

**TECHNICAL & ADMINISTRATIVE
SERVICES CORPORATION
(TADCORPS)**

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 8, 1989
TO: SSAC Members
FROM: Pam Day
SUBJECT: L. Adam's letter to T. Moser and Travel and
Lodging for The June 29-30 Space Station
Advisory Committee Woods Hole Meeting

Enclosed is a copy of the meeting follow-up letter Larry Adams sent to Tom Moser.

I have started contacting you or your secretaries regarding accommodations at Woods Hole. I have enclosed a brochure of the Nautilus Motor Inn. As many of you know this is the height of their tourist season, so I was not able to be too picky. I need to know by June 1st if you plan to stay at the Nautilus. I will be glad to obtain your airline tickets if you will send me the flights you desire. As for ground transportation, I'll leave you on your own unless I get your tickets and then I can request a car at the airport you will be arriving at.

Let me know how and if I can help you with the June 29 and 30 SSAC meeting.

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National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

Washington, D.C.
20546

Reply to Attn of:

13401 Beall Creek Court
Potomac, MD 20854

May 3, 1989

Mr. Thomas L. Moser
Acting Associate Administrator for
Space Station
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Code S
600 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20546

Dear Tom:

This letter lists several issues that were discussed during the April 10-11, 1989 meeting of the Space Station Advisory Committee. The Committee wishes to bring these points to your attention.

Once again, the Committee wishes to thank you and the other NASA people who participated for your thoughtful preparation and your close attention during the meeting.

1. Our Panel on Systems Engineering and Integration reported on their recent meeting with Level II on this subject. While they noted significant progress, they reported that the task of adequately staffing the activity with qualified technical personnel was lagging badly.

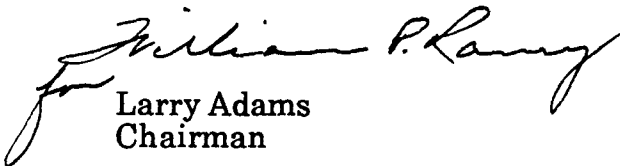
The Level II system engineering function is in-line for this program (i.e., NASA is the "prime contractor"), and its proper accomplishment is mandatory for mission success of the program. For example, Preliminary Design Reviews by Levels II and III and by our international partners are scheduled over the next 12 to 18 months and will require extensive efforts by the Level II organization to be successful.

The project has underway a study of Level II schedule and work load. We urge that this study be completed as soon as possible. It appears that problems associated with OMB approved head count and Congressionally approved budgets to support the head count are resolved or close to being resolved. The problem now is in acquiring qualified people to fill the positions. We do not propose changes in program management structure, Work Package assignments, Level III interfaces, the location of the Level II Program Office, or current major milestones of the program. Rather, such options as directed reassignments of NASA personnel to Level II, strengthening the role of the Program Support Contractor, and similar actions should be considered. We recommend that NASA management, including the Administrator and the Center Directors, address this issue on an urgent basis.

2. On a broader scale, NASA faces a severe problem in acquiring and retaining senior technical and management personnel within the constraints of current Civil Service pay scales. Every effort must be made to obtain relief in this vital area.
3. The Committee continues to be concerned over the lack of a coherent plan to provide backup flight hardware in the event that elements of the prime flight hardware are inadvertently destroyed. We understand that studies of this issue are on-going, but the Committee feels that the program is reaching the stage where it should be resolved, since the success of the space station program is critically dependent upon the availability of flight-worthy hardware during the in-orbit assembly sequence.
4. The Committee wishes to understand the station safety program in more depth. We request that a briefing on the program be provided at an early meeting of the Committee.
5. The Committee applauds the efforts of the Program Director to firm up the requirements to permit completion of specific designs and construction of the station. There is some concern, however, that important requirements for user accommodations may not yet have been firmed up and are thus in some danger of being rejected entirely. It is extremely important that the uncertainties in these user requirements be settled in time to support the design phase.
6. There was considerable discussion of the state of planning for the useful life of the station, considered as the equivalent of another NASA Center. This involves issues such as how much the "real" users have been and are still involved in the requirements setting activity and in providing coordination and support during development of the Station. Is there a Level II Program Scientist providing the close ties with the "real" users? We have assigned a subgroup of the Committee to delve more deeply into this matter and report their findings at our next meeting.

Many additional items of importance were discussed in the meeting and will be included in the formal minutes of the meeting. However, these are the ones we considered to be of the most urgency.

Sincerely,


for Larry Adams
Chairman