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Dr. Kraft was appointed Director of the NASA Johnson Space Center in January 1972 after holding the position of Deputy Director of the Center. He entered Federal Service in 1945 at the Langley Aeronautical Laboratory. In 1958 Dr. Kraft was selected to be one of the original members of the Space Task Group to establish Project Mercury. He was a prime contributor to basic mission control techniques, flight control team concepts, and worldwide tracking and other instrumentation requirements. He developed, trained, and operationally qualified the flight controller teams for Mercury missions, and was the Flight Director for all Mercury missions. He directed the design and implementation of the Mission Control Center in Houston, directed planning and mission control for all Gemini missions, and guided the operational planning and conducted mission operations in support of the Apollo flights through the lunar landing. Dr. Kraft received a B.S. degree in 1944 in aeronautical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia. In 1966 and 1967, respectively, he was awarded honorary Doctor of Engineering degrees from the Indiana Institute of Technology, Fort Wayne, and St. Louis University. In the course of his career, Dr. Kraft has been accorded many honors. He received the NASA Outstanding Leadership Award from the President in May 1963. He was awarded the NASA Distinguished Service Medal in January 1969 and October 1969. He is a Fellow of the American Astronautical Society and the Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. In April 1970 Dr. Kraft was elected a member of the National Academy of Engineering. He is also a member of Pi Tau Sigma and Gamma Tau Sigma.

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Dr. Sohoni is an advisory engineer at Huntsville where he joined IBM in 1967. Currently he is responsible for the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center studies related to Space Shuttle utilization and payload planning. Since joining IBM he has been involved primarily in guidance and trajectory optimization work for Saturn and other space vehicles. Dr. Sohoni received a B.E. degree from Jabalpur University, India, in 1958, and an M.S. degree in electrical engineering from Purdue University in 1959. From 1959 until 1964 he was a computer analyst at Vapor Corporation, Chicago. From 1964 until 1967 he was a research associate at the University of Alabama, where he received a Ph.D. degree in nonlinear control theory. Dr. Sohoni is a member of Eta Kappa Nu and Pi Mu Epsilon.

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