

## Lessons Learned (and forgotten) from Apollo 13

The 1970 recovery of the Apollo 13 space craft and the safe return of its crew is one of the memorable and remarkable events in America's space program. It was immortalized in 1995 by Tom Hanks when he produced a movie by the same name.

In "Lessons Learned (and forgotten) From Apollo 13, former NASA engineer, Jim O'Neal, discusses the reasons why a set of circumstances, that on the surface seemed unrelated, led to an emergency almost 150,000 miles from earth. It came to be known as "The Successful Failure."

The recovery of Apollo 13 is an example of superior teamwork, adaptation, creativity and courage. The factors that affected the team, the teamwork and leadership will be examined by Mr. O'Neal as well as the resourcefulness of the controllers and the interaction and political ramifications that were present.

Mr. O'Neal will discuss some of the lessons learned that led to changes after the tragedy. He will also explain how other changes led to the unlearning of some Apollo 13 lessons that may have contributed to the Challenger and Columbia accidents.

The final question of "Where Do We Go From Here" will be reviewed along with perceived political, economic and social issues that drive our current technology stimulus. Man will leave the planet earth to explore.

This keynote presentation will give you insights to the story behind Apollo 13 and provide you with ideas that will promote more effective risk management strategies for your organization.

Jim O'Neal will provide the keynote address for day two of the 2009 Knowledge and Project Management (KPM) Symposium that will be held on the OU-Tulsa campus on August 12 and 13. Additional information on the conference is available at [www.kipanet.org](http://www.kipanet.org).