

How to move heavy loads: a note from AeroGo

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*The 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing is July 20, 2019*

## Moves that prove AeroGo's load moving system is out of this world

When the Apollo VII mission launched in October 1968, it was a groundbreaking spaceflight that immediately flew into the history books as the first mission in the Apollo program to carry a crew into space. During its time there, it traveled a total distance of 4.5 million miles. However, moving it just a fraction of that distance – from its construction facility to the launch pad and up to space for its flight – was a precarious and difficult undertaking. Altogether, the Apollo program, consisting of 11 missions, cost an estimated \$20 billion in 1970s currency. That would be about \$100 billion today, meaning each component was unspeakably expensive. The risk of damage during transport was untenable. And that's why NASA chose AeroGo to move the Apollo VII command module and other components around the Kennedy Space Center.

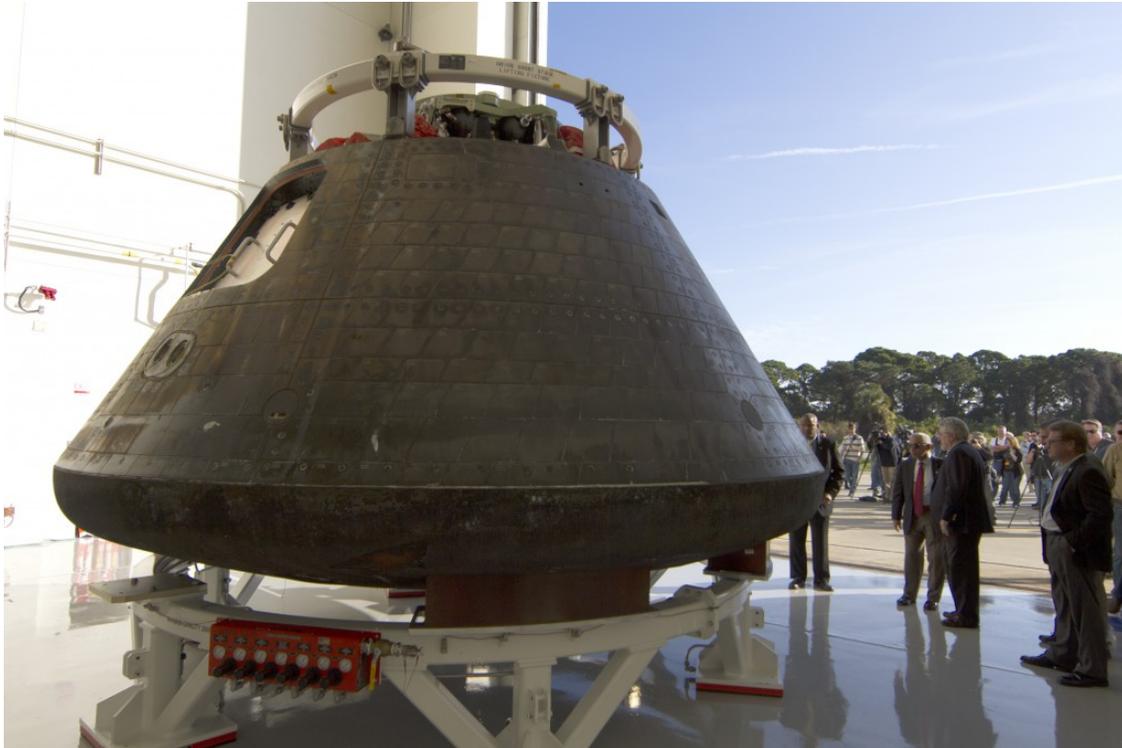
When it comes to aerospace equipment, getting the right move system is critical. These vehicles, their payloads, and associated components are designed to withstand the rigors of an orbital launch and use in space, but that just makes them even more difficult than normal to move. Not only are they expensive, they're incredibly heavy (the Apollo VII command module weighed 32,390 pounds, or 14,690 kg, at launch) and are often surprisingly fragile.

NASA has also used AeroGo air casters in numerous other sensitive moves:

- NASA used a rigging system to move a 56,000-pound Pad Abort Vehicle through the manufacturing process.
- At the Kennedy Space Center, AeroGo turntables help NASA rotate large objects, like 90,000-pound Titan rocket motor segments.
- In the NASA cleanroom at the Kennedy Space Center they move space lab components on special low profile modules that slide easily under machines. The air casters protect epoxy floor coatings and eliminate any possibility of floor damage.
- At Cape Canaveral, satellites are moved into the sanitary containers that will transport those payloads to the space shuttle launch pad. As a point of reference, a

The reason for using AeroGo's air bearing systems is that they can move delicate but heavy capsules with incredible smoothness and precise positioning, in a way that is safe for both human operators and the equipment. Air casters literally float the equipment from place to place over a thin membrane of air, which ensures that sensitive, expensive, and delicate equipment will not be damaged by bumps, vibrations, or other incidents.

Since the very beginning of the space race, when NASA is shooting for the stars, they use a solution that can literally float on air.



NASA's Orion capsule with orange air bearing modules underfoot and an orange control console attached to the structure.

\* FREE DEMO \* [Click here to request](#)



## or Upgrade Your Air Casters?

High-performance AeroGo air bearings fit most any air bearing system. Even if we didn't provide your original air casters, you will love the superior durability of AeroGo air bearings. It doesn't hurt to keep a couple spares on the shelf, so why not [order now](#)? Call us at 1-866-537-0153 or [live chat](#) or [learn more here](#).

## to move up to 34,000 lbs.

Just add air! This Portable Rigging Kit includes everything you need to move tall, short, wide, long, or uneven loads using your available compressed air. Best of all, it can be used over and over again and stores in a handy rollable case (included).

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