

Mr. Lee Mason
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Mr. Mason is a nationally recognized expert in space power and propulsion systems with 30 years of professional experience at the NASA Glenn Research Center (GRC) in Cleveland Ohio. He is currently serving a Detail Position at NASA Headquarters in the Space Technology Mission Directorate as the Principal Technologist for Power and Energy Storage. In that position, Mr. Mason develops the agency strategy for investments in advanced power technologies to support future NASA mission applications. He previously served as Chief of the Thermal Energy Conversion Branch in the Power Division at GRC, responsible for the development of Stirling radioisotope generators and advanced fission power systems for science and human exploration missions.



During his career, Mr. Mason has developed numerous analytical tools to evaluate space power systems and technologies. He has established himself as a world-class researcher having conducted technology demonstration tests on closed-Brayton and free-piston Stirling energy conversion systems, solar dynamic power systems, pumped alkali-metal heat transfer systems, advanced solar arrays, Hall effect electric propulsion devices, high temperature radiators, titanium water heat pipes, and end-to-end fission power systems. He has written over 100 technical publications on space power and propulsion and generated several patent applications related to space nuclear power. Mr. Mason is the recipient of the NASA Exceptional Achievement Medal (2006), the Rotary National Stellar Award (2010), R&D100 Award (2013) and the NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal (2014). He holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Dayton and a M.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Cleveland State University. He is a member of International Astronautical Federation – Power Subcommittee, American Nuclear Society – Space Nuclear Power Committee, and the Interagency Advanced Power Group – Mechanical Working Group.