

Robert H. Champion is the director of the Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans. Named to the position in June 2019, Champion oversees one of the world's largest manufacturing facilities where important elements of NASA's Space Launch System (SLS) and Orion spacecraft are being built. He manages an annual operating budget of \$60 million, more than two million square feet of manufacturing space, and 829 acres of land at the multi-tenant facility. More than 3,000 federal, state, academic, and technology-based industry employees work at Michoud.

Prior to this role, Champion served as deputy director of Marshall's Propulsion Systems Department from October 2015 to 2019. From 2014 through 2015, he was deputy of Marshall's Space Systems Department.

In 2010, Champion was appointed acting deputy director and chief operating officer for Michoud. That same year, he completed NASA's Senior Executive Service (SES) Candidate Development Program. Members of the SES operate and oversee nearly every government activity in approximately 75 federal agencies.

In 2012 Champion was selected to the Senior Executive Service and continued his roles as deputy and COO for MAF. Champion oversaw the facility's transition from building space shuttle external tanks to operating as a multi-tenant facility which began to manufacture and assemble the SLS core stage and Orion spacecraft through 2014.

Throughout his career at Marshall, Champion received numerous awards. He was recently selected as an American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) Associate Fellow and received the 2018-2019 AIAA Holger Toftoy Award for outstanding technical management in the fields of aeronautics and astronautics. In addition, he has received several of NASA's highest awards including the NASA Exceptional Achievement Medal, the NASA Medal for Exceptional

Service, Space Flight Awareness Honoree, Director's Commendation, and the NASA Contracting Officers Technical Representative of the Year.

Champion earned his bachelor degree in aerospace engineering from Auburn University in 1986. He has four adult children in Huntsville.