

# THE INNOVATION CATALYST

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS OFFICE  
NEWSLETTER  
JANUARY 2019

## When Should You File Your NTR?

Your mission milestones have deadlines, but what is your deadline for completing a New Technology Report (NTR)? As with so many things, the answer is that it depends. If you're working to develop a new technology and wondering if it's time to fill out an NTR, it might help to stop and ask yourself three questions first. As always, you can get in touch with the Strategic Partnerships Office (SPO) by calling **301-286-5810** or emailing [techtransfer@gsfc.nasa.gov](mailto:techtransfer@gsfc.nasa.gov). To find the technology manager assigned to your code, check out the [October 2019 edition](#) of *The Innovation Catalyst*.

### DO YOU HAVE AN IDEA?

Any idea is worth submitting an NTR, even preliminary concepts or improvements on previous inventions. Your idea doesn't have to be groundbreaking or revolutionary (although we welcome those NTRs, too). Sometimes SPO will ask you to send NTRs at various stages of your idea's implementation – an idea that began with no commercial application might evolve into an invention with potential use in industry. If you're ever in doubt, feel free to ask. Technology managers can walk through your specific case and advise you based on your unique circumstances.

### DO YOU INTEND TO RESEARCH OR PURSUE YOUR IDEA?

Do we really mean any idea should be submitted as an NTR? Think of it this way: If you want to take your idea beyond its conceptual stage and develop it further, then it warrants an NTR. It's OK if your idea doesn't yet have funding or if you don't have every detail worked out. If you plan to pursue it, you should report it. Don't worry too much about whether or not your invention has potential or can be patented. While those determinations are typically made by technology managers and patent attorneys, you are encouraged to include commercialization ideas or relevant industries in your NTR.

### ARE YOU PLANNING TO SUBMIT A PAPER OR PRESENT AT A CONFERENCE?

The moment you publically disclose the details of your invention, a countdown clock begins. In order to protect your idea, NASA has to file a patent application within a year of your disclosure. That's why it's always better to submit your NTR prior to presenting your invention in a public setting. That way, SPO and Goddard's Office of Patent Counsel can evaluate your idea for patentability and commercial potential before you set the clock ticking. Get in touch with SPO to go over the details of your case – if you're pressed for time, we can help you fill out and submit your NTR.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Merry Christmas חנוכה שמחה  
HAPPY BODHI DAY Mawlid  
Feast of the Nativity  
das Navidenas Day of the Covenant  
NEW YEAR Diwali  
Sha Shivaratri Ash We  
MARTYRDOM OF GURU TEGH BAHADUR  
CHRIST THE KING St. Nicholas Day  
BIRTHDAY OF LORD KRISHNA  
JAYANTI Chhath Puja Bhaidun  
an Nabi Dhanu San  
TU BISHVAT Ephiphany  
MARTYRDOM OF GURU TEGH BAHADUR

AFTER THE HOLIDAYS, DON'T FORGET TO  
**SUBMIT YOUR NTRs**  
AT INVENTION.NASA.GOV.

FOR QUESTIONS AND OTHER INFORMATION, EMAIL ROBERT.S.LEONARDI@NASA.GOV.

# Recent SPO Activities

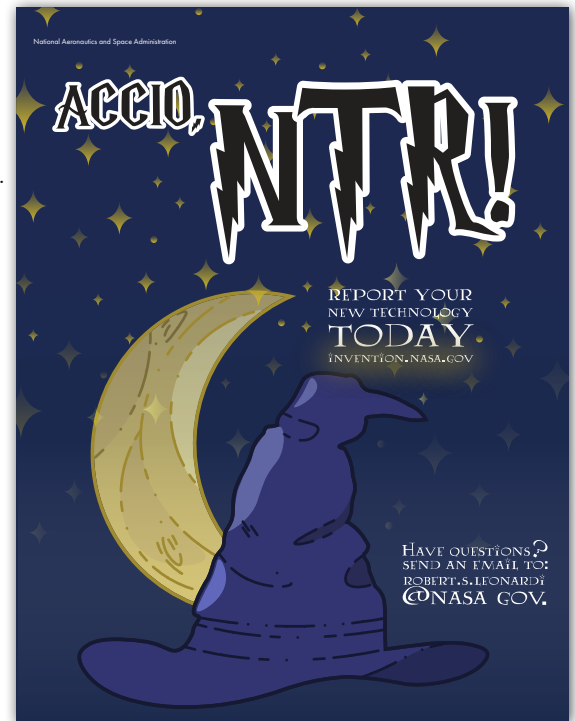
## NEW ISSUE OF *TECH TRANSFER* MAGAZINE AVAILABLE

In [this issue](#) of *Tech Transfer* magazine, SPO explores the core Flight System, a Goddard flight software architecture that is now in use by many NASA missions and could play a role in the Artemis program in partnership with industry. The issue also includes stories about the Molecular Adsorber Coating and the Modulated X-ray Source, with interviews featuring innovators Dave McComas, Nithin Abraham, and Keith Gendreau.

## NTR POSTER CAMPAIGN

Did you see posters around the Goddard campus last fall that reminded you of a certain boy wizard? Well, that was us. We're always looking for new and interesting ways to communicate with the innovator community, so if there's a certain theme or genre that would grab your attention, please let us know!

One of three Harry Potter themed posters aimed to raise awareness of the New Technology Reporting process.



# Technology Transfer Trivia

- 1 Which Goddard inventor is SPO's annual technology transfer award named after?
  - A. Steve Curtis    B. James Kerley
  - C. Jeannette Benavides    D. Norden Huang
- 2 What form of intellectual property protection is most commonly used for Goddard technologies?
  - A. Trademark    B. Patent    C. Copyright    D. Trade Secret
- 3 Which of these Goddard technologies is protected with a trademark?
  - A. Recirculating Advanced Coupled-cavity Etalon Receiver (RACER)
  - B. AeroPod    C. Modulated X-ray Source (MXS)    D. SpaceCube

[Link To Answers](#)

## Upcoming Events for Innovators

### New Technology Awards Ceremony

#### Coming Soon!

Celebrate Goddard's technology transfer achievements with fellow innovators.

### SPO Speaker Series

March 12, 2020

SPO staff and guest speakers share their insights on topics related to technology transfer.