

Chapter Tours NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

November 10, 2010

On Wednesday, November 10th, 2010 members of the chapter members were given a tour of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) in Greenbelt, MD. On hand were chapter Chair Leon Escobar, Vice-Chair Bob Noteboom and Treasurer Paul Ferretti. They were joined by 9 other chapter members and guest.

All participants were extremely impressed with the facilities that they were shown as well as the extent to which NASA GSFC is leveraging robotics and automation to fulfill its mission.



The visualization technology used for the "Science on a Sphere", the Earth Science and LRO Control Centers requiring almost no human intervention to control the missions of robotic spacecraft, and the test facilities encompassed in the Spacecraft Systems Development and Integration facility, all demonstrate that robotics and automation are an important part of daily life at NASA GSFC.

The group was particularly impressed with the Robotics Satellite Servicing activities which show that NASA GSFC is undoubtedly at the forefront of the state-of-the-art.

The tour attendees would like to pass along our thanks to Nina Harris from the Office of Public Affairs who set up the tour. In addition we would also like to thank DJ, Karen Miller, Warren Case, Carol Boquist, and Brian Roberts and everyone else who helped make this tour possible. Their enthusiasm for the NASA mission and eagerness to share NASA experiences made this among the best events of the year for our chapter.