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## Northrop Grumman Appoints Jim Hughes to Program Director for USS *Carl Vinson* Refueling and Complex Overhaul

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. – Sept. 20, 2005 – Northrop Grumman Corporation’s (NYSE: NOC) Newport News sector has appointed Jim Hughes to program director for the refueling and complex overhaul of the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS *Carl Vinson* (CVN 70). Hughes is responsible for overseeing the cost, schedule and work performance for the project, which will be the ship’s one and only refueling in its 50-year life span. Hughes reports to Ken Mahler, vice president of aircraft carrier overhauls.

Prior to this appointment, Hughes served as director of aircraft carrier engineering and provided support and leadership for multiple aircraft carrier programs, including the refueling and complex overhauls of the USS *Nimitz* and USS *Dwight D. Eisenhower*. He has also been extensively involved with planning for the upcoming *Vinson* refueling. Hughes began his career at Newport News in 1981 as an electrical engineer and has held a number of positions, including trade manager for the waterfront electricians.

“Jim’s significant experience, education and demonstrated leadership are a great addition to the *Vinson* team,” said Mahler. “These qualities along with his dedication to meeting our cost, schedule and performance commitments will launch us from a successful planning period to a successful execution.”

Hughes earned a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering from Virginia Tech and a master’s degree in business administration from the College of William and Mary. He resides in Smithfield, Va.

Northrop Grumman Newport News, headquartered in Newport News, Va., is the nation’s sole designer, builder and refueler of nuclear-powered aircraft carriers and one of only two companies capable of designing and building nuclear-powered submarines. Newport News also provides after-market services for a wide array of naval and commercial vessels. The Newport News sector employs about 19,000 people.

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