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PRESS RELEASE – STATUS AND SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER 19-21

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**Kansas City Space Pirates Qualifies for Finals
Space Elevator Games updated schedule for October 19 – 21.**

Farmington, UT; OCTOBER 19, 2007 – The Kansas City Space Pirates this week became the first team to qualify after easily scaling the 30 m (100') qualifying vertical race track at about 3 meter per second – well in excess of the 1 m/s required.

Brian Turner, Team Captain: "You never know if it's all going to come together until it does... The Kansas City Space Pirates are now officially the most powerful team under the Sun."

Spaceward's CEO Ben Shelef: "This was a gorgeous climb, with everything working like clockwork for start to finish. The pirates are now analyzing post-climb data, but they seem to be strong contenders at the finals".

Following them, teams UBC, Technology Tycoons, and USST qualified in time to compete in the finals this weekend.

Team USST has the most technologically advanced system, based on high-power laser system. Team UBC from Vancouver, Canada, is running a solar system, as does team Technology Tycoons, a high school team from Campbell, California.

Team LaserMotive (technologically comparable to USST), McGill and Centaurus (Microwave based) and E-T-C (searchlights) have not qualified in time, though they will be allowed to run over the weekend for non-prize runs.

The Spaceward Foundation's Space Elevator challenge is shifting into high gear this week as teams from around the world begin competing for NASA's 2007 \$1,000,000 prize purse.



October 19-21:

These are the public event days. Tickets are available online and on-site, \$10 for adults, \$5 for kids under 18). Attractions include the power beaming climbs at the top of each hour, kid's Light Racer competitions (featuring seven local Utah teams), the tether pull competition, educational displays, and a never-before-screened-in-the-US Space Elevator movie.

Interviews opportunities will be available with team members, Spaceward personnel, and the Space Elevator scientific community.

See detailed event information at <http://www.spaceward.org/games07.html>, and a 3-D visualization at <http://www.spaceward.org/images/venue/venue3D-1.jpg>.

Friday, October 19th: The day opens at 11am, and features the first public climbs by the teams. The day closes at 6pm.

Friday evening, October 19th. Private reception. Press access is available.

Saturday, October 20th: The day opens at 10am with the Light Racer competitions, and continues with climbs at the top of each hour. The day closes at 6pm. Also on Saturday – the tether pull competition.

Saturday evening, October 20th: Space Elevator BBQ with the teams, Spaceward, and the Space Elevator community. Special screening of Space Elevator movies. (\$35 Adult, \$10 Kids under 12)

Sunday, October 21st: The day opens at 10am with power beaming climbs, and ends at 6pm. Award ceremonies follow.

Weather:

Weather has been and will be a factor affecting our plans this week. Based on the forecast, we have moved some of the activities indoors, and may have to extend some of the activities into Monday.

Factors affecting our ability to run include cloud cover (for the solar teams), wind speed, and precipitation.





Location:

The event will be held at the Davis County Fairgrounds across from Lagoon, just outside of Salt Lake City, Utah, heading West on exit 325 on I-15

Background

The Space Elevator competitions, marking their third year running, will feature teams from around the country and the world, vying for \$1,000,000 in cash prizes provided by NASA's Centennial Challenges program. Details are available at www.spaceward.org/elevator2010

"From what we've seen of the teams so far, we're looking forward to a very strong competition and an exciting race to the finish" said Ben Shelef, CEO of the Spaceward Foundation. "We're also looking to see some first-ever technology achievements in the field of Power Beaming"

This year will feature a new technology competition – "Light Racers" – that allows kids and young adults to take part in a realistic lunar exploration scenario and win cash prizes for their performance. The competition is open to school, family, and grown-up teams. The Light Racers also serve as a science education platform for teaching basic science and math topics. Details are available at <http://www.spaceward.org/lightRacers.html>

Meekk Shelef, president of the Spaceward Foundation: "We are thrilled to have added an educational component where kids can take part in the competition. Reaching out to the scientists and engineers of the future is the most important thing we can do."

The Space Elevator games concentrate on two far-reaching technology concepts that will enable NASA to enhance its space program – power beaming for wireless power transfer, and Nano-materials such as Carbon Nanotubes for strong structures.

Ken Davidian, program manager for Centennial Challenges: "I am excited and impressed with the evolution and level of technical maturity demonstrated by the teams in both the Tether and Beam Power Challenges. Over the past 24 months, individual teams started from scratch, have grown continually, have coalesced into communities, and are on the verge of accomplishing substantial achievements worthy of a Centennial Challenges prize."



The Spaceward Foundation is a 501(c)(3) public funds non-profit organization (EIN: 34-1997639) dedicated to the advancement of space technology in education and in the public mindshare. For more information, please visit <http://www.spaceward.org>



Dr. Bradley C Edwards, the leading Space Elevator researcher and science advisor to the games: "The Space Elevator games, with their emphasis on strong tethers and power beaming, represent the road to building the Space Elevator. We hope their cumulative effect on the engineering community will enable further effort in this direction."

The Space Elevator is a revolutionary Earth-to-Space transportation system proposed in 1960 by Yuri Artsutanov and enhanced in 2000 by Dr. Bradley Edwards, then at Los Alamos National Labs. The system is comprised of a stationary cable rotating in unison with the Earth, with one end anchored to the surface of the planet and the other end in space. Electric cars then travel up and down the cable, carrying cargo and people.

For more information on the competitions, visit: <http://www.spaceward.org>, email ted@spaceward.org, or call (630) 240-4797.

Press resources are located at <http://www.spaceward.org/press.html>

The Spaceward Foundation is a public-funds non-profit organization dedicated to furthering space science and technology in the public mindshare and in educational curriculums. We believe that expanding mankind's habitat is essential to its survival, and that the most effective way to induce long-term change is through education.

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