

## MAES SELECTS NASA AS 2006 RECIPIENT OF MAES PARTNER OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

**Houston, Texas** (September 1, 2006) The Society of Mexican American Engineers and Scientists, Inc., (MAES) selected NASA to receive the inaugural MAES Partner of Excellence Award during the society's 32nd Annual International Symposium & Career Fair (IS&CF) in Houston, Texas October 19-21.

The MAES Partner of Excellence Award was established to honor corporations and government agencies that have a long standing commitment and active working relationship with MAES. The society's board of directors selected NASA during in June of 2006 from a list of ten nominees. A variety of criteria was considered including:

- **Commitment** – steadfast attendance by employees of the award recipient and longstanding support for the society
- **Employment** – commitment to a diversified workforce and demonstrated diversity hiring practices
- **IAC Membership** – participation in the Industry Advisory Council, a premier group of corporations and agencies committed to enabling the mission of MAES
- **Sponsorship** – financial support for the society, its events, and its outreach and leadership development programs

Keith Marrocco, the Executive Director of MAES noted, "The selection of NASA as the first MAES Partner of Excellence Award recipient is especially significant considering the long and fruitful relationship between us and NASA. They have been with us since the 1970s supporting our pre-college outreach programs and employing generations of our members. We are very excited at the prospect of honoring their partnership with MAES."

This award will be presented on Friday, October 20, 2006, at the Hyatt Regency Houston. More information on the IS&CF is available online at [www.maes-natl.org](http://www.maes-natl.org).

MAES was founded in Los Angeles in 1974 by a group of professional engineers to advance and increase the number of Latinos, especially those of Mexican American descent, in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics by creating opportunities and fostering recognition through its professional, technical, and outreach activities. The mission of MAES is to promote, cultivate, and honor excellence in education and leadership among Latino engineers and scientists. MAES is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.

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