

# LOCAL 808 MEMBERS AT THE KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

**I**vey's Construction, Inc. of Merritt Island, Florida, was selected by NASA to build a new Lightning Protection System for Launch Complex 39B at the Kennedy Space Center. The new system will support the launch of the Constellation Program's new Ares 1 rockets. The Ares 1 rocket is NASA's next generation of space vehicle. The lightning protection system is designed to reduce the chance of a direct lightning strike to the Ares 1 rocket and the launch complex during the processing period and prior to flight.

This project consists of providing the labor, equipment, and materi-

als to construct three 594-foot, self supporting structural steel lightning protection towers at Launch Complex 39B at the Kennedy Space Center. The towers have an overhead catenary wire system designed to protect the new Constellation Program's Aries 1 Crew Launch rocket from lightning strikes. Local 808 (Orlando) provided approximately 25 ironworkers for the project. Kevin W. Ivey, president and owner of Ivey's Construction, Inc., says, "I am extremely proud of the hard work and ingenuity shown by the members of Local 808 and Ivey's project team. They made what was a

very complicated and difficult project look easy."

The job involves site work, the installation of 216 precast concrete piles, cast in place concrete foundations, structural steel fabrication, structural steel erection, FRP lightning mast fabrication and erection, erection of the catenary wire system, rack and pinion elevators, and electrical work. Ivey's is self performing the concrete, structural steel erection, lightning mast erection, assembly and disassembly of the M21000 lift crane, and the catenary wire system with members of Local 808.

