



Smithsonian

National Air and Space Museum

Space Suit Testing Android Collection

Patti Williams

2019

National Air and Space Museum Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	Space Suit Testing Android Collection
Date:	1963-1970
Identifier:	NASM.2018.0038
Creator:	Illinois Institute of Technology
Extent:	0.49 Cubic feet (1 container)
Language:	English .
Summary:	This collection consists of documentation relating to the Space Suit Testing Android.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Jozef Slowik, Gift, 2018, NASM.2018.0038

Processing Information

Arranged, described, and encoded by Patti Williams, 2019.

Preferred Citation

Space Suit Testing Android Collection, NASM.2018.0038, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

An articulated dummy was built for NASA's Manned Spacecraft Center by the Illinois Institute of Technology to support the development of space suits. It used hydraulic and electrical actuators to replicate many of the joint motions of the human body, with realistic forces. Sensors placed throughout the dummy measured forces that a prototype suit might exert on a human being when wearing the suit in a space environment. That enabled suit designers to measure how much force a human would need to move an arm or leg, or turn his or her head, when wearing a suit in space. By using this dummy instead of a human being during the design and testing of a space suit, tests could proceed that might otherwise be painful, tedious, or even dangerous for human participation.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of documentation relating to the Space Suit Testing Android, including a scrapbook, photographs, reports and drawings.

Arrangement

No arrangement.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Astronautics
- Manned space flight
- Space suits

Types of Materials:

- Photographic prints
- Scrapbooks
- Technical drawings
- Technical reports