

T H E G A T E W A Y T O S P A C E ®



**SPACEPORT AMERICA®**

THE WORLD'S FIRST  
PURPOSE-BUILT COMMERCIAL SPACEPORT

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# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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« FY2023 NMSA  
Audit Report





# MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



If a person could go back in time, and buy some stock, they would know to add a few fledgling companies to their portfolio. That would undoubtedly include a few shares of Apple, Amazon, Microsoft, or Google. These are all companies that were considered risky, and since few people understood what the internet was going to mean to the world, few could comprehend how those companies could become household names. Of course, there are other companies like AOL, CompuServe, and Netscape that also looked promising, but didn't survive the strong competition. Nonetheless, the world changed with the incredible growth of the internet, and those who participated in the growth also did well.

The commercial space market is similarly in a rapid period of growth, but also maturing in unpredictable ways. Many aerospace experts decried the end of the Shuttle program, and many said private industry could never take humans to space, that this was NASA's job. Yet, we are now in an era where SpaceX is routinely taking humans to space in their own capsule (of their own design), on their own rocket (of their own design) and reusing their first-stage boosters 15 times or more. And mostly because of SpaceX, Cape Canaveral hosted 72 launches in 2023 with 111 forecasted for 2024.

For well over a decade now, the country has been transitioning from federal space to commercial space – meaning missions desired, designed, funded, and conducted by private companies, not NASA or DOD. Our satellites have become critical infrastructure, a true utility, as important as electricity or water to our homes and offices. Space is also a new financial frontier with four private space stations being developed, several space tourism related projects underway, and soon we will see regular robotic manufacturing in space. NASA and a large coalition of space agencies and private industry are also working on going to the moon, which will unlock other vast economic opportunities.

New Mexico took a large risk back in 2005/2006 in deciding to create the world's first purpose-built FAA licensed commercial spaceport. While there are no guarantees of success, the economic impact of our spaceport rests definitively on our collective shoulders – that is, the many stakeholders of Spaceport America. We collectively and collaboratively will determine whether this project, this public infrastructure, ultimately does what so many thought it could and would. That is, to help transform the area into what we are now calling Space Valley – an area rich in space heritage, space activity and enormous potential.

This first annual report, like the 2022 Economic Impact report released several months ago, is our “report card” to the public and all our partners. It is a way to convey where we are currently, and where we hope to go.



Scott McLaughlin | Executive Director  
Spaceport America



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# OVERVIEW



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**Federal Aviation Administration**



**THE WORLD'S FIRST PURPOSE-BUILT COMMERCIAL SPACEPORT**  
 FAA-LICENSED HORIZONTAL & VERTICAL LAUNCH SITE | 18,000 ACRES ADJACENT TO U.S. ARMY WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE  
 6,000 SQ MILES OF RESTRICTED AIRSPACE | 12,000 X 200 FT RUNWAY | 340 DAYS OF SUNSHINE & LOW HUMIDITY

### MISSION / VISION

- Actively promoting and assisting public and private-sector infrastructure development to attract new industries and businesses is a primary goal of Spaceport America.
- Tenants who lease space have the freedom to design launch sites and facilities at Spaceport America which best serve their missions.
- Spaceport America provides access to both the National Airspace System (NAS) as well as 6,000 miles of restricted airspace from surface to unlimited. Because of this, a "quiet zone" consisting of minimal commercial aviation traffic offers reinforced privacy for sensitive projects while allowing the safe testing of new designs with minimal regulatory delays.
- The vast size of Spaceport America allows tenants to greatly streamline the process of project development to execution. As a result, tenants have the ability to engineer, manufacture, test and launch all at one location.

