

The image features the NASA logo, a green circle with a red swoosh, set against a dark background with a green and brown gradient. The text "NASA CELEBRATES AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH" is overlaid in white, bold, serif font. The text is arranged in three lines: "NASA CELEBRATES" on the top line, "AFRICAN AMERICAN" on the middle line, and "HISTORY MONTH" on the bottom line. The NASA logo is partially obscured by the text.

**NASA CELEBRATES
AFRICAN AMERICAN
HISTORY MONTH**

1
00:00:00,506 --> 00:00:14,686
[Music]

2
00:00:15,186 --> 00:00:19,866
>> We had 16 Phase II SBRs
and 14 made the grade.

3
00:00:19,866 --> 00:00:23,826
So-- My current responsibilities
is as the program manager

4
00:00:23,976 --> 00:00:26,406
for the small business
innovative research program.

5
00:00:27,076 --> 00:00:29,226
So we're going to start
off with air vehicles.

6
00:00:29,646 --> 00:00:32,786
I am the, what they call a CTTL,

7
00:00:32,786 --> 00:00:34,646
or a center technology
transition lead,

8
00:00:35,326 --> 00:00:38,076
and what I did is I work
with small businesses

9
00:00:38,806 --> 00:00:41,366
to develop proposals to help

10
00:00:41,626 --> 00:00:44,016
with research problems
that NASA has.

11
00:00:44,286 --> 00:00:47,216
>> Automated sequence that

does a ramp and then returns--

12

00:00:47,216 --> 00:00:48,306

>> My name's Mark Davis.

13

00:00:48,376 --> 00:00:50,996

I am an aerospace engineer,
and I work for NASA.

14

00:00:51,136 --> 00:00:54,566

A lot of the things that
NASA does actually does come

15

00:00:54,566 --> 00:00:55,906

from the small business
community.

16

00:00:55,906 --> 00:00:57,106

>> Good morning, everyone.

17

00:00:57,106 --> 00:00:59,286

>> The thing about a
small company is they're

18

00:00:59,286 --> 00:01:00,876

more flexible.

19

00:01:01,046 --> 00:01:02,106

They have better ideas.

20

00:01:02,106 --> 00:01:05,196

They can react on those ideas
faster than a bigger company

21

00:01:05,196 --> 00:01:09,016

or us, so we tap into
that type of energy

22

00:01:09,016 --> 00:01:11,166

because a good idea's
a good idea no matter

23

00:01:11,166 --> 00:01:12,436
where it comes from.

24

00:01:12,686 --> 00:01:15,686
So we're willing to go
out to the general public

25

00:01:15,776 --> 00:01:18,836
to help them develop
a product that they --

26

00:01:18,986 --> 00:01:23,126
that we could use at NASA
to meet our research needs

27

00:01:23,126 --> 00:01:25,946
and goals and also help
them produce a product

28

00:01:25,946 --> 00:01:27,356
that they could sell
to the general public.

29

00:01:28,056 --> 00:01:29,986
So that way's a win-win
situation.

30

00:01:30,186 --> 00:01:34,976
The biggest thing that I
have right now is X-57,

31

00:01:35,176 --> 00:01:37,546
where a small business is
actually leading the charge

32

00:01:37,546 --> 00:01:40,886
to develop and test,

working with NASA,

33

00:01:41,426 --> 00:01:45,396
a hybrid electric
aircraft, powered aircraft,

34

00:01:45,396 --> 00:01:47,896
and once they complete that
testing, then they're supposed

35

00:01:47,896 --> 00:01:50,646
to go, and change out the wing,
and actually go with all the,

36

00:01:50,646 --> 00:01:53,746
I guess there's like
six engines on each wing

37

00:01:54,156 --> 00:01:56,676
to fly this aircraft with
all electric propulsion.

38

00:01:57,016 --> 00:01:57,966
No gas part.

39

00:01:57,966 --> 00:01:58,646
It's all electric.

