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IAA Attributes the Von Karman Award for 2006 to Dr. Michael Yarymovych (USA)

The International Academy of Astronautics (IAA) has attributed the Theodore Von Karman Award for 2006 to Dr. Michael Yarymovych (USA), President of Sarasota Space Associates, Sarasota, USA, in recognition for his lifelong service to the aerospace profession in government, industry, and the international community; for his outstanding contributions to human space flight programs such as Apollo and the Space Shuttle; for his role in the initiation of the Global Positioning System and in the development of space launch vehicles; and for his many years of dedicated and skillful leadership of the International Academy of Astronautics as Vice President for Scientific Activities and as President.

The Von Karman Award, created in 1983, recognizes outstanding lifetime achievements in space related scientific activities. It is awarded annually without restrictions concerning nationality or gender. Most prestigious of the Academy’s individual awards, it is named in honor of the Academy’s founder and first President, a scientist of the highest international reputation.

Dr. Michael Yarymovych is an internationally renowned aerospace consultant providing services to the aerospace industry and government. Before his retirement from the Boeing Company in 1998 he was Vice President of International Technology in the Information, Space and Defense Systems organization. Prior to the merger with Boeing of Rockwell International he was the Vice President and Associate Center Director of the Systems Development Center, which focused the Corporation’s resources on new high technology advanced concepts requiring the skills of many divisions. He had joined Rockwell in 1977 as Vice President engineering of the Aerospace Operations in leadership positions of programs such as the Space Shuttle, Global Positioning System and the B1B strategic aircraft.

Prior to the industry tenure, Michael Yarymovych held several key positions in the United States Government. He was assistant Administrator of the US Energy Research and Development Administration responsible for field operations of the entire national and government owned energy (former AEC) laboratories. From 1975 to 1977 he was the Chief Scientist of the US Air Force, and prior to that he was posted in Paris and Director of the NATO Advisory Group for Aerospace Research and Development (AGARD), which has been recently changed to be the NATO Research and Technology Organization. In later years he became also Chairman of the RTO.

Prior to his service in the Air Force, Dr. Yarymovych had spent his early professional years at NASA Headquarters as Assistant Director of Systems Engineering in the Apollo project and later as Technical Director of the Air Force Manned Orbital Laboratory.

From 1991 to 1997 Dr. Yarymovych was President of the International Academy of Astronautics, of which he was vice president for Scientific Programs since 1985. He is Fellow of the American Astronautical Society and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, where he served as
president from 1982 to 1983. He has been widely recognized for his accomplishments in engineering management and research. He is four time recipient of the Air Force Exceptional Civilian Service Award, the service's highest decoration; he also received the ERDA Distinguished Service Award, and the Von Karman Medal from the NATO Research and Technology Organization. He is currently Senior Mentor of the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board and has served an numerous SAB and Defense Science Board Studies.

Dr. Yarymovych completed his B. Eng Sc. in Aeronautical Engineering magna cum allude at New York University 1955, earned his M.S. degree in engineering mechanics from Columbia University and the D. Eng. Sc. in engineering mechanics also from Columbia, as a Guggenheim Fellow.

Dr. Yarymovych and his wife Roxolana reside in Osprey, Florida. They have two children, daughter Mrs. Tatiana Thompson and son Nicholas, as well four grand children.

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