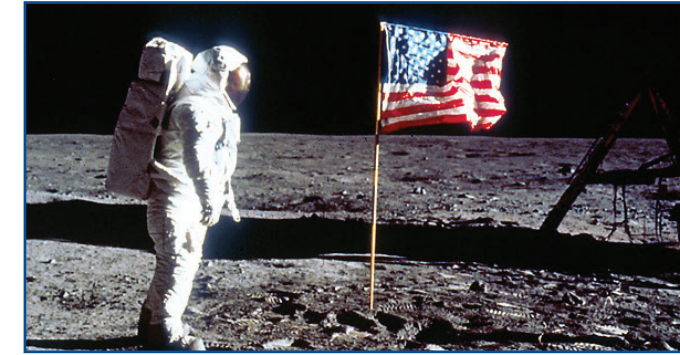


Timeline

stennis space center



May 25, 1961 ... President John F. Kennedy challenges the United States to send humans to the Moon and return them safely by the end of the decade.

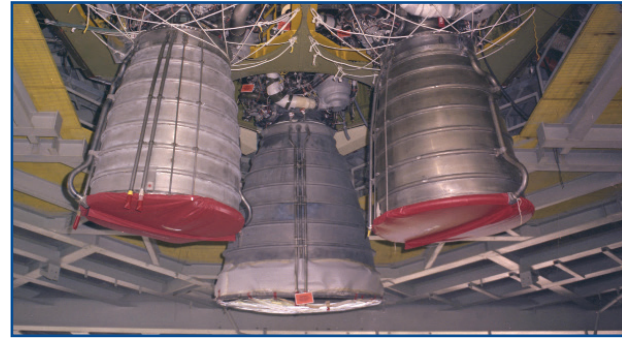


July 29, 1969 ... Astronaut Neil Armstrong becomes the first human to set foot on the Moon. His Apollo 11 mission is powered by first- and second-stage Saturn V rocket boosters tested at Stennis.

March 1, 1971 ... As the Apollo Program ends, NASA assigns responsibility for testing space shuttle main engines to Stennis.



May 1, 1994 ... Management of the space shuttle main engine test operations program is transferred from NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala., to Stennis Space Center.



April 21, 1978 ... The first test of the space shuttle Main Propulsion Test Article is conducted, which involves simultaneously firing three space shuttle main engines arranged in flight configuration.

Dec. 30, 1991 ... NASA designates Stennis as the Center of Excellence for large propulsion system testing.



Jan. 21, 2004 ... A test firing at Stennis marks 1 million seconds of space shuttle main engine test and flight operations.

Aug. 8, 1998 ... All four large test stands – A-1, A-2 and B-1/B-2 – are occupied for the first time.

April 21, 2006 ... A space shuttle main engine test marks the 40th anniversary of rocket engine testing at Stennis.

Feb. 21, 1997 ... Stennis is designated as NASA's lead center for implementing commercial remote sensing activities.

Aug. 11, 2005 ... Stennis marks 30 years of space shuttle main engine testing with an afternoon firing on the A-2 Test Stand.

Aug. 2010 ... The Stennis Education Office develops Mass vs. Weight, its first-ever teaching curriculum. It offers a series of hands-on activities to help educate students about mass and weight concepts. A year later, in support of the curriculum, Stennis hosts area students to dialogue with International Space Station astronauts during the facility's first-ever live video feed from the orbiting ISS.



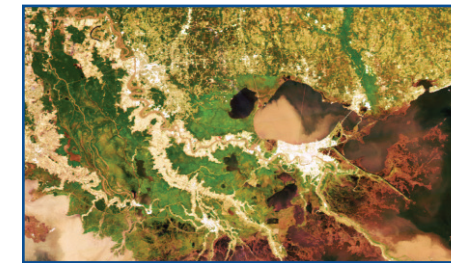
July 29, 2009 ... The final space shuttle main engine is tested at Stennis, ending 34 years of testing flight engines for 135 shuttle missions.

Sept. 29, 2006 ... Operators conduct the final space shuttle main engine test for the A-1 Test Stand. In early November, the stand is officially handed over to begin testing the next-generation J-2X engine.

Oct. 22, 2008 ... Operators at Stennis' A-2 Test Stand conduct a final certification test on engine No. 2061, the last space shuttle main flight engine scheduled to be built.



Aug. 11, 2011 ... The visit of the STS-135 space shuttle Atlantis crew marks the close of NASA's Space Shuttle Program for Stennis. The crew returned to Earth on July 21, completing the final flight in the 30-year shuttle program.



May 2011 ... The Stennis Applied Science and Technology Project Office provides invaluable satellite data on water and sediment flow after Louisiana officials open the Morganza and Bonnet Carre spillways to control Mississippi River flooding.

April 21, 2014 – NASA and Space Exploration Technologies Corp. (SpaceX) cut the ribbon at the E-2 Test Stand at Stennis Space Center to launch a partnership to test components of the company's methane-fueled Raptor rocket engine.



August 7, 2014 ... NASA takes a big step forward in preparations to test its new Space Launch System core stage with a 20-foot repositioning of the Main Propulsion Test Article (MPTA) structure on the B-2 Test Stand at Stennis. The 61-foot-high, 1.2-million-pound MPTA, built for testing Apollo/Saturn rocket stages, was shifted to accommodate the larger SLS core stage.



May 3, 2019 ... Following its arrival on the Pegasus barge, the Space Launch System core stage Pathfinder was rolled out behind the B-2 Test Stand at Stennis.