40

00:01:59,216 --> 00:02:01,336
And the good thing about
that is this green earth.

41

00:02:01,466 --> 00:02:03,946
You don't, you're not
putting out any exhaust.

42

00:02:03,946 --> 00:02:04,726
It's all electric.

43

00:02:04,726 --> 00:02:05,596
It's all clean.

44
00:02:05,806 --> 00:02:07,696
And it's quieter
and more efficient.

45
00:02:07,696 --> 00:02:10,366
This, we're hoping this will
become the next-generation

46
00:02:10,666 --> 00:02:15,406
aircraft that may someday become
the next commercial transport

47
00:02:15,406 --> 00:02:18,766
that you see, like a
737, that United Airlines

48
00:02:18,766 --> 00:02:21,506
or American Airlines is going
to use to move you from point A

49
00:02:21,506 --> 00:02:26,266
to point B. My vision is as the
vehicle comes, reenters Mars

50
00:02:26,496 --> 00:02:29,426
and the-- So one of the things
that I do a lot with working

51
00:02:29,426 --> 00:02:30,966
with small companies is we need

52
00:02:30,966 --> 00:02:34,466
to do testing what their
idea is to see if it's valid.

53
00:02:34,466 --> 00:02:37,866
So we have a model shop we call,

it's the Dale Reed Model Shop,

54

00:02:37,916 --> 00:02:42,116
and we do a lot of working
on work with small UAVs

55

00:02:42,336 --> 00:02:47,486
so that we could safely test
ideas on the, at this low cost

56

00:02:48,346 --> 00:02:50,706
so that companies get an idea
of whether or not they're

57

00:02:50,706 --> 00:02:53,246
on the right track before
they make something bigger

58

00:02:53,246 --> 00:02:55,096
and we put it onto
a large project.

59

00:02:55,096 --> 00:02:56,956
>> I have some other
parts in here, though.

60

00:02:57,376 --> 00:02:57,666
>> Perfect.

61

00:02:57,826 --> 00:03:00,346
So some of the hobbies
that I've actually pursued

62

00:03:00,396 --> 00:03:03,416
when I'm not here at
work is I like to fly.

63

00:03:03,416 --> 00:03:06,746
And I've actually got
certified in various aircraft.

64

00:03:07,236 --> 00:03:08,746

I also do drag racing.

65

00:03:08,956 --> 00:03:10,626

That's actually one
of my passions.

66

00:03:10,626 --> 00:03:14,466

I actually went out,
and bought a Corvette,

67

00:03:14,466 --> 00:03:19,406

and went drag racing, and
that was actually a hoot.

68

00:03:19,406 --> 00:03:21,926

My wife and I would go
out to various races,

69

00:03:22,456 --> 00:03:25,626

and our favorite ones
were, are over at Las Vegas

70

00:03:25,626 --> 00:03:27,616

because they had the best
tracks and the best facilities.

71

00:03:28,106 --> 00:03:31,336

Unfortunately, I had to give
that up when I had the two kids

72

00:03:31,336 --> 00:03:33,536

and turned the Corvette
into a minivan.

73

00:03:34,146 --> 00:03:36,916

So, but I'm hoping to
get back into that again.

74

00:03:37,286 --> 00:03:39,666

The job that I've had is
almost like a fairy tale.

75

00:03:39,666 --> 00:03:44,146

I mean, you don't, not too many
jobs give you the opportunity

76

00:03:44,146 --> 00:03:48,116

to work with various companies

77

00:03:48,116 --> 00:03:49,786

and various centers
across the country.

78

00:03:49,786 --> 00:03:51,936

I mean, I've worked
with a lot of companies

79

00:03:52,056 --> 00:03:55,376

across this whole country and
I've seen a lot of this country

80

00:03:55,436 --> 00:03:59,436

because of the job that I'm
in, so it's really cool.

81

00:03:59,506 --> 00:04:01,966

And it really is the fairy tale.

82

00:04:01,966 --> 00:04:04,456

I mean, this is a career