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Jim Ball  
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## SPACE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY GROUP FORMED, CHAIRMAN NAMED

NASA announced today the establishment of a Commercial Development of Space Industry Advisory Group and the selection of Edward Donley, former Chairman and CEO of Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., as the chairman.

The new group will be a subcommittee of the NASA Advisory Council and will function within NASA's formal advisory committee structure with emphasis on the commercial use of space.

It will review the overall NASA program for the commercial development of space and recommend changes it believes will contribute to enhancing the program and NASA's ability to achieve program objectives.

Through the NASA Advisory Council, the new group also will advise NASA on specific program elements, both current and proposed, aimed at fostering the commercial development of space, including:

- \* Research priorities from the viewpoint of potential commercial applications.

- \* Research data base structure and accessibility for optimum industry use.

- \* Research facilities and hardware that would most effectively stimulate commercial space endeavors.

- \* NASA-industry arrangements and agreements that enhance national policy objectives.

"We are extremely pleased and consider ourselves fortunate to have an industry executive of Mr. Donley's caliber to head this new group," said James T. Rose, NASA Assistant Administrator for Commercial Programs. "His extensive knowledge of business and understanding of the global competitive challenge America faces will be of valuable assistance to NASA. And his leadership of the advisory group will strengthen the advice that NASA receives in support of its lead role on the National Microgravity Research Board recently established by President Reagan in the National Space Policy".

Donley is Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors, Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. He also served from 1986 to 1988 as chairman of the Business Higher Education Forum of the American Council on Education which published, during that period, a report entitled "Space: America's New Competitive Frontier".

NASA's Office of Commercial Programs assists U.S. industry by actively supporting new high technology commercial space ventures and commercial application of existing aeronautics and space technology. The office also works to expand commercial access to available NASA capabilities and services.