



Rick Homans Returns as Chairman of Spaceport Authority



Governor Bill Richardson has named Rick Homans to serve as Chairman of the New Mexico Spaceport Authority. Homans will serve as the designee of Economic Development Secretary Fred Mondragon. "We are

reaching a critical point in our efforts to recruit new jobs to New Mexico, and I will be working closely with Secretary Mondragon to pursue some high-profile companies to the state," Governor Richardson said. "At the same time, we need all the expertise we can get as we complete construction of Spaceport America, and I am tapping Secretary Homans to lead that effort."

Homans, the cabinet secretary for the Department of Taxation & Revenue, worked with Governor Richardson during the creation of Spaceport America and played a key role in recruiting Virgin Galactic as the anchor tenant at the Spaceport. Homans served as the first chairman of the Spaceport Authority from 2005-2007. He will continue in his role as Secretary of the Taxation & Revenue Department.

"The previous director of Spaceport America was responsible for some major accomplishments through his hard work," said Homans. "I intend to build on these accomplishments." Homans will lead the NMSA as it searches for a new Executive Director and oversees construction of Spaceport America.

Virgin Galactic's SpaceShipTwo and WhiteKnightTwo Make First Flight



On March 22, Virgin Galactic and Scaled Composites took to the skies for the first time with the mated-

Spaceport Construction Puts New Mexicans to Work

Spaceport America construction contracts have been awarded, and hundreds of jobs are being created in the state. In these challenging economic times, projects ranging from Terminal Hangar Facility to airfield construction are putting New Mexicans to work. New Mexico contractors and workers are getting the job done!

- **FNF New Mexico**, Albuquerque, NM, is the site-enabling contractor that manages the 24/7 guard stations. FNF is also the contractor for the construction of the fuel storage area.
- CMC Construction, Truth or Consequences, NM, is constructing the internal roadways and entrance road to the THF.
- **David Montoya Construction**, Alameda, NM, is constructing the 10,000 ft. by 200 ft. spaceport runway and THF apron.
- Smithco, Caballo, NM, is constructing the site water utilities, water storage tank and booster pump station.
- **AUI, Inc.**, Las Cruces & Albuquerque, NM, is overseeing the construction of the on-site waste utilities and wastewater treatment plant.
- **McDade-Woodcock, Inc.**, Albuquerque, NM, is installing all on-site electrical systems.
- **Zia Engineering & Environmental Consultants**, LLC, Las Cruces, NM, conducted the Cultural Resources Data Recovery and Reporting services for the spaceport.
- **Summit West Construction**, Albuquerque, NM, is constructing the 110,000 square-foot purpose-built THF due to be completed in 2011.
- **Western Technologies Inc.**, The Western Technologies' staff of certified inspectors,



pair space launch system, flying with SpaceShipTwo

suspended beneath the wing of WhiteKnightTwo. This marks the beginning of the spaceship flight-test program that is expected to culminate in sub-orbital space launch activities as early as 2011. The development activity is happening at Scaled Composites' home base in Mojave, California. Once Virgin Galactic's rigorous test-flight program has been completed, the vehicles will arrive at Spaceport America to prepare for the first commercial flights.

Spaceport Construction Generating Positive Economic Activity in the State



Terminal Hangar Facility Construction

As described earlier, spaceport construction is in full swing. Twelve of the initial fourteen construction contracts are in place, creating an intense amount of activity at the Spaceport America construction site. Most of the infrastructure is expected to be complete by year's end, including the runway, which should be finished by August 2010.

These construction contracts have created more than 600 direct construction jobs with an estimated additional 1,200 indirect jobs. Through these jobs, the spaceport construction is estimated to deliver \$18 million in income, property and gross receipts tax revenue to the state general fund. Spaceport America is delivering on the promise of economic growth in the State of New Mexico.



ARFF Dome Construction

technicians, and professional engineers provides a value-added service on any project through their experience and knowledge in the construction industry.

Space Flight Informed Consent



On February 27, 2010, New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson signed the Space Flight Informed Consent Act into law. This public policy keeps New Mexico's commercial spaceflight operations competitive with other states such as Virginia and Florida. It requires that space flight participants be fully informed of the risks associated with space flight activities prior to signing a liability waiver in which they assume the risk. This act supports the federal Commercial Space Launch Amendments Act of 2004 which established the framework for commercial space companies operating under the licensure of the FAA-AST organization. The House and Senate both passed the legislation unanimously during the thirty-day session in Santa Fe prior to being signed into law by the governor.

Second Annual Education Launch a Success



As part of New Mexico Space Grant Consortium's mission to promote space programs and education to New Mexico students and educators, the second annual New Mexico Education Launch took place on Tuesday, May 4,

from Spaceport America.

Along with experiments designed and created by New Mexico students, the SL-4 launch vehicle flew to space to honor the memory of Debbie Prell, a Farmington science and technology teacher who died of breast cancer in 2005.

New Mexico Space Grant Consortium Director Dr. Patricia Hynes spoke about the ongoing New Mexico Education launch program after the



THF Concrete Stair Support Tower Constuction



Runway Concrete Leveling Work

successful launch. "The promise of a new commercial space industry has created an increased interest in technology and science programs in New Mexico classrooms," Dr. Hynes said. "The Education Launch gives our students the ability to launch their experiments into space, which is something that inspires visionary educators like Debbie Prell."

For more information about the New Mexico Education Launch program, visit <http://spacegrant.nmsu.edu> online.

Lockheed Martin helps with Mission Assurance Test at Spaceport



As part of the mission assurance activities, UP Aerospace successfully conducted a full-scale recovery system drop-test at Spaceport America on April 14, 2010. A parachute expert from Lockheed

Martin was onsite as part of the ongoing assurance test collaborative effort with UP Aerospace and the New Mexico Space Grant Consortium.

The completion of this test was critical to the recent success of the Second Annual New Mexico Education launch which took place on May 4th at the Spaceport America vertical launch complex.

The UP Aerospace recovery system drop-test can be viewed at: <http://www.launchnm.com/videosphp.php>

Spaceport America Gets International Media Attention



A major story on Spaceport America ran February 21st in the "New York Times" titled "A New Exit to Space Readies for Business." Manufacturing trade publication "Industry Today" featured Spaceport America in a recent story

titled "The Outer Limits—Spaceport America in New Mexico Makes History by Challenging Traditional Paradigms for Spaceflight."

Finally, the spaceport was also featured on the

Spaceport America Dedicates New Las Cruces Offices



The New Mexico Spaceport Authority held their official dedication for its new offices on March 25. Located at 901 E. University Ave. Building 3, Suite C in Las Cruces, the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce

Conquistadors conducted the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Australian television travel show "Getaway" which reaches over 10 million viewers world-wide.

Thank you for your continued support of Spaceport America

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