical Mission Operations for the ISS. As well as CMDM support to the Space Shuttle, ARES and SLS Programs, which include support to Hardware Acceptance Reviews, CM Audits, and Critical Design Reviews.

How has your business evolved or grown supporting NASA?

After serving more than 30 years in the U.S. Army, Francisco J. Collazo, a native of Puerto Rico, founded COLSA Corporation in 1980, beginning literally in his garage in Huntsville, AL. Mr. Collazo envisioned a distinctive kind of engineering and support services company. His vision was to build COLSA with a reputation of excellence and quality work, to deliver unsurpassed customer support, and to create a work environment that would attract and retain the best talent. Mr. Collazo’s vision was soon realized with COLSA establishing a reputation as a first-rate provider of engineering and support services while employing a staff of respected experts. Because we have remained steadfast in our commitment to Mr. Collazo’s vision—to serve our customers with dedication and excellence—COLSA has grown from SBA 8(a) program in 1983 to over 1,200 employees, with approximately 30% NASA clients.

Describe your shining moment with NASA.

Throughout the years, COLSA has been recognized with many awards, including: top minority-owned high technology firm in the nation; the National Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year; one of the first small firms to be listed in the top 100 research, development, test, and evaluation firms in the nation; the Alabama Engineering Hall of Fame; the James S. Cogswell Outstanding Industrial Security Achievement Award (twice); and NASA’s Marshall Space Flight Center Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year in 2008, 2010, and 2014.

How has working with NASA impacted your local community?

COLSA has a long history of supporting charitable causes and community outreach programs. Over the years, by supporting educational, health and welfare, civic, and cultural causes, COLSA has made a positive impact on individual lives and our communities as a whole.

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Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/colsacorp
Twitter: @COLSA_Corp
Frank J. Collazo, CEO
bfoster@colsa.com
District: 5th Congressional District of Alabama
Construction Management of Florida, Inc.

Describe what services or support you provide/provided at the NASA Center(s).
CMF provides support on numerous projects with NASA Kennedy Space Center (KSC). Some of the projects include the FY15 Various Bridge Repairs, Orsino and C5 Dissolved Gas Analysis (DGA) Monitors, HVAC Energy Upgrade, Upgrade Lighting Phase II, and Reroof Metal Roof M & O Facility. These projects comprise of repair designs, providing labor, supervision, materials, equipment, transportation, and supplies required for installations. The services provided by CMF causes no significant interruption to the daily operations at the substations. In addition, services are completed efficiently such as the completion of Upgrade Lighting Phase II with 90% of original contract work being completed in 40% of the time.

What is your company's impact on NASA's mission?
CMF is a 100% minority owned company, SBA 8(a), Women-Owned and HUBZone Certified.
We help NASA comply with the minority compliance work. We bring knowledge, dedication, experience and customer commitment to every project.

How has your business evolved or grown supporting NASA?
NASA has been a great support in helping CMF grow and with our past performance and execution and satisfaction of our client has helped in our company’s success.

Describe your shining moment with NASA.
While performing a job, a NASA Contracting Officer who was very satisfied with our performance recommended us to another Contracting Officer for an 8(a) Sole Source Contract that had had no success with 8(a) Contractors in the past.

How has working with NASA impacted your local community?
Being awarded NASA Projects, the work has remained in the area and helps the hiring of local personnel and also local subcontractors, and local services.
Aetos Systems, Inc.

Describe what services or support you provide/provided at the NASA Center(s).

Aetos is a prime contractor on the MSFC Office of Human Capital (OHC), MSFC Center Operations Building Automation, and GSFC Strategic Partnership Office contracts. Aetos is the managing partner of the Aerie Aerospace Joint Venture who is the prime contractor for the Marshall Engineering Technicians and Trades Services (METTS) contract. Aetos is subcontractor on two NASA Enterprise contracts and on the Expendable Launch Vehicle Integrated Support contract at KSC. Our services include IT, Enterprise and Mission Application Support, Network Administration, System Administration, IT Security, Building Automation, Energy Management, Human Capital, Training, Service Desk, Technology Assessment and Transfer, Strategic Outreach, Engineering, Test Operations, Manufacturing, Laboratory Operations, and Data Analysis.

What is your company’s impact on NASA’s mission?

Aetos is fortunate to have the opportunity to support a wide variety of contract efforts that truly touch the full spectrum of support in achieving NASA’s mission. Our contract base includes Utility Management/Building Automation (literally assisting in keeping the lights on at MSFC), to supporting the Office of Human Capital assisting in managing the Human Resources, Workforce Development and Training and Education outreach, as well as providing significant technical capabilities covering Information Technology initiatives that support agency wide efforts and Engineering services directly supporting the SLS Program at MSFC. Aetos has collective responsibility for managing approximately 500 employees supporting multiple NASA Centers and initiatives.

