SPACE SHUTTLE MAIN ENGINE
THE FIRST TEN YEARS

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Part 10 – Acknowledgements, Acronyms and Bibliography

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The development of the Space Shuttle Main Engine was an arduous task beset with many technical, logistical and managerial difficulties. The team that solved these problems pushed and advanced the state of the art in many different fields. Thousands of specialists at Rocketdyne and the George C. Marshall Space Flight Center worked doggedly for a decade to produce a device which now ranks high on the list of mankind's greatest engineering achievements. For many, personal sacrifices took the form of long nights, weekends and holidays lost, and punishing cross country air travel with days and weeks at a time away from their families and loved ones. The very fast paced, high stress environment caused others to pay a higher price. There were casualties along the way.

Many individuals deserve special recognition for significant contributions to the success of the program, as can be attested to by the hundreds of awards and certificates that have been presented by the government for this achievement. An attempt by the author to list only the most deserving of these was abandoned after surpassing 200 names and still finding that several very significant contributors were not listed. Wishing to avoid my embarrassment for having ignored someone truly deserving and not wanting to assign the task to a committee, such a list will not appear here.

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ASI	Augmented Spark Igniter
CCV	Chamber Coolant Valve
CDR	Critical Design Review
CEI	Contract End Item
CRES	Corrosion Resistant Steel
DCR	Design Certification Review
DVS	Design Verification Specification
EFL	Engineering Field Laboratory
EPL	Emergency Power Level
F	Fahrenheit (degrees of temperature)
FMOF	First Manned Orbital Flight
FPB	Fuel Preburner
FPL	Full Power Level
FPOV	Fuel Preburner Oxidizer Valve
FRF	Flight Readiness Firing
g	Gravitational Constant
GAO	General Accounting Office
gpm	Gallons per Minute
G&C	Guidance and Control
HPFTP	High Pressure Fuel Turbopump
HPOTP	High Pressure Oxidizer Turbopump
Hz	Hertz (Cycles per Second)
ICD	Interface Control Document
INCO	Inconel (nickel, chromium and iron)
ISTB	Integrated Subsystem Test Bed
KSC	Kennedy Space Center
LH2	Liquid Hydrogen
LPFTP	Low Pressure Fuel Turbopump
LPOTP	Low Pressure Oxidizer Turbopump
MCC	Main Combustion Chamber
MEC	Main Engine Controller
MFV	Main Fuel Valve
MOV	Main Oxidizer Valve
MPL	Minimum Power Level
MPTA	Main Propulsion Test Article
MSFC	Marshall Space Flight Center
MTF	Mississippi Test Facility
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NSTL	National Space Technology Laboratories
OFT	Orbital Flight Test
OPB	Oxidizer Preburner
OPOV	Oxidizer Preburner Oxidizer Valve
PDR	Preliminary Design Review
PFC	Preliminary Flight Certification
psi	Pounds per Square Inch
psia	Pounds per Square Inch (Absolute)
R	Rankine (degrees of absolute temperature)
RID	Review Item Disposition
rms	Root Mean Square
RPL	Rated Power Level
rpm	Revolutions per Minute
scfm	Standard Cubic Feet per Minute
SEM	Scanning Electron Microscope

SRB	Solid Rocket Booster
SSC	Stennis Space Center
SSFL	Santa Susana Field Laboratory
SSME	Space Shuttle Main Engine
STS	Space Transportation System
TCA	Thrust Chamber Assembly
T	Time (liftoff)

Authors note: To the reader who thinks that acronyms should be avoided at all costs, consider that these acronyms were an important part of the SSME program language and, therefore, have historical significance worthy of a place in the written history of the program.

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