
AIAA, ASME, STLE, and VIBRATION INSTITUTE PRESENT VIBO-RAMA 2013 KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

The Future of U.S. Robotic Planetary Exploration

Randii Wessen

Senior Technical Staff

Jet Propulsion Laboratory, NASA, Pasadena California



As the millennium closed, so did the era of large planetary spacecraft that were launched once per decade. Future robotic spacecraft will have a wide range of capabilities, diverse mission objectives, and be launched almost one per year. Among the many types of missions, some will be the landers and sample return missions of tomorrow. To meet these bold endeavors, these ambassadors from Earth will require advanced mission concepts, new operational approaches, as well as technologies that have yet to be developed. To organize this effort, the United States robotic planetary exploration program has been divided into the following themes: Earth, Mars, Solar System, and Universe. This presentation will describe each area, the major missions currently in operations, and those being planned. It will also have a special emphasis on the quest for extra-solar planets and the search for life in the cosmos.

Dr. Wessen co-authored the books “Neptune: the Planet, Rings and Satellites” & “Planetary Ring Systems.” He was the recipient of NASA’s Exceptional Service Medal for his contributions to the Voyager 2 Neptune Encounter. Dr. Wessen is also a fellow of both the Royal Astronomical Society and the British Interplanetary Society and an Associate Fellow of the AIAA. Asteroid 31664 (Randiiwessen) is named in his honor.

AIAA/ASME/STLE/Vibration Institute Event!

- WHERE:** Holiday Inn Express, 400 Old Loudon Road Latham, New York 12110 (VIBO-RAMA 2013 location)
WHEN: Thursday, March 21, 2013. Vibo-Rama at 1 PM, Networking event at 6 PM, dinner at 7 PM
COST: Dinner- AIAA/ASME/VI/STLE members: \$30 / Non-Members: \$35 (choice of 1 entrée)
First 30 students: \$10; otherwise member / non-member prices apply
RSVP: Dr. Gulshan Singh, E: singhg@ge.com, P: 1 518-387-7030 by **COB 03/15/2013**. Please indicate the entrée choice for each RSVP: Chicken, Beef, Fish, or Vegetarian

Vibo-Rama 2013 Information

Admission to Vibo-Rama 2013 is free and includes technical presentations for PDH credit*, vendor exhibits, and fee-based Machinery Vibration Analysis courses to refresh/update their knowledge and/or prepare for one of the Institute’s Certification exams. Additional attractions include door prizes, complimentary refreshments, snacks, Hors D’oeuvres, and cash bar at 6 PM.

* The 5 PM Presentation will be “From Ground to Orbit: Testing Nano-Satellites and their Onboard Algorithms in a Laboratory Environment” by Prof. Riccardo Bevilacqua, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, New York.

To attend Vibo-Rama 2013, contact: Tom Walter Ph: 518-320-8552 x 118 Email: tjw@mechsol.com
Visit www.vibinsthm.org for additional information on