

# Ultrasonic Detectors Safely Identify Dangerous, Costly Leaks



***Kennedy Space Center***

***UE Systems Inc.  
Elmsford, NY***

## **NASA Technology**

- ◆ Gas or fuel leaks on space shuttles can be detected by the ultrasonic noise emanating from the fissure.
- ◆ Ultrasonic detectors can pinpoint a leak, but unsafe conditions can limit a person's proximity to the fuel tank or rocket booster; too much distance weakens the device's signal, rendering it ineffective.



## **Technology Transfer**

- ◆ Working with Kennedy, UE Systems developed a long-range attachment for the detector able to pick up ultrasonic noises from farther away than conventional detectors.
- ◆ UE Systems has since licensed the technology for commercial distribution.

## **Benefits**

- ◆ Factories with compressed air systems benefit greatly because leaks can potentially cost them millions of dollars in wasted energy.
- ◆ The detectors can also scan substations, transformers, and switchgear for costly and dangerous electrical discharge.