



## SLS Core Stage Receives Four RS-25 Engines for First Flight

June 28, 2019

- Aerojet Rocketdyne delivered four RS-25 engines for integration with NASA's first SLS rocket core stage
- The four RS-25 engines that will fly on the first flight of SLS also powered the space shuttle
- Aerojet Rocketdyne has powered every astronaut launched from U.S. soil; RS-25 engines will enable the SLS to return humans to the Moon and eventually to Mars

STENNIS SPACE CENTER, Miss., June 28, 2019 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Aerojet Rocketdyne recently delivered four RS-25 engines to NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility (MAF) for integration with the core stage of NASA's Space Launch System (SLS) in anticipation of the rocket's first flight on the Artemis 1 mission.



Aerojet Rocketdyne delivered four RS-25 engines for integration with NASA's Space Launch System core stage from its facility at NASA's Stennis Space Center to NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility

"The Space Launch System is a foundational element of our nation's deep space exploration architecture that will allow humans to return to the Moon and eventually set foot on Mars," said Eileen Drake, Aerojet Rocketdyne CEO and president. "Built on the proven propulsion system that powered space shuttles to orbit for more than three decades, SLS will enable more complex exploration missions and will send astronauts and large cargo farther and faster than any rocket in history."

The RS-25 engine, an advanced version of the Space Shuttle Main Engine, has a strong legacy of safely and reliably powering human spaceflight. All four of the RS-25 engines that will fly on the first SLS flight also flew during the Space Shuttle Program; they have since been updated with new controllers and adapted for the unique operating environment of SLS. The engines will be operated at a higher power level than was used during the shuttle flights, providing SLS with additional thrust. An infographic about the first four engines and their flight history can be found [here](#).

"Aerojet Rocketdyne engines have powered every astronaut launched from U.S. soil and, with SLS, we will build on this strong legacy," added Drake. "There is no other rocket built or in production with the lift capability of SLS."

In addition to the RS-25 engines, Aerojet Rocketdyne is also providing the RL10 engine that will power the SLS upper stage, known as the Interim Cryogenic Propulsion Stage (ICPS), as well as the composite overwrapped pressure vessels and reaction control system thrusters. The ICPS is complete and ready for integration with the rest of the SLS rocket components at Kennedy Space Center.

Earlier this year, Aerojet Rocketdyne [delivered](#) the jettison motor, which is part of the Launch Abort System that will ensure crew safety in the event of a launch or pad anomaly. Additionally, Aerojet Rocketdyne has assisted in refurbishing the main engine for the service module, and delivered the reaction control system engines for the Orion crew module and eight auxiliary engines for Orion's European Service Module, which will ride atop the SLS.

**About Aerojet Rocketdyne:** Aerojet Rocketdyne, a subsidiary of Aerojet Rocketdyne Holdings, Inc. (NYSE:AJRD), is a world-recognized aerospace and defense leader that provides propulsion systems and energetics to the space, missile defense and strategic systems, and tactical systems areas, in support of domestic and international customers. For more information, visit [www.Rocket.com](http://www.Rocket.com) and [www.AerojetRocketdyne.com](http://www.AerojetRocketdyne.com). Follow Aerojet

Rocketdyne and CEO Eileen Drake on Twitter at [@AerojetRdyne](#) and [@DrakeEileen](#).

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