

Doug Cooke

Doug Cooke is an aerospace consultant with over 45 years in aerospace programs. During his NASA career, he held senior leadership responsibilities and achievements during critical periods of the Space Shuttle, International Space Station, and Human Exploration spaceflight programs. In his last 3 years at NASA, he served as the Associate Administrator of the Exploration Systems Mission Directorate (ESMD) at NASA Headquarters. In this role, Cooke was responsible for leading the development of flight hardware systems for future human exploration beyond low Earth orbit, including Constellation, SLS, Orion, and Ground Systems Development and Operations. His responsibilities also included the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter and LCROSS missions, development of critical technologies, new capabilities, and human research to support future human space vehicle development and exploration missions. Doug Cooke was also responsible for leading programs to develop commercial capabilities for cargo and crew transportation to and from low Earth orbit. He made significant contributions to the structuring of ESMD's programs, defining the program content, and providing technical leadership. In his last year at NASA, Mr. Cooke led the definition and work towards approval of Orion and SLS in the reformulation of Exploration Programs. Mr. Cooke's many awards include the SES Presidential Distinguished Rank Award, the SES Presidential Meritorious Rank Award, NASA Distinguished Service Medal, two NASA Exceptional Achievement Medals, the NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal, the NASA Exceptional Service Medal, two JSC Certificates of Commendation, the first Texas A&M Outstanding Aerospace Engineer Alumni Award, the Space Transportation Association Lifetime Achievement Award, the 2017 Werner Von Braun Astronautics Engineer Award. Most recently, Mr. Cooke was awarded the Texas A&M Distinguished Aerospace Engineering Alumni Award. Mr. Cooke is a graduate of Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering.