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**AIAA PRESIDENT DAVID THOMPSON PRAISES PRESIDENT OBAMA'S VISION AND
SUPPORT FOR FUTURE SPACE ENDEAVORS**

April 16, 2010 – Reston, Va. – The following statement can be attributed to David Thompson, president of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics:

“President Barack Obama delivered an inspiring speech yesterday at the Kennedy Space Center, laying out a comprehensive vision for the U.S. space program. As with President Kennedy's speech in 1961, President Obama set out goals that will test our ability to advance technology, field revolutionary new systems, and sustain commitment over many years, ensuring the United States will maintain its leadership role in space in the 21st century as we were in the 20th. And, as was the case fifty years ago, now it is up to the community of aerospace professionals to move us along that path and realize the goals.”

The text of President Obama's address may be viewed at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/remarks-president-space-exploration-21st-century>.

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