Hello, I'm NASA Administrator Charles Bolden and I invite you to join me in celebrating National Small Business Week, May first through seventh.

At NASA, we're on a journey to Mars and small businesses are helping us get there.

In fact, our partners in the small business community have always been at our side as we made each giant leap in exploration.

Across the nation, small businesses employ about half of all private sector employees and they create two out of three net new jobs.

NASA is increasing its partnership with this important sector of our economy and we're working especially hard reaching out to Women-Owned, Historically Underutilized Business Zone and Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses.
Across the board, in fiscal year 2015, NASA awarded more than $2.5 billion directly to 14 small businesses in prime contracts.

In addition, since 2008, NASA has exceeded its Small Business subcontracting goal and 16 49% of all NASA's small business procurement dollars were spent in this way, for another 17 $2.4 billion in fiscal year 2015. That's a total of more than $4.9 billion in small 18 business contracts with the agency last year.

NASA is actively promoting small business awareness and participation at non-traditional 20 venues in geographically targeted areas. One aspect of this work is our proactive engagement 21 with Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority Serving Institutions through 22 the NASA HBCU/MSI Technology Infusion Road Tour, which is designed to assist NASA and 23 its large prime contractors exceed the agency's 1% goal in this area.

Congratulations also are due the 2015 Small Business Advocates Award Winners: 24
Joyce C. McDowell, from Kennedy Space Center, who is small business specialist of the year;

Lisa M. Harvey, from Langley Research Center, who is procurement person of the year;

Ronald M. Young, from Armstrong Flight Research Center, our small business technical advisor of the year:

Robert J. Devlin, from Marshall Space Flight Center, our program person of the year; and

Our Technical Team of the Year: from Goddard Space Flight Center, Solutions for Enterprise-Wide Procurement.

Congratulations also go to the 2015 Small Business Industry Award Winners:

Dynetics Technical Services, Inc. – nominated by Marshall Space Flight Center, our Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year

Arcata Associates, Inc. – nominated by Armstrong Flight Research Center, our Small Business Subcontractor of the Year;

Teledyne Brown Engineering, Inc. – nominated by Marshall Space Flight Center, our Large
Business Prime Contractor of the Year: and
Our 2015 Mentor-Protégé Agreement of the
Year:
Nominated by Johnson Space Center, Hamilton

Congratulations to all of our winners and
our hearty thanks this National Small Business
Week to the hard work and innovation of our
small business partners who make all of our
missions possible.