### LONG-TERM PLAN

- New infrastructure:
  - » Hangar Development
  - » Road Infrastructure Improvements
  - » Broadband Fiber Optic Improvements
- Working on a FAA Reentry License
- Planned Multi-use building
  - » Current discussions for Inland Hypersonic Corridors
- Increase domestic & international customer interest
  - » Expand customer base interested in testing & development

### NEW FEATURES

- 50 FT. Launch Rail (Fall/Winter of 2023)

### ON-SITE TENANTS

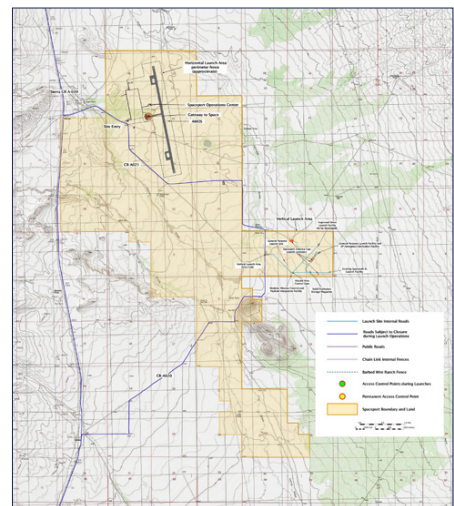
- Virgin Galactic, HAPS Mobile/AeroVironment,
- UP Aerospace, SpinLaunch, Prismatic, Ltd./BAE
- Frequent customers include EXOS Aerospace and Swift Engineering

### SPACEPORT ACCESSIBILITY

- Paved roads leading to the spaceport
- Public access roads outside of the spaceport that can be accessed by the public for launch viewing
- Runway for aircraft

### LOCATION ADVANTAGE

- Spaceport America is under White Sands Missile Range's restricted airspace
  - » Spaceport America can use this airspace
  - » Managed by the U.S. Army, White Sands Missile Range boasts the largest restricted DoD airspace in the country
  - » 2 different rates depending on use (DoD or Non-DoD)
- Ability to conduct UAS flight testing in restricted airspace
- 24-hour fire, emergency and EMS services on-site



### YOUTUBE VIDEO LINKS

- [Spaceport America Home](#)
- [Spaceport America Overview](#)

2023-AST-027

« The FAA Office of Spaceports was established by the 2018 FAA Authorization Act to be a centralized policy office within the FAA Office of Commercial Space Transportation. This information, and various information on page four, can be found by visiting [www.faa.gov/space/office\\_spaceports](http://www.faa.gov/space/office_spaceports).

## NMSA STATUTORY LANGUAGE

The New Mexico Spaceport Authority shall:

- Encourage and foster development of the state and its cities and counties by **developing spaceport facilities in New Mexico**;
- Actively promote and assist public and private sector infrastructure development to attract new industries and businesses, thereby **creating new job opportunities** in the state;
- Create the statutory framework that will enable the state to **design, finance, construct, equip and operate spaceport facilities** necessary to ensure the timely, planned and efficient development of a southwest regional spaceport; and
- Promote educational involvement in spaceport activities and **education and training of the workforce** to develop the skills needed for spaceport operations.



