

Douglas R. Cooke

Douglas R. Cooke is an aerospace consultant for Cooke Concepts and Solutions. In 2011, he retired from NASA after a 38-year career at Johnson Space Center and NASA Headquarters. He advises on company strategies, program management, proposal development, program strategies, and technical matters. His experience at NASA was in engineering and senior level program management positions in the Space Shuttle, the ISS, and Human Exploration Programs. During his career, Mr. Cooke has held major leadership responsibilities and had achievements during critical periods of each of these human space flight programs. In Mr. Cooke's last three years at NASA, he served as the Associate Administrator of the Exploration Systems Mission Directorate at NASA Headquarters. In his last year at NASA, he led efforts within NASA to adopt the current vehicle designs for the Orion and the SLS. As Associate Administrator, Mr. Cooke was also responsible for the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter, Lunar Crater Observation and Sensing Satellite, Commercial Cargo and Crew, Human Research and Exploration Technology Programs. Prior to this he was deputy of the same directorate, since it was formed in 2004. He has been in leadership positions for most of NASA's advanced studies in human space exploration since 1989, including the White House studies "The 90 Day Study" in 1989 and the "Synthesis Group Report, America at the Threshold" in 1990. He also had several high priority detail assignments to other NASA centers and NASA Headquarters. Mr. Cooke was NASA technical advisor to the Columbia Accident Investigation Board in 2003. Mr. Cooke has also been a member of the ISS Advisory Committee.

Mr. Cooke has received the Presidential Distinguished Rank Award, Presidential Meritorious Rank Award, NASA Distinguished Service Medal, three NASA Exceptional Achievement Medals, NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal, NASA Exceptional Service Medal, two JSC Certificates of Commendation, a number of NASA Group Achievement Awards, and the Space Transportation Association Lifetime Achievement Award. Most recently he was awarded the Texas A&M Outstanding Aerospace Engineer Alumni Award. Mr. Cooke received a B.S. in aerospace engineering from Texas A&M University.