How has your business evolved or grown supporting NASA?

NASA is exceptionally small business friendly and provides opportunities for small business to engage at all levels in support to their programs giving them the opportunity to start small, prove their capabilities and grow quickly. Aetos has been able to steadily grow our technical capabilities as well as our overall corporate health which in turn continues to open new doors both within NASA and other Government agencies.

Describe your shining moment with NASA.

We have been fortunate to receive a number of awards from our NASA programs, but probably our shining moment was when we received the 2011 Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year. This very prestigious award definitely created positive visibility and in some ways “instant credibility” to the company and opened new doors for future opportunities.

We are very proud of the NASA awards and recognitions Aetos has received. We feel they reflect our customer satisfaction and community involvement.

How has working with NASA impacted your local community?

Aetos has a number of internal programs focused on giving back and being involved in our local community. We provide a Civic Service day for our employees which allows them to take a paid day off to volunteer with a non-profit organization of their choice. This encourages our employees to be involved. As we grow as a company through increased work in our NASA programs, our community outreach programs grow as well. Many of our employees focus their volunteer activities on NASA community activities such as STEM Education outreach activities, Robotics programs, Space Club participation, and others.
Linc Research, Inc.

Describe what services or support you provide/provided at the NASA Center(s).

Linc is supporting NASA MSFC in the areas of Space Launch System (SLS) structural test, design, and build of the SLS Software Integrated Test Facility (SITF), mechanical design engineering for SLS, thermal analysis for a lunar lander and optics integration and manufacturing for NASA’s new Imaging X-ray Polarimetry Explorer (IXPE). Linc is researching internally innovative and disruptive vibration control methods using a NASA/Linc co-patented technology called Disruptive Tuned Mass (DTM)\(^{†} \); Linc is also the co-inventor with NASA for this technology. Linc is developing this technology for applications in the commercial building market for wind and earthquakes, commercial/Government helicopter market, and other uses in the commercial energy sector.

What is your company’s impact on NASA’s mission?

Linc co-invented, under NASA, Fluid Harmonic Absorber (FHA)* technology, the precursor to DTM*, to mitigate a potentially catastrophic issue during Ares I vehicle ascent. This innovative technology provided a solution to a launch constraint issue. Linc continued to work with NASA to create a solution for large structures that sway due to winds. This created multiple technology transfer opportunities, one of which resulted in a license, purchased from NASA. Now the DTM* technology is being employed in the design of the SLS Mobile Launcher. Linc supports NASA's new IXPE mission with optics technology and manufacturing subject matter expertise.

How has your business evolved or grown supporting NASA?

Since the establishment of Linc Research, an SBA certified HUBZone company, the desire has been to be: 1) problem solvers and innovators of solutions; and 2) partners in the restoration of circumstantially disadvantaged communities. We have not wavered from these goals.

Currently Linc is the HUBZone Prime Contractor providing optics support for the IXPE Program. Linc is also a teammate on the NASA MSFC ESSCA contract providing engineering support in Structures, Test, Software, Thermal Analysis and Mechanical Design. Linc has been recognized most recently as the MSFC 2016 Subcontractor of the Year and co-inventor of the 2017 MSFC Invention of the Year.

Describe your shining moment with NASA.

What began as a MSFC Technical Investment Program effort to study NASA launch vehicle vibration issues inadvertently became a groundbreaking NASA spinoff transferable to other Government agencies, industry, and academia. As co-inventor of the FHA* technology, Linc Research, alongside MSFC, fabricated a prototype system that was later installed in a 34-story building by an A&E firm who purchased a license from NASA. A spin-off of the FHA* technology was invented by MSFC and Linc Research; called the Disruptive Tuned Mass (DTM)\(^{†} \) absorber. The University of Alabama was responsible for testing and evaluating the DTM\(^{†} \) for seismic applications. MSFC is integrating the DTM's\(^{†} \) for future space vehicle applications. This technology has won its inventors multiple awards and almost a dozen patents.

How has working with NASA impacted your local community?

Linc Research has built its foundation on serving: 1) the unique high technology needs of Federal agencies; and 2) the needs of the community in which we have chosen to work and live. A high-tech company located in the middle of an inner-city neighborhood can provide hope and vision for the people that reside in that community.

NASA MSFC has played a substantial role in our HUBZone communities alongside Linc through many STEM activities. MSFC has also provided support of HUBZone Career Expos and a new HUBZone Accelerator.

