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## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Alphaport Co-Hosts NASA Friends and Family Night

**Cleveland, OH July 7, 2011**—Alphaport, a Cleveland-based provider of engineering services and knowledge management, will partner with the NASA Glenn Research Center (GRC) Lessons Learned Committee to present the 2nd Annual Friends and Family Night. The event will take place on Wednesday, August 3, 2011, at the Ohio Aerospace Institute (OAI) Auditorium, located just southwest of GRC at 22800 Cedar Point Road, Cleveland. Admission is free; the event goes from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.

The event is geared toward students in grades 6 through 10, but interested folks of all ages are encouraged to attend. The program includes Jay Pittman, Range Commander and Chief of the NASA Wallops Flight Facility Range and Mission Management Office, presenting “Taming the Dragon: Do Water and Jet Engines Mix?” Pittman has used the metaphor of a dragon to represent mission risk in the conduct of “routine” operations in his Ask the Academy risk brief entitled “Anatomy of a Dragon.”

The NASA GRC Lessons Learned Committee assists teams and individuals to identify and apply valuable lessons from past endeavors to current and future projects. Last year’s successful Friends and Family Night featured Dr. Matt Melis’ engaging presentation, “The Space Shuttle Experience.” Dr. Melis, a structural engineer, is well-known for presenting the story of the Columbia accident and the ballistic impact testing conducted at GRC that provided new insights about the accident and the vulnerabilities of the space shuttle system.

“Through Friends and Family Night, our hope is to excite students to pursue careers in math and science, and show them job opportunities in these exciting fields are within their reach,” said Jennifer Baumeister, Alphaport’s representative on the Lessons Learned Committee. “It is an honor and a pleasure to once again have the opportunity to invite students to experience

some of the many lessons we learn at NASA and to share them in a fun and friendly environment,”

## **About Alphaport**

Headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, Alphaport, Incorporated is an engineering services company providing strategies, products, and solutions for aerospace, defense, and commercial applications to government and technical businesses. Alphaport specializes in offering comprehensive Knowledge Management services and methodology to help aerospace-oriented organizations to capture, retain, and apply its intellectual property for technology innovation or professional workforce development. In addition, Alphaport offers to both government and commercial clients advanced engineering consultancy and management of multi-faceted product development programs.

Established in 1999, Alphaport's strong performance history has been built on a foundation of program and project managers, retired aerospace experts, exceptional engineers, and technical specialists serving NASA, DoD, and private industry on a global scale.

Alphaport has received multiple business and technology awards, including the Inc. 500 Award for America's fastest growing private companies.

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