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TOP HONORS TO BE PRESENTED AT SPACEOPS 2010 CONFERENCE IN HUNTSVILLE

March 25, 2010 – Reston, Va. – The International Committee on Technical Interchange for Space Mission Operations and Ground Data Systems (SpaceOps Organization, also known as the SpaceOps Committee) is pleased to announce that the following awards will be presented during the SpaceOps 2010 Conference, taking place April 25–30 at the Von Braun Center in Huntsville, Ala.

- **The Mars Exploration Rover Operations Team** will receive the 2010 **International SpaceOps Award for Outstanding Achievement**, for its remarkable success in meeting the unique and varied challenges of operating two rovers on Mars for several years past their design life and establishing a model for future in situ operations. The International SpaceOps Award for Outstanding Achievement recognizes outstanding efforts in overcoming space operations and/or support challenges, and recognizes those teams whose exceptional contributions were critical to the success of one or more space missions.
- **Eugene Kranz** will receive the 2010 **International SpaceOps Exceptional Achievement Medal**, honoring his pioneering the concepts and procedures that laid the foundation for human spaceflight operations, many of which are still in use today, and for his inspirational leadership that raised the awareness of the importance of spaceflight operations throughout the world. The International SpaceOps Exceptional Achievement Medal recognizes an individual who has distinguished themselves in the field of space operations and support and whose exceptional contributions were critical to the success of one or more space missions or who has made significant contributions to the field of space operations.
- **Paolo Maldari** will receive the 2010 **International SpaceOps Distinguished Service Medal** honoring his dedication to the SpaceOps Organization since its early days and as one of the “fathers” of international space agency cross-support, and for his involvement with the planning committees for the SpaceOps 2008 Conference and the Reducing the Cost of Spacecraft Ground Systems and Operations Symposium. The International SpaceOps Distinguished Service Medal recognizes an individual who has distinguished himself or herself with service to the SpaceOps Organization and who has shown exceptional dedication to the interests of the organization by making significant contributions over an extended period of time.

The SpaceOps Organization is a spacecraft operations oriented international association consisting of representatives from most of the space-faring nations.

The SpaceOps Conference, a technical forum of space operations community held biennially since 1990, addresses state-of-the-art operations principles, methods, and tools. The event attracts technologists, scientists, managers, and experts from space agencies, industry, and academia, and fosters managerial and technical interchange on all aspects of space mission operations, including robotics, human, earth orbiting, and deep space. SpaceOps 2010 is hosted by the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center and organized by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA).

For more information, visit www.spaceops.org.

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