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* NASA patent pending
† Linc/NASA patent pending
Bastion Technologies, Inc.

Describe what services or support you provide/provided at the NASA Center(s).
Bastion Technologies, Inc. (Bastion) provides engineering services for NASA launch vehicles, satellites, exploration spacecraft, Space Station, and commercial vehicles.

Mechanical, Structural, Thermal, and Electrical Design, Engineering, and Analysis
- Mechanism Simulation
- Test and Verification
- Fluid Dynamics
- Structural Analysis
- Dynamics and Controls

Safety, Quality, and Mission Assurance
- Hardware/Software Safety, Quality, Reliability
- Inspection, Compliance, Surveillance
- Investigation and Reporting
- Risk Assessment and Analysis
- Institutional/Occupational Safety
- Independent Verification and Validation
- Hazard Reporting and Tracking Systems

What is your company’s impact on NASA’s mission?

How has your business evolved or grown supporting NASA?
Bastion was established in 1998. Bastion currently employs over 450 engineers and professionals in seven states with a total revenue of $50M in 2016.

Describe your shining moment with NASA.
Recognized technical and corporate performance:
- 2016 MSFC Small Business Prime Contract Excellence Award
- 2015 MSFC Small Business Prime Contract Excellence Award
- 2014 MSFC Small Business Prime Contract Excellence Award
- 2010/2009, Performance Excellence Award (Boeing)
- 2008 USA Space Flight Awareness Award
- 2005 USA Minority Subcontractor of the Year

How has working with NASA impacted your local community?
Baston and our employees are recognized for our community giving:
- Rotary International
- National MS Society
- Devereux Foundation
- Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation
- NASA Area Little League
- University of Alabama Huntsville Scholarship Program
- SPCA
- Latin Women’s Initiative
- Project Joy and Hope
- Girl Scouts of the USA
- Boys Scouts of America
- American Red Cross
- Armand Bayou Nature Center
- American Heart Association
- Space Center Houston Foundation
- Henry E. Lackey High School
- Bay Area Habitat for Humanity
- Hope Village
- Alzheimer’s Association
- Arabia Shriners’ Circus
- Armed Forces Operation Shoebox
- Toys for Tots
- Huntsville Food Drive
- Shoes for Haiti

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E-mail: jhernandez@bastiontechnologies.com
Twitter: @bastionblog

Jorge Hernandez, President/CEO
jhernandez@bastiontechnologies.com

Districts: 36th Congressional District of Texas; 5th Congressional District of Alabama
Cepeda Systems and Software Analysis, Inc.

Describe what services or support you provide/provided at the NASA Center(s).

Cepeda Systems and Software Analysis, Inc. (CSSA) provides engineering and process improvement services. Services include: leadership and technical expertise for SLS Flight Software (FSW) Configuration Management (CM); NPR 7150.2 (Software Engineering Requirements) subject matter expertise; management of the Integrated Avionics and Test Facilities (IATF) including build-up of the laboratories used to develop, integrate, and test flight software for NASA’s Space Launch System (SLS); IATF Test Lead for multiple SLS labs; software process improvement initiatives across the MSFC Flight and Ground Software Division (ES50); developing and implementing an IATF controlled inventory management system; and providing software process improvement consultations, appraisals, and engineering training across all NASA Centers.

What is your company’s impact on NASA’s mission?

CSSA established an SLS FSW CM release methodology enabling consistent, timely releases in support of program milestones. Through CSSA efforts, a stable/consistent definition of the FSW Architecture was established to meet stakeholder requests and user needs thus lowering program risks. CSSA also reduced MSFC ES50’s software process “footprint” by ~90% to ensure processes are actually used and maintenance and training costs are reduced. Our tailoring of process improvement initiatives across NASA Centers ensures low-cost solutions and optimal implementations for all Center types (research, flight, etc.). CSSA-managed test facilities support integration and test of the SLS core stage avionics and the SLS avionics suite tied together with the launch control and crew module systems. As IATF Test Lead, CSSA ensures labs meet specified requirements.

How has your business evolved or grown supporting NASA?

CSSA was founded in 2001. Our primary customer for the first 4 years was Department of Defense (DOD). We began our support of NASA in 2005 with one engineer, as a subcontractor. Since then, we have applied our core competencies to various NASA program initiatives including Constellation and SLS. We have evolved to hold two prime contracts at NASA MSFC and one prime contract at NASA Glenn for Agency-wide use. NASA currently represents about 30% of our business base. Our past performance at NASA as a prime contractor has contributed significantly to our ability to pursue other contracts and grow. In addition, the technologies we have contributed at MSFC have significantly enhanced our core capabilities.

