

## Outstanding NASA Engineer—Johanna Lucht

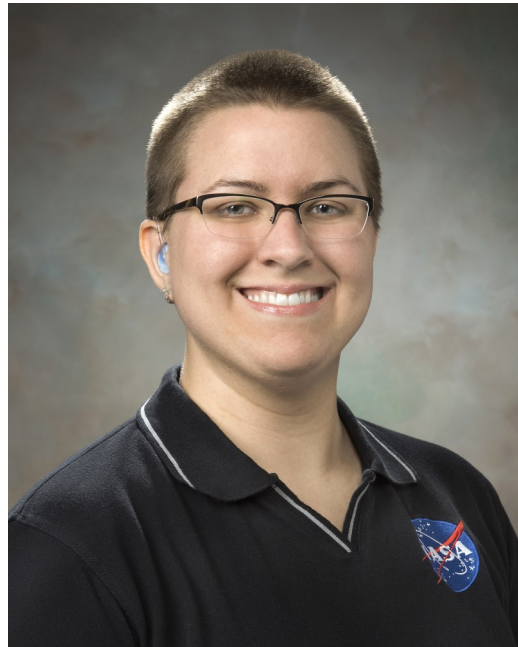


Image of Johanna Lucht smiling with short hair and glasses wearing a navy blue shirt with NASA logo.



Image of Johanna Lucht, observing data from the Mission Control Center at NASA's Armstrong Flight Research Center in California, received flight communications from an interpreter, seen on Lucht's monitor, through video remote interpreting (VRI). Interpreting technical terminology often requires cooperation to develop specific signs related to a NASA flight.

- \* Johanna became the first Deaf Systems II Engineer at NASA on April 4, 2017. Her responsibilities included observing and evaluating data related to an aircraft's GPS and navigation systems along with analyzing inflight data and aircraft performance.
- \* Johanna was born Deaf in Germany where resources are limited which resulted in her not being able to communicate through most of her childhood. She understood math before she acquired language.
- \* Her passion for math set her on the path to focus her education in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) and ultimately led her to being a NASA intern.
- \* As an intern, Lucht worked on the interface for a mobile app version of the Ground Collision Avoidance System which alerts pilots to the detection of potentially hazardous terrain. Meeting challenges analytically resulted in her being offered a position at NASA following her internship.
- \* Lucht considers her deafness to be an environmental challenge and says, "we all meet challenges that are presented in the environment, and do what we can to overcome them."