

NASA INVENTIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS BOARD

1. PURPOSE

The Inventions and Contributions Board (ICB) was chartered by Congress in Public Law 85-568, the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958 (Space Act), as amended, and is governed by the provisions in that statute (now Title 42, section 2451 *et seq.* of the United States Code (U.S.C.) and in the Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.)).

The Space Act places the ICB in NASA to provide recommendations for waiving property rights in inventions and for monetary awards to any person making a significant scientific or technical contribution to the conduct of aeronautical and space activities.

2. APPLICABILITY/SCOPE

This charter applies to NASA Headquarters and NASA Centers, including Component Facilities.

The scope of the ICB encompasses all scientific and research activities conducted by NASA to preserve the United States' preeminent position in aeronautics and space through research and technology development. These activities include robotic and human exploration and observation and the study of the universe and our solar system, including planet Earth, aeronautics, and development of all required capabilities and technologies.

3. AUTHORITY

The ICB is chartered in sections 305 and 306 of the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958 (Space Act), as amended, 42 U.S.C., sections 2457 and 2458.

4. FUNCTIONS

Under the authority of 42 U.S.C. 2457(f) and pursuant to 14 C.F.R., part 1245, subpart 1, the ICB will receive and evaluate petitions for waiver of rights of the United States to inventions, accord each interested party an opportunity for a hearing, and transmit to the Administrator its findings of fact regarding petitions and its recommendations for actions to be taken with respect thereto.

Under the authority of 42 U.S.C. 2458 and pursuant to 14 C.F.R., part 1240, the ICB will receive and evaluate each application for award for any scientific or technical contribution to the Administration which is determined to have significant value in the conduct of aeronautical and space activities, will accord each an opportunity for a hearing upon such application, and will then transmit to the Administrator its recommendation as to the amount of the monetary award and the terms of the award, if any, to be made for such contribution.

Utilizing the Board's unique incentives for the development and reporting of new technologies and the substantial knowledge the ICB gains from the awards, the ICB will disseminate

information on these technologies to appropriate NASA offices for further utilization across NASA missions and programs with a special emphasis on the Vision for Space Exploration.

5. MEMBERSHIP

Under the authority of 42 U.S.C. 2457(f) and pursuant to 14 C.F.R., part 1209, subpart 4, the ICB shall consist of a full-time chairperson and at least six members appointed from within NASA. The Chief Engineer has been designated the Chairperson of the ICB and is directly responsible to the Administrator.

Under the authority of 42 U.S.C. 2457(f) and pursuant to 14 C.F.R., part 1209, subpart 4, a staff is established to assist the ICB in discharging its functions and responsibilities. A full-time Director as a nonvoting member of the ICB will direct the activities of the staff and will report to the Chairperson of the ICB.

6. MEETINGS

The ICB meets six times a year, once every other month, and as necessary for emergent, time-critical matters.

7. DURATION

The ICB will remain in existence indefinitely.

8. MEASUREMENT

The ICB will provide an annual report of accomplishments to the Administrator.

9. RECORDS

The NASA Chief Engineer is responsible for the maintenance of this charter and all records associated with the ICB.