

Dinged by Katrina, Endeavour fuel tank has scars

April 27 2011, By SETH BORENSTEIN , AP Science Writer

(AP) -- The fuel tank that will help propel the space shuttle Endeavour into orbit is already battle-scarred from some rough shaking thanks to Hurricane Katrina.

The 10-year-old tank has 103 patches. The tank was in a building in New Orleans when [Hurricane](#) Katrina hit in 2005. The building's roof partially collapsed, causing more than 100 nicks in foam and one piece of dented metal.

The tank now has a special emblem for surviving the storm.

Tank maker Lockheed Martin and NASA spent eight months examining and repairing the massive external tank, making it ready for Friday's launch. It will be the oldest [fuel tank](#) to launch.

But NASA and [Lockheed Martin](#) tank engineers say it is fixed and perfectly safe.

©2011 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.

Citation: Dinged by Katrina, Endeavour fuel tank has scars (2011, April 27) retrieved 9 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2011-04-dinged-katrina-endeavour-fuel-tank.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is

provided for information purposes only.