



National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

Langley Research Center
Hampton, Va. 23681-2199

August 28, 2000

Lockheed-Martin Engineering and Sciences Corporation
Attn: H. Pat Haney
1237 South Marvin Street
Hampton, VA 23681

SUBJECT: Contract Personnel Recognition

I would like to bring to your attention the exceptional service we have received in one of our performance-based contract tasks. Lockheed-Martin's Milfred Thomas has provided consistently excellent technical support for the Optics Laboratory in the Nondestructive Evaluation Sciences Branch. The contractor has demonstrated fundamental understanding of technologies necessary to maintain the operation of the laboratory, especially the optical fiber draw tower. Mr. Thomas has implemented many innovative improvements to the draw tower complex so that it can be operated more efficiently to produce high quality optical fiber with sensors for the Reusable Launch Vehicle program. He has demonstrated capability at diagnosing electronic equipment problems. Mr. Thomas has demonstrated exceptional talent in designing and manufacturing computer controlled, custom fixtures for automatically marking the fiber to locate the position of Bragg gratings in the fiber. Previously, we were locating and marking fibers manually, a very laborious effort. He has literally saved us hundreds of work hours. We have been able to meet our deliverables to the X-33 program, providing the prime contractor hundreds of sensors, including spares that were not part of the original requirements. He has installed and utilized CAD/CAM software to facilitate the 3-D design of custom articles and fixtures. He must also be commended for his constant attention to safety in the optics laboratory and also for safety suggestions for the entire NDE facility. Mr. Thomas' talents and capabilities have been an important asset to our optics activity and to the operation of the entire facility.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E. Generazio".

Edward R. Generazio
Head

Nondestructive Evaluation Sciences Branch
Structures and Materials Competency