

## ***Back Home in Mississippi at Stennis Space Center Is GB Tech's Tim Brogdon***

*Chris Harvey, Assistant Director for EIGS at Stennis Space Center, recently spent a few minutes with Tim Brogdon of GB Tech, a member of the EIGS geospatial technology industry cluster, to discuss its acquisition last month of Eagle Managed Services, an established IT provider based in the Houston, Texas area. They talked about the future direction of GB Tech and what this acquisition means to the company.*

**Harvey:** Before we get into information pertaining to the acquisition, tell our readers a little about GB Tech and its core capabilities.



**Brogdon:** GB Tech is a solutions provider in the core areas of Engineering to Federal Agencies, Software Development and Testing, IT and Logistics. I know we are going to talk about IT later, so I'll focus here on some other key niche areas. We have developed niche capabilities within these primary core areas. One such niche areas is our tremendous and proven capability to provide Software Verification and Validation. This involves testing software code and the methods used for development to verify and validate the software. Many items have software embedded in them. We've provided V&V for batteries, fans, accounting software, satellites, the space shuttle avionics, new navigation systems and more. For example, we've completed projects for the Joint Strike Fighter (among others) where they wanted to use a COTS battery set with embedded software. However, they also required military standards applications for software development and testing. You might not think of it, but these batteries have embedded software. These were Lithium Ion batteries and improper operation of their software would be a bad thing. We worked with the battery provider and the ultimate customer to ensure that their software was tested properly and that the development met strict military standards. In this case we performed the software testing using our unique suite of automated tools and highly skilled analysts. We also have a strong capability in human rated software applications. In another unique area we can provide development, fabrication and assembly solutions to our customers.

**Harvey:** Many of our readers have heard the news about GB Tech's recent acquisition. What does this mean for GB Tech?

**Brogdon:** We've been providing IT services for some time now, both commercial and Federal government. But most of our effort was toward NASA contract services. Now, in addition to the NASA services, we have expanded our commercial IT capabilities so that we can service a multitude of customers. We had good solid internal capabilities prior to the acquisition, but the acquisition brings even more capabilities. In addition to our highly experienced existing technicians we have added new technicians with experience and certifications that enhance our ability to service our customers. It also brings internal solutions for management of customer service accounts, proposal development, equipment and software procurement, enhanced capabilities to support remote services and a geographic reach that includes the entire USA. One of the key features in the acquisition was the Network Operations Center or NOC. This feature means that we can provide 24/7 monitoring of a customer's network – regardless of the customer's location. The benefit to

the customer is that any issues are identified in real-time and action to resolve the issue begins immediately.

**Harvey:** Tim, after an extended 4 ½ year commuting assignment to Houston, will you now be full time at Stennis? If so, what will be your primary focus?

**Brogdon:** Yes I am now based out of Stennis. Much of GB Tech's contract work has been supplied through the aerospace industry and currently our major customers are located at Johnson Space Center. But, this is coming home for me. I've been associated with Stennis since 1989. I've held positions here as Lead Engineer, Systems Engineering and Advanced Technologies Manager, Science Labs Program Manager and VP of Technology Applications. In my new position as Executive VP Market Development I'm focused on using GB Tech's capabilities to expand into existing and new market areas. We'll accomplish this through a combination of development of new work and M&A activities. I am very excited about creating a stronger presence at and around Stennis Space Center and branching out to numerous other business sectors in the Eastern region of the United States.

**Harvey:** How will GB Tech's current customers be affected by the recent acquisition?

**Brogdon:** One of the more exciting and beneficial components of this acquisition for GB Tech's customers is the Network Operations Center (NOC). The NOC provides the capability to remotely monitor customer's networks and components enabling GB Tech to respond instantly to problems. This offers the tremendous benefit of minimizing impact to the customer's operations. Additionally, GB Tech now offers the capability to provide customer support beyond the Houston area for remote and on-site customer network services resulting in increased performance for existing and new GB Tech customers. We also have a greatly enhanced capability to provide hardware, software and other essential equipment to our customers. In short we can provide all IT services to our customers as their outsourced solution provider or we can supplement their internal capabilities.

**Harvey:** I'm sure there are many new faces at GB Tech as a result of this development. What will this mean for GB Tech?

**Brogdon:** Enhanced capabilities- The new employees will provide excellent talent in the areas of Professional IT services including A+, Microsoft and Cisco Certifications as well as years of experience supporting small to large size customers in IT projects, network administration, design, maintenance and more.

**Harvey:** In your experience, describe what you see GB Tech looking like, say in another five years.

**Brogdon:** I see a company that has a very diverse customer base in new industries. We have exceptional management and technical capabilities and are now applying them outside of the aerospace industry. Of course, we do have a long distinguished history as an exemplary aerospace industry solution provider and we will enhance that presence also.

GB Tech can be contacted at 281.333.3703 or view their website at [www.gbtech.net](http://www.gbtech.net). You can reach Tim at 228.324.2645 or [tbrogdon@gbtech.net](mailto:tbrogdon@gbtech.net).