Welcome

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Welcome

Abstract
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Many of you have been here before. Welcome back. Those of you for whom this is the first visit, I hope you will feel welcome and comfortable here at the Science Center. It is quite an impressive group which is assembled here this morning.

Don and I were talking last week. This is a continuation of what has been a dream for the Science Center and specifically, for Don and many of his colleagues, and that is an improved visibility of nondestructive evaluation in related scientific areas to give it the proper perspective from a national standpoint. I personally feel there is not a more important subject facing the country today for several reasons. One, it is clearly important to the Department of Defense, our favorite customer. It is clearly important to our own corporation, Rockwell International. We face daily problems which result from a lack of information or application in this area, and our company could save lots of money for ourselves and for our customers by improving this technology. It is important, certainly, to the American people today as we have so recently been reminded of the need for conservation in both materials and energy, and as we face in the years ahead increased concern for product safety. The basis for all of these areas is the scientific foundation of nondestructive testing and nondestructive evaluation. It is an area where, in spite of the rather remarkable scientific accomplishments today, I think you will all agree we have just begun. It is an area that could benefit greatly by increased scientific understanding.

This is the crux of the whole matter, isn't it? It is the coupling of good fundamental scientific research with applications that are in the arena of the nitty gritty, a world where you have to be fast, you have to be cheap, and you have to be simple, or it just won't get used.
So, it is indeed a pleasure to welcome the audience to the Science Center to get on with the business at hand. I believe that this is the group of men that can achieve the goals I mentioned. It is a big challenge. We are glad you're here and hope you'll return on many occasions.

Have a good meeting and a nice day.