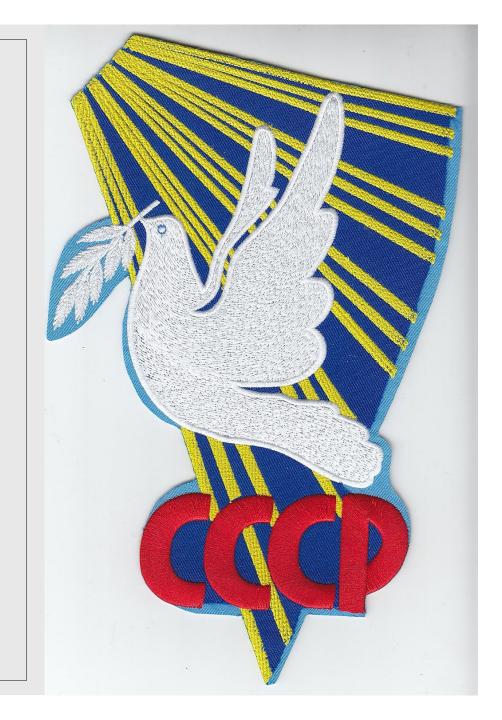


ORIGINS

- 1st space patch flown by Soviet cosmonaut <u>Valentina</u> <u>Tereshkova</u> on the <u>Vostok 6</u> mission in 1963
- Astronauts were pilots from a military background
- Pilots took the tradition of military <u>shoulder patches</u>
- Most US space missions have had dedicated designs
- Mission patches first flown by <u>NASA</u> astronauts in 1965
- Introduced by USAF pilot / astronaut Gordon Cooper

 Slide courtesy of Mike Tanner, Former Director of NOAA's Center for Weather and Climate, Asheville, NC





NASA Missions

- Since Gemini 5, patches have been created for all NASA manned missions and many unmanned expeditions
- 8 designs for Gemini
- 12 for Apollo
- 3 for Skylab
- 1 for the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project
- 135 for the Space Shuttle program
- 4 for Space X (NASA Commercial Crew Program)
- Original Slide courtesy of Mike Tanner

Mission Patch Examples

Slide courtesy of Mike Tanner









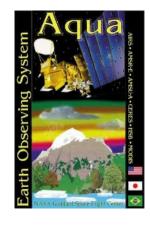












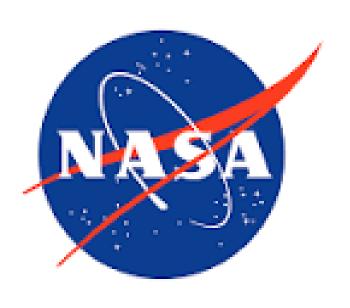






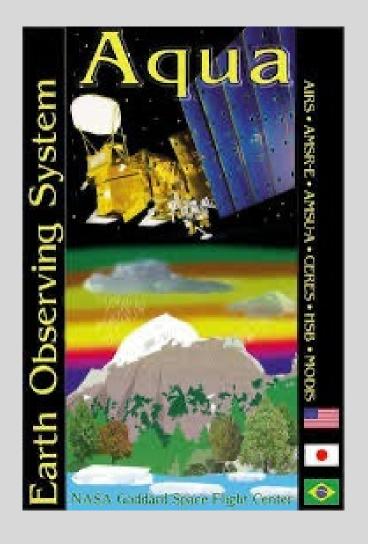


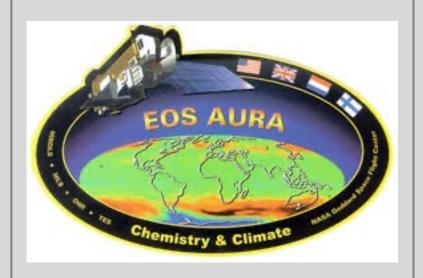






Slide courtesy of Mike Tanner







Slide courtesy of Mike Tanner

Recent Examples of Mission Patches, 2020 and 2021







"Patch" Onboard the
Perseverance Rover Vehicle
Launched July 2020
Mars Landing February 2021

Destination SPACE
West Virginia
Camp Patch July 2020

Destination SPACE
SC GSSM
Camp Patch June 2021

MISSION PATCH DESIGN COMPETITION 2022

Source for Patches: AB Emblem, Weaverville, NC, 888-797-4285



Former Director of NOAA's Center for Weather and Climate, Asheville, NC