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NASA Information for Government Depository Users

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Overview

- NASA's Mandate of Information Dissemination
- Ongoing Publications Program
- New Information Technologies as Supplements

NASA's Mandate of Information Dissemination

- Space Act calls for NASA to "provide for the widest practicable and appropriate dissemination of information concerning its activities and the results thereof"
- NASA strives for openness
 - proactive approach
 - no undue security regulations
- NASA employees have wide latitude to choose appropriate methods

NASA Publications Program

- Ongoing since agency founding
- Various formats
 - Special Publications
 - Technical Reports
 - Contractor Reports

Periodicals

Monographs

- History publications are just one large component

Where to Find NASA Publications

- NASA Information Center
- NASA Printing Officer
- NASA Center for Aerospace Information (CASI)
- History Office
- Public Affairs Office

NASA's Use of New Information Technologies

- Electronic media supplement, not replace, printed word (OMB directive)

- Advantages

Speed - updating, viewing

Relatively cheap and easy to produce

Many people outside NASA have access

- Caveats

Equal access for all?

Accountability

Variety of NASA Electronic Information

- World Wide Web

History

Spacelink (Educational Resource)

Center for Aerospace Information (CASI)

Headquarters, field centers

Public affairs

Spaceflight, aeronautics

More NASA Electronic Media

- CD-ROM's

- E-mail listservs

Press Releases

Shuttle

History

- Other

NASA TV

Videos

Summary

- NASA takes information dissemination very seriously
- Conventional publication program continues strongly
- NASA is also a leader in new electronic forms