

USML-2 Crew



Cdr. Kenneth D. Bowersox, Commander

Cdr. Bowersox has been an astronaut since 1987. He has a B.S. in aerospace engineering and an M.S. in mechanical engineering. Bowersox was the pilot on STS-50, the First United States Microgravity Laboratory, and most recently served as pilot on STS-61, the first Hubble Space Telescope servicing mission. He has logged more than 591 hours in space.



Cdr. Kent V. Rominger, Pilot

Cdr. Rominger joined the Astronaut Corps in 1992. He earned a B.S. in civil engineering and an M.S. in aeronautical engineering. Rominger is a highly decorated Navy pilot whose last assignment with the Navy was the Operations Officer aboard the *USS Nimitz* in the Arabian Gulf during Desert Storm. USML-2 will be his first Shuttle flight.



Kathryn C. Thornton, Ph.D., Payload Commander

Dr. Thornton, an astronaut since 1984, has a B.S., an M.S., and a Ph.D. in physics. Thornton has flown on the STS-33 and STS-49 missions. She most recently served as an EVA specialist aboard the STS-61 Hubble Space Telescope service and repair mission. Thornton has logged more than 593 hours in space, including over 21 hours of EVA.



Lt. Cdr. Michael E. Lopez-Alegria, Flight Engineer/Mission Specialist

Lt. Cdr. Lopez-Alegria has been an astronaut since 1992. His degrees include a B.S. in systems engineering and an M.S. in aeronautical engineering. Lopez-Alegria has served NASA in several positions, which include an assignment to the Kennedy Space Center where he provided direct crew support during Space Shuttle launches and landings. USML-2 will be his first Shuttle flight.



Capt. Catherine G. Coleman, Ph.D. Mission Specialist

Capt. Coleman, who became an astronaut in 1992, has a B.S. in chemistry and a Ph.D. in polymer science and engineering. She did research on optical materials for the Air Force and has set endurance and tolerance records as a test subject for the centrifuge program at the Armstrong Aeromedical Laboratory. Coleman has served as a Special Assistant to the JSC Center Director. USML-2 will be her first Shuttle flight.



Albert Sacco, Jr., Ph.D., Payload Specialist (Crystal Growth)

Dr. Sacco has a B.S. and a Ph.D. in chemical engineering and is head of the Chemical Engineering Department at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. He has done extensive research on carbon filament initiation and growth, catalyst deactivation, and zeolite synthesis. Sacco was the Principal Investigator (PI) on the USML-1 Zeolite Crystal Growth experiment and is PI for similar USML-2 investigations. He also served as the crystal growth alternate payload specialist on USML-1.



Fred W. Leslie, Ph.D., Payload Specialist (Fluid Dynamics)

Dr. Leslie, a research scientist at the MSFC Space Science Laboratory, holds a B.S. in engineering science, as well as an M.S. and Ph.D. in meteorology with a minor in fluid mechanics. He was the Mission Scientist for the Spacelab J mission and is co-investigator on the USML-2 Geophysical Fluid Flow Cell experiment. He is a commercial and instrument-rated pilot. USML-2 will be Leslie's first Shuttle flight.



David H. Matthiesen, Ph.D., Alternate Payload Specialist (Crystal Growth)

Dr. Matthiesen is an assistant professor of Materials Science and Engineering at Case Western Reserve University. He earned a B.S. and an M.S. in ceramic engineering and a Ph.D. in materials engineering. Matthiesen has conducted extensive materials processing research both in the laboratory and in low gravity aboard the KC-135. He was the Principal Investigator on the USML-1 gallium arsenide experiment and will serve as PI for a similar experiment on USML-2.



R. Glynn Holt, Ph.D., Alternate Payload Specialist (Fluid Dynamics)

Dr. Holt, a research scientist at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, earned both a B.S. and a Ph.D. in physics. Holt has performed significant research in support of the Drop Physics Module (DPM) program. He has authored numerous papers on drop behavior and gas bubble phenomena in both 1-g and microgravity environments and was a co-investigator on USML-1 for a DPM investigation. Holt also is a co-investigator on a USML-2 DPM experiment.