Describe your shining moment with NASA.

As we have had the privilege of serving NASA over the years, there have been many memorable achievements. From advancing process improvement initiatives through extensive enhancement of process infrastructure, architecture, and implementation methods, to leading mission critical disciplines such as the Flight Software Configuration Management Team and the IATF Test Team. However, the most extraordinary blessing was when we received word we had won both the FY 2016 MSFC and Agency-wide Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year Awards. Given the large number of small businesses in NASA’s supply chain, winning these awards was a huge blessing and an enormous achievement. We remain honored and humbled by these most coveted awards!

How has working with NASA impacted your local community?

NASA and CSSA have something extremely important in common: a sense of connection and responsibility to our community. For example, we understand how critical small businesses are to NASA and to the economy. For NASA, specifically, we are an officer and an active member of the MSFC Small Business Executive Leadership Team (SBELT), are actively involved in the Marshall Small Business Alliance Meeting, and are an active member of the NASA Industry Forum. In addition, as God has blessed us with success in 2017 supporting NASA and DOD, we moved our headquarters to a historically underutilized area. This has allowed us to expand our outreach program to raise the standard of living in the area and equip the underresourced community through employment while also supporting nonprofits in our community.
Cambridge International Systems, Inc.

Describe what services or support you provide/provided at the NASA Center(s).

Through the Base Information Technology Security (BITSec) program, Cambridge supports the cyber security initiatives and operations of the Johnson Space Center (JSC) Information Technology Security Office (ITSO). A broad spectrum of support services is supplied on this contract. These include: Cyber security Engineering, Risk Management, Cyber Defense, Incident Response, Vulnerability assessment, Accreditation and Authorization, Cyber Threat Analysis and Management, Intrusion Detection and Prevention, Identity and Access Management, and IT Security Awareness and training.

What is your company’s impact on NASA’s mission?

Cambridge created and executed the first schedule in which we would assess 100% of JSC IT Systems Security Plans in one calendar year. Cambridge's advanced metrics reporting capability has resulted in significant improvements in the cyber security posture of JSC contributing to the near complete elimination of vulnerabilities on JSC public-facing web sites and a 50% reduction in expired in Authority to Operate (ATO) certificates. BITSec developed a SharePoint-based system to disseminate and track risk Mitigation Action Requests (MARs) issued by the NASA Security Operations Center (SOC). MARs are directive notifications to mitigate vulnerabilities that present increased risk to the Agency. These unprecedented efforts enable the JSC mission by maintaining the confidentiality, integrity and availability of JSC IT systems.

How has your business evolved or grown supporting NASA?

Having been selected to implement cyber security enhancements for NASA, Cambridge became recognized as an industry leader in the field of critical infrastructure enterprise assurance. When a premiere Federal agency like NASA undertakes a difficult, mission-critical cyber initiative and selects a small business to support that goal, it is a remarkable vote of confidence. NASA’s endorsement along with our strong performance on the BITSec contract has led Cambridge to win additional cyber security clients. That growth has allowed us to further invest in the company, building more robust, expansive business systems for our financial, contractual, and compliance operations and providing enhanced employee training opportunities. Reinvestment strengthens Cambridge but also reinforces the Government-industry partnership and demonstrates the real impact that small business contracting can make.

Describe your shining moment with NASA.

Cambridge directly contributed to NASA receiving a passing grade on their latest Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) report card. We accomplished this by implementing several unprecedented Cyber security efforts at JSC. We implemented an integrated Cyber Threat Intelligence team for predicting and preventing attacks on JSC assets. The team created a comprehensive biweekly security metrics report for the JSC Chief Information Security Officer to present to the JSC Chief Information Officer. Today this report is used to track Center progress on all security projects and vulnerability remediation efforts. We also worked with DHS and the NASA continuous diagnostics and monitoring (CDM) project team to accomplish the JSC implementation of all enterprise CDM products.

How has working with NASA impacted your local community?

Working in partnership with NASA has given Cambridge an opportunity to support some of the most important and challenging cyber security initiatives to our nation. Clearly that has a revenue impact to the company and has provided an opportunity for us to engage in more community giving and outreach, such as wreath laying at Arlington National cemetery for the holiday remembrance or paddling the Potomac River as fundraising support for wounded veterans. But our work with NASA also has a local impact on young people. When we attend internship job fairs for local high schools and returning college students, our work with NASA is always inspiring to them. We are proud we can be an envoy to foster this local enthusiasm.

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