

PROJECT PROFILE



Exploration Space

Examining the Future of Space Exploration at the Kennedy Space Center

Exploration Space, the first attraction at Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex to examine the future of space exploration, combines live theater, interactive exhibits and new media components to engage and inform audiences about the next 20 years in space exploration. Exploration Space was designed and produced by BRC Imagination Arts in conjunction with Delaware North Companies Parks & Resorts and NASA. Electrosonic designed, integrated, programmed and installed the exhibit's entire AV system, including projection, audio, video and show control.

The 10,000-square foot Exploration Space features some of the most technically complex exhibits at the Visitor Complex. The introductory exhibit, "Your Destination," provides a portal into the universe. Visitors peer through a giant 12x8-foot window to a rear projection screen that gives the impression of viewing the moon and Mars from deep space.



"On The Shoulders of Giants" features extensive animation displayed on a 65-inch LCD monitor, and points out how the next generation of spacecraft will improve upon the work of previous generations. Next, visitors test their maneuvering skills at interactive kiosks featuring computer game stations. Using throttles and shifters, players attempt to dock their vehicle to the International Space Station in "ISS Rendezvous" and try to achieve a safe and soft moon landing in "Lunar Lander."

Exploration Space is configured with a live theater environment and numerous exhibits that engage visitors when no live show is underway. For example, five 15-foot acoustically transparent screens display an informative video loop on space and the stars. Two additional 15-foot screens



demonstrate “Space Dangers,” such as an asteroid hit or an oxygen leak in the spacecraft, and “Surface Dangers,” such as dust and wind hazards on the moon or Mars.

Twice every hour, the exhibit space transforms into a live theater environment for Explorers Wanted, a live show that inspires visitors to become a part of the NASA mission. The show is displayed on a series of fixed, geometrically-shaped screens. The primary content is shown on a large center screen and a secondary circular screen, stage right. Two additional projectors also display content on 4 trapezoidal

screens, which grow progressively larger in size as they arc over the top of the main screen.

As visitors prepare to exit the attraction they are invited to “Stay Connected” at sign-up stations in four interactive kiosks. Their images are captured by webcams and composited inside astronaut helmets in shots showing them performing various space-related activities. Visitors get to see their astronaut selves on 24-inch monitors and can email the fun shots back home to friends and family.