

# PROJECT PROFILE

## *Davidson Center For Space Exploration (Saturn V Museum)* Huntsville, Alabama



**Builder:** JWC Specialties, Inc.  
**Architect:** Gresham, Smith & Partners

**Facility's End Use:** Museum  
**Total Square Feet:** 68,200  
**Framing System:** Rigid Frame  
**Roof Panels:** Standing Seam II



### Features:

ABC worked with Builder JWC Specialties and the United States Space & Rocket Center to create a home that would better display the contributions of NASA and the Marshall Space Flight Center to historical, current and future space exploration. The new Davidson Center for Space Exploration was designed to be not only visually stimulating but to draw interest from potential visitors to the museum. The building offers the space needed to display the large number of educational exhibits and also partially supports the Saturn V Rocket, which is positioned as if it is in flight. The Saturn V Rocket, taller than a 36-story building and weighing over 285,000 lbs., is the same rocket model used in the Apollo 11 mission (first moon landing).

The Davidson Center is a 68,200 square-foot building that also serves as the face of the Huntsville Space and Rocket Center, functioning as a visiting ticket area and a 350 seat auditorium. Glass is utilized in the majority of the front side of the building, allowing those traveling the neighboring highway to glimpse the inside of the museum. The powerfully sturdy walls are concealed fastener foam panels.

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