

David McGrath
ATK Launch Systems



Dave is currently the ATK Chief Engineer for Stage 1 of the NASA Ares I-1 first flight test scheduled for launch in April 2009. Dave is a 22 year veteran of ATK, having spent the first 20 years at ATK's Elkton Maryland facility. While in Utah he has been Director of Systems Engineering until his recent reassignment in August of 2006. Dave received his BS and MS from Purdue University in 1983 and 1984, respectively, in Aeronautics and Astronautics. He has led a significant number of funded R&D programs in solid rocket propellant and ingredient development as well as hardware technology programs. He also was the lead engineer on the Titan Stage 2 retro for the Titan IV launch vehicle, the Mars Pathfinder retro, various STAR™ motors, and the ASAS 28 inch booster demonstrator project. While at Elkton, he was the principal investigator and program manager on a large number of IR&D programs and for the last 7 years there he managed Elkton's entire IR&D program. He is an Associate Fellow of AIAA and has been active in the solid rocket technical committee and as a past Director of Propulsion and Energy. Dave has over 35 technical papers in the JANNAF and AIAA literature on a wide variety of combustion, plume, motor development, and historical development activities.