INTERTECH Keynote Speakers

Dr. RENEE HORTON

SPACE LAUNCH SYSTEM (SLS) LEAD METALLIC/WELD ENGINEER

NASA RESIDENTIAL MANAGEMENT OFFICE

Dr. Horton is a native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana and lifelong lover of science and NASA. A graduate of Louisiana State University with a B.S. of Electrical Engineering with a minor in Math in 2002 and a Ph.D. in Material Science with a concentration in Physics, becoming the first African American to graduate from the University of Alabama in 2011 in this area. Dr. Horton currently serves as the Space Launch System (SLS) Lead Metallic/Weld Engineer in the NASA Residential Management Office at Michoud Assembly Facility (MAF) in New Orleans. She worked for NASA, first as a student from 2009 to 2011, and then started her career as a mechanical test engineer in 2012. In 2014 she was promoted to her current position. In 2016, Renee was elected President of the National Society of Black Physicists (NSBP) as the second woman to hold the office. She has served the physics community abroad as a member of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP) Women in Physics Working Group and currently serves on several advisory boards dedicated to a more diverse inclusion in physics. In 2017, she was elevated to a Fellow in the NSBP, which is the highest honor bestowed upon a member. Renee has been an invited speaker for the first International Women and Girls Day at the United Nations, Essence Power Stage, March for Science – New Orleans and recently the LSU Engineering Spring Commencement. She has spoken all over the world including South Africa, Brazil, South Korea, Canada, Mexico and the beautiful Virgin Islands. She is featured in NASA's I am Building SLS, Physics Today, and the LSU Alumni Magazine. She recently graced the cover of the Hearing Health Foundation Magazine, winter edition that can be found online. She is the author of Dr. H Explores the Universe, Dr. H and her Friends, and Dr. H Explores the ABCs.

MIKE FELIX

GLOBAL CHIEF ENGINEER

FORD POWERTRAIN MANUFACTURING ENGINEERING

Mike's responsibilities include Global Machining and Assembly Processes for Engines, Transmissions, Axles and Electrification components; including Hybrid Batteries, eTransaxles and eMotor manufacturing. Mike has been with Ford for over 30 Years. He started his career at the Cleveland Engine Plant Facility in 1988 as an Engineering Graduate. Mike's career has progressed through a number of engineering and operations positions within Powertrain. He has worked in nine different Ford Plants throughout his career and has spent 11 Years as Plant Manager in 5 different Plants across Ford Powertrain, as well as international and Staff Engineering assignments. Mike has a BSME in Mechanical Engineering from Akron University and an MBA from Baldwin Wallace College both in Ohio. Mike assumed his current role as Chief Engineer in 2017.

JIM DELAND

TECHNICAL SUPPORT ENGINEER

APACHE AEROSPACE

Jim's responsibility at **APACHE AEROSPACE** involves providing technical support for drilling solutions to major aerospace companies and their suppliers. His background in aerospace includes over 28 years at **THE BOEING COMPANY** as a Research & Technology Engineer where he worked in the Assembly Technology area supporting technology development for production. Jim was frequently called on to develop manufacturing solutions for new airplane programs and was instrumental in successfully developing and implementing new drilling technology on both the 787 & 777X Program. During his career he has earned 9 patents both in assembly technology and new cutting tool development. Based on his engineering achievements he was recognized as a Boeing Associate Technical Fellow in 2011. Recently Blue Origin reached out to Jim to provide his drilling and assembly expertise as a consultant on the New Glen rocket program. Jim has published multiple papers for SAE on the topic of cutting tool technology and has presented at multiple conferences about drilling technology. Jim is a graduate of the Oregon Institute of Technology with a B.S. in Manufacturing Engineering Technology.