

SSPI-SE Chapter Meeting "Searching for Martians"

Date	Start	End	Location	Event Registration
14 Jan 2009	6:30 PM	8:30 PM	Turner Techwood 1015Bldg Assembly Conference room 1015 Techwood Drive Atlanta, GA 30303	



SSPI-SE January Chapter Meeting

Wednesday, January 14th

Turner Entertainment, Assembly Room -1015 Techwood Drive

Atlanta, GA 30303

Searching for Martians

Presenter: Theresa Brunasso
Director, Technology Development
Principal Engineer
EMS Technologies
Defense and Space Systems

NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory awarded EMS Defense and Space Systems a \$1.2M contract to provide eighteen Ka-band antennas for the Mars Science Laboratory (MSL). The antennas, which use EMS' patented slot array technology, are a critical part of the Terminal Descent Sensor (TDS) which will guide the MSL to the Martian surface. MSL will be the first planetary mission to use precision landing techniques, steering itself toward the Martian surface similar to the way the space shuttle controls its entry through the Earth's upper atmosphere. In this way, the spacecraft will fly to a desired location above the surface of Mars before deploying its parachute for the final landing.

Theresa A. Brunasso, has played a key role in the advancement of EMS Technologies' Defense & Space Systems' Engineering Group. An integral part of the senior leadership team, Brunasso currently serves as

the division's Director of Technology Development.

Brunasso is a 30-year veteran in the field of Electrical Engineering. While at EMS, Theresa has provided innovative design and development expertise for D&SS heritage programs such as DarkStar, NSTAR, Milstar, Advanced EHF, IntelSat and Mars Science Lab. Her electrical engineering background makes her well suited in solutions definition and development and the application of that technology in the Commercial and National Defense Space markets.

Theresa joined D&SS in 1989, after serving as a Research Engineer for the Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI), one of the nation's leading independent R&D organizations.

Prior to joining GTRI, Theresa spent two years as an Engineer for Teledyne MEC, an international leader in the design, development, and manufacture of high gain broadband amplifiers. Brunasso began her career in the U.S. Navy as an Instructor at the Consolidated Naval Electronic Warfare School in Pensacola, FL. She was awarded a graduate fellowship through the Air Force Thermionic Engineering - Research Program. Theresa holds an Engineer's Degree and M.E. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Utah, and a B.S. in Physics from the University of West Florida. She is a member of Sigma Pi Sigma, the National Physics Honor Society. In May 2005, she was the lead EMS author for a U.S. patent application titled, "A Compact Beam Former with Low Side Lobes."

There is no charge for this program

Members from outside the metro Atlanta area are encouraged to take advantage of accomodation for SSPI meeting attendees for \$139/night at the

Courtyard Atlanta Midtown/Georgia Tech
1132 Techwood Drive
Atlanta, GA 30318
Phone: 404-607-1112
Fax: 404-607-1020
Hotel Sales Contact: Lisa Rockwell

For further details regarding this program, please contact:
Bob Protzman Bob.Protzman@turner.com or Zandra Clark Zandra.Clarke@turner.com