

For Release:
October 3 , 2006

Contact: 785-296-0901
Communications@dol.ks.gov

Retired Astronaut opens Kansas Safety Conference

TOPEKA — Retired NASA Astronaut Story Musgrave today kicked off the 57th Annual Kansas Safety Health Conference today in Topeka. Dr. Musgrave shared his safety message, "Being the best when your own life depends on it," with some 300 conference attendees. He explained how being part of a team can promote a safer work environment.

"Safety is safety, across all businesses and technologies," Musgrave said. "Get a plan, perfect it and practice it. Empower those around you to speak up when things are not right or when they see a better way to do things."

Musgrave was selected as a scientist-astronaut by NASA in August 1967. He completed astronaut academic training and then worked on the design and development of the Skylab Program. He has spent a total of 1,281 hours 59 minutes, 22 seconds in space. Musgrave left NASA in August 1997 to pursue private interests.

Musgrave received a bachelor of science in mathematics and statistics from Syracuse University in 1958, a master of business administration in operations analysis and computer programming from the University of California at Los Angeles in 1959, a bachelor of arts degree in chemistry from Marietta College in 1960, a doctorate in medicine from Columbia University in 1964, a master of science in physiology and biophysics from the University of Kentucky in 1966 and a master of arts in literature from the University of Houston in 1987.

The Kansas Safety and Health Conference, sponsored by the Kansas Department of Labor, is Tuesday, October 3 through Friday, October 6 in Topeka. More than 60 speakers at the conference will cover a variety of safety topics including Emergency Management - What We Have Learned Since 9/11, Safety Responsibilities for Supervisors, Assessing the Performance of Your Safety Program and Safety for Spanish-Speaking Employees.

###