Aug. 27, 2015 ... Stennis completes the first developmental test series on the RS-25 engines that will help power the core stage of NASA's new Space Launch System.



April 20, 2021 ... NASA removes the Space Launch System core stage for the Artemis I Moon mission from its Stennis test stand.



Mar. 18, 2021 ... Four RS-25 engines fire for 500 seconds during the second Green Run hot fire test of the Space Launch System core stage.



April 23, 1966 ... The space age arrives in Hancock County as operators at Stennis conduct the first-ever Saturn V rocket booster (S-II-T) test on the A-2 Test Stand.

May 28, 1976 ... A flag-raising ceremony marks official move of the Naval Oceanographic Program to Stennis.



June 24, 1975 ... The first-ever full-duration space shuttle main engine test is conducted at Stennis.

Sept. 9, 1970 ... NASA announces its Earth Resources Laboratory will be located at Stennis.



May 17, 1963 ... Construction workers cut the first tree to start clearing an area for NASA's new rocket engine test facility.

May 30, 1996 ... NASA designates Stennis as its lead center to manage capabilities and assets for rocket propulsion testing.

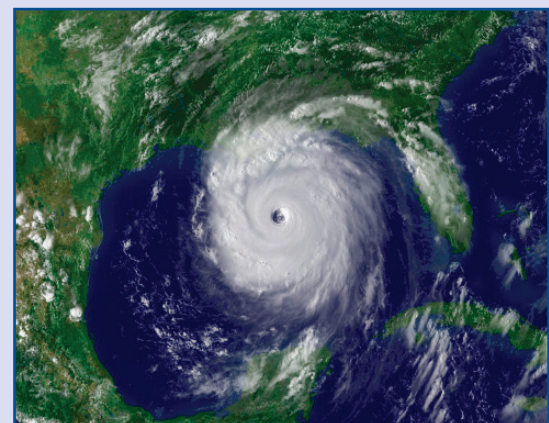
July 24, 1992 ... Stennis operators conduct the 2,000th test firing of a space shuttle main engine.



Aug. 20, 1990 ... Space shuttle main engine tests are conducted for the first time on all three Stennis test stands on the same day.



July 27, 1998 ... Activation is initiated on the E-1 Component Test Facility, a world-class, high-pressure cryogenic test structure at Stennis.



Aug. 29, 2005 ... Hurricane Katrina makes landfall, battering southeast Louisiana and the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Tracking maps show the storm's eye passing directly over Stennis, inflicting damage to several facilities. After the storm, Stennis serves as a key relief/recovery location for area residents.

Aug. 5, 2002 ... Ribbons are cut on three new Stennis facilities, valued at more than \$60 million, for Lockheed Martin, the U.S. Navy and the Naval Oceanographic Office.

May 8, 2008 ... Stennis engineers successfully complete an initial series of tests on Powerpack 1A, which is a key component of the next-generation J-2X rocket engine in development.



June 2, 2009 ... NASA officials and visiting dignitaries open the new Emergency Operations Center at Stennis to house the facility's medical clinic, fire department, security services, energy management control system and incident command post.



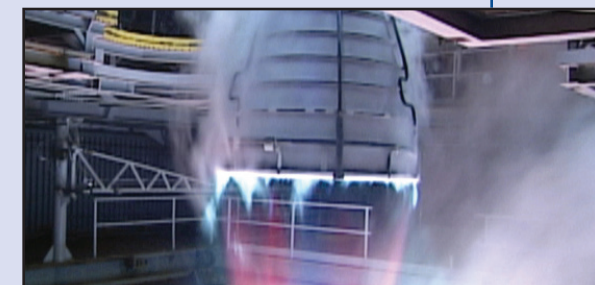
Nov. 10, 2010 ... Stennis conducts first successful test of the Aerojet AJ26 engine for Orbital Sciences Corporation. The AJ26 will power commercial cargo transport flights to the International Space Station.



July 26, 2011 ... Stennis operators conduct a successful ignition test of the next-generation J-2X rocket engine.



May 2, 2011 ... The main administration building at Stennis is named in memory of late site Director Roy S. Estess.



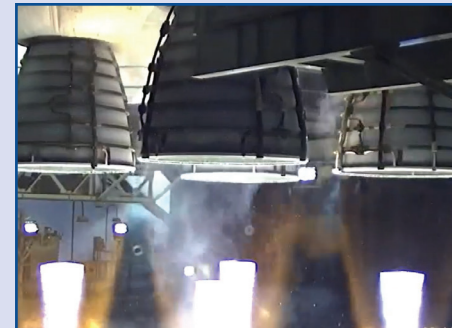
Jan. 9, 2015 ... Stennis tests an RS-25 rocket engine for 500 seconds on the A-1 Test Stand, providing critical data on the engine controller unit and inlet pressure conditions. The test is the first of an RS-25 engine since the end of space shuttle main engine testing, in 2009.



Aug. 2015 ... The last of three levels of structural steel is added to the B-2 Test Stand, extending its framework 100 feet higher and marking another step renovating the stand for Space Launch System core stage testing.



Aug. 29, 2019 ... Stennis lift teams set the Space Launch System core stage pathfinder in place on the B-2 Test Stand as training for lifting the actual flight article for Green.



Jan. 16, 2021 ... The SLS core stage's four RS-25 engines fire for the first time together during the initial Green Run hot fire test, generating a combined 1.6 million pounds of sea-level thrust for approximately one minute.

and the journey continues ...