Dr. Darrell Zimbelman Receives 2014 Charyk Award

Dr. Darrell Zimbelman is the recipient of the 2014 Charyk Award. The award was presented to Dr. Zimbelman on March 7, at the 57th Annual Goddard Memorial Dinner, held at the Hilton Hotel, Washington, D.C.

Dr. Zimbelman distinguished himself as the program manager responsible for delivering two major system acquisitions, worth more than $5 billion, by leading his team to overcome nearly insurmountable challenges in the reactivation of the Director of National Intelligence's top priority intelligence program after a two-year hiatus. He led his team to build and launch two national security spacecraft, restarting production lines that had been dormant for years, and reassembling the program personnel to accomplish the most aggressive schedule in over two decades. Dr. Zimbelman delivered the first satellite within one month of the originally promised date, and delivered the second satellite 10 months early and 14 percent under budget. These new systems are providing unprecedented intelligence capabilities to the Intelligence Community, the nation's warfighters, and the President of the United States. Dr. Zimbelman's distinctive accomplishments reflect great credit upon himself, the National Reconnaissance Office, and the United States of America.

The Charyk Award was established in 1999 to annually recognize an individual, in or supporting the NRO, who has made an outstanding personal contribution to the national intelligence space program. The contribution may be in support of the NRO's mission to meet military operations or national intelligence needs, and may include science, engineering, research and development, program management operations, and/or support.

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The NRO is a joint Department of Defense-Intelligence Community organization responsible for developing, launching, and operating America's intelligence satellites to meet the national security needs of our nation.

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