

Kenneth Bowersox, Associate Administrator (Acting) for Human Exploration and Operations

Kenneth Bowersox was named acting associate administrator for NASA's Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate on July 10, 2019. Before being appointed to that position, Bowersox served for over five years as the Chair of the NASA Advisory Council's Human Exploration and Operations Committee, as well as Interim Chair of the NASA Advisory Council from June 2016 to January 2017. He is a retired U.S. Naval Aviator, with over 19 years of experience at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Selected to the astronaut corps in 1987, he has flown five times on NASA's Space Shuttle, serving as pilot, commander and mission specialist, and once on a Russian Soyuz, where he served as the flight engineer during descent. During his five orbital missions, Bowersox has logged over 211 days in space, including five and a half months aboard the International Space Station (ISS), where he was the mission commander of the 6th expedition. He was also a crew member for the first two Hubble Space Telescope repair flights and two United States Microgravity Laboratory flights.



Subsequent to his mission aboard the ISS, Bowersox served as the director of the Johnson Space Center's Flight Crew Operations Directorate, retiring from NASA and the U.S. Navy in December, 2006. After retirement, he remained involved with the U.S. space exploration program as a member of the standing review boards for ISS, Space Shuttle, and the Constellation Program. From 2009-2011, Bowersox was the Vice President of Astronaut Safety and Mission Assurance at SpaceX. Prior to his current assignment, Ken worked as an independent technical consultant, advising clients on spacecraft design, proposal development, and providing independent assessment of technical programs.

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