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## Making Movies In Space

The International Space Station is heading for the box office. On April 17, at the Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C., Lockheed Martin and IMAX Corp. will host the world premiere of "Space Station," the first 3D space film.

The documentary is narrated by actor Tom Cruise and features the astronauts who are building and working aboard the orbiting lab.

"Millions more around the world will be able to visit the station themselves, and take part in this stunning international achievement," says Toni Myers, the film's producer and director.

The film will run at selected IMAX theaters worldwide. **PM** IMAX



## Quiet Voice Of Failure

Church bells sometimes sound slightly different just before they fracture. Similarly, temperature changes and unseen damage can affect the way a structure vibrates. Researchers at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind., are using bursts of ultrasonic energy and computers to find changes in vibration patterns and, in turn, pinpoint parts before they fail. The challenge is teaching computers to tell the difference between normal changes, such as heat expansion, and pending failures.

PURDUE UNIVERSITY

## Super Squirt Guns Fight Fire At Sea

Maritime safety rules specify the type of water-pumping equipment that must be on standby to put out port and ship fires. High-output, or FIFI-class, firefighting systems are so powerful they have to be permanently plumbed into a vessel. This means that a specialized firefighting vessel and its crew must be kept near port.

Marine Turbine Technologies of Franklin, La., has successfully tested a portable FIFI unit. Its portability is derived from its powerplant, a 540-pound helicopter jet engine that cranks out 1400 hp. "We can literally convert a barge into a FIFI vessel," says company president Ted McIntyre. With increasingly stringent insurance requirements, McIntyre is optimistic about the future of his company's pumps.



*The easily installed, self-contained pumps can quickly convert a barge into a powerful firefighting vessel.*

MARINETURBINE TECHNOLOGIES