

Higher, Faster, Farther: A Century of Aerospace Propulsion and Power Technologies

IN celebration of the 100th anniversary of powered flight, the *Journal of Propulsion and Power* is publishing a series of feature articles in the present issue and in January 2004, discussing the histories of key technologies in all aspects of aerospace propulsion and power. Twenty-one individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the field were invited to provide comprehensive reviews of the technological evolution over the past century in their areas of expertise. The topics covered include liquid-propellant rockets, solid-propellant rockets, hybrid rockets, electric propulsion, gas-turbine engines, ramjet and scramjet engines, supersonic civil transport, propellants and fuels, aerospace power generation, conversion, and storage, and advanced and conceptual propulsion technologies. Each paper focuses on the development of a specific aspect of propulsion and power systems, and is incorporated into the volume as part of a cohesive whole. This undertaking thus represents not only a chronicle of events, but also an engagement with the personalities and the conceptual and technological advances that have driven the development of flying machines and rockets from Kitty Hawk to the upper atmosphere and beyond.

The beginning of the second century of powered flight is a time both to celebrate and review the past and to look to the future. As

we consider the history and future of propulsion and power technologies, the *Journal of Propulsion and Power* is rededicating itself to fostering communication and innovation in the field. We hope that readers will find these two issues of the *Journal* enlightening, informative, and even inspiring.

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