1046-M1-667 Richard D Jarvinen* (rjarvinen@winona.edu), Mathematics and Statistics Department, 308 Gildemeister Hall, Winona, MN 55987. Reliability as a Field in Aerospace: A NASA Application.

In virtually each year since 1995, the author—and professor—has worked (full or part time) as a Research Scientist Consultant for the NASA Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, centering his work on risk and reliability assessments for the Space Shuttle program. In this talk, insight into the field of reliability per se and its application in the Space Program will be presented, largely through use of an example showing a reliability method (for zero-failure testing models) to assess the reliability of an important instrument designed for use on the International Space Stattion. (Received September 09, 2008)