

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration  
**Office of the Administrator**  
Washington, DC 20546-0001



December 12, 2006

The Honorable Edwin G. Foulke, Jr.  
Assistant Secretary of Labor for  
Occupational Safety and Health  
U.S. Department of Labor - OSHA  
Washington, DC 20210

Dear Mr. Foulke:

I am pleased to respond to Labor Secretary Elaine Chao's memorandum dated October 2, 2006, regarding the extension of the Safety, Health, and Return-to-Employment (SHARE) Initiative with Revised Goals 3 and 4. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) historically and currently has an exceptionally strong safety and occupational health culture and commitment to its employees. Most aspects of the human spaceflight and aeronautics programs are inherently dangerous, so that in the areas of safety, as well as occupational health, NASA's programs have been rigorous and directed to protect its employees in all environments. Safety has been an Agency core value, and the occupational health of the workforce is vital to sustain the productivity and continuing excellent work of our dedicated workforce.

NASA is committed to the President's continuation of the SHARE Initiative to reduce the number and severity of workplace injuries and illnesses, and to enhance the timeliness of reporting claims. We are proud that our on-site safety and health programs have resulted in one of the best safety and occupational health records in the entire Federal Government.

To increase the challenge of keeping NASA's employees safe and healthy, we will increase Goal 1 to a total case rate for injury reduction from 3 percent to 5 percent per year. We commit to maintaining Goal 2 to reduce the number of lost-time injuries by 3 percent per year. NASA accepts the SHARE Goal 3 of increasing timeliness of reporting to 55 percent for FY 2007 and to a 60 percent minimum threshold for the remaining years. For Goal 4 of maintaining a rate below 15 lost-production days per quarter, the Agency has always exceeded that goal and will work diligently to continue that trend.

NASA will maintain its existing infrastructure for safety and occupational health delivery at all facilities and seek to enhance safety and occupational health. We look forward to continuing our successful relationship with the U.S. Department of Labor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. D. Griffin", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael D. Griffin  
Administrator

cc:  
Department of Labor/Ms. Elaine L. Chao