

David P. Cadogan

Mr. Cadogan is Director of Research and Technology for ILC Dover, where he has been involved with spacesuit R & D and flight programs for 23 years. He currently works primarily on technology and product development for space suits, space structures (expandable habitats, antennae, etc.), lighter-than-air vehicles, flexible containment systems, personal protective equipment and unmanned aerial vehicles. He has been Lead Engineer for and/or contributed to the development of helmet systems used by US Special Forces, the FBI, the US Air Force, and contributed to the USAF Aircrew Eye Respiratory Protection system used by all aircrew for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear protection. If you've seen footage of astronauts in the MIR Space Station, you've seen Mr. Cadogan's work on spacesuits. The Mars Pathfinder and Mars Exploration Rovers landed softly and able to function due in part to Mr. Cadogan's contributions to the airbag system used to cushion their arrival on the rocky planet.

Mr. Cadogan received his B.S. in Aerospace Engineering from Western Michigan University in 1986. He completed an American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) Composite Materials Design and Analysis Course at Virginia Technical Institute in 1989 and an AIAA course on The Space Environment: Implications for Spacecraft Design at Princeton University in 1998. Mr. Cadogan holds 7 patents with three others pending, and is the author or co-author of over 70 publications. Mr. Cadogan has been an Associate Fellow of the AIAA since 1986, and is a member of the University of Delaware Engineering Outreach Advisory Council. In 1993 he received an award for his work on the Hubble Space Telescope Repair Mission. AIAA recognized his work for the Assessment of Innovative Technologies for the Exploration of Space in 1990 and he has received AIAA Young Professional Activity Awards in 1998, 2000, and 2001. He received achievement awards from NASA in 1989, 1992, 1994, and 2008.

When Mr. Cadogan is not busy keeping our astronauts and our military safe and functional, he enjoys spending time with his wife Heather and son Connor "doing just about anything!" Other leisure activities include hiking, traveling, photography, and reading. He collects rocks, shells, baseball cards and—what else?—meteorites.