Section 58-31-1 NMSA 1978



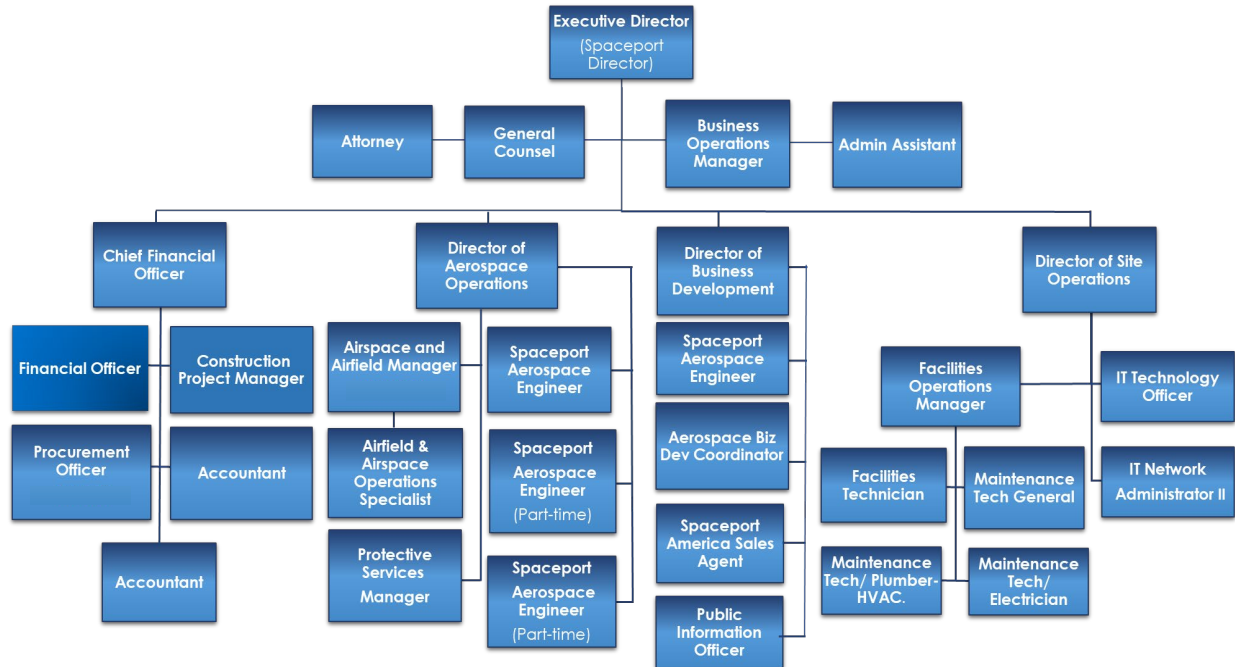
# U.S. SPACEPORTS

(photo provided by FAA)



- « Spaceport America is one of one of 14 spaceports located within the United States. Of those 14, Spaceport America is the only site to serve as an FAA-Licensed Horizontal and Vertical Launch Site.
- « The tenants, customers and clients who conduct operations at Spaceport America make use of restricted airspace controlled by U.S. Army White Sands Missile Rande through a joint Memorandum of Agreement.
- « Spaceport America is broken down into three separate areas: the Horizontal Launch Area (HLA), Vertical Launch Area (VLA) and Advanced Technology Area (ATA). Each area features unique, customer-specific benefits depending on the application.
- « Of the 117 FAA-licensed commercial space launches that took place in 2023, six of them occurred at Spaceport America. That makes the state of New Mexico one of just six states in the nation in which a commercial space launch occurred in 2023.
- « The number of FAA-licensed commercial space launches in 2023 has nearly tripled since 2020.

## NMSA ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





# OVERVIEW



In addition to its statutory mission, Spaceport America exists to serve its stakeholders - the citizens of the state of New Mexico. The taxpayers and legislators in both Doña Ana and Sierra counties have been integral partners of Spaceport America since its inception and the successes of the world's first purpose-built commercial spaceport would not have been possible without the support of these New Mexicans. Legislators at the city, county and state level have also been instrumental parts of Spaceport America's ongoing development through the last two decades. Spaceport America sits on 18,000 acres of State of New Mexico state land trust land and maintains a strong relationship with the New Mexico State Land Office to develop that land for its tenants, customers and beneficiaries.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The New Mexico Spaceport Authority Board of Directors consists of nine members; the chair, two ex officio and six are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the State Senate. By statute, no more than three of the appointed members shall belong to the same political party. Members serve staggered four-year terms.  
*Howie Morales (Ex Officio) | Mark Roper (Acting Chair of the Board) | Peggy S. Johnson | Eric Schindwolf | Ethan Epstein | Stephanie Luongo | Wayne Savage | Dolores Lucero*

## TAX DISTRICT BOARD

Established in 2005, the Tax District Board is the entity which receives and distributes excess revenue from the Doña Ana County and Sierra County 0.25% Spaceport gross receipts tax. The District's Board of Directors consists of six members that includes four elected officials appointed by the respective county commissioners of Doña Ana and Sierra counties. The board also includes two statewide delegate appointed by the governor.  
*Shannon Reynolds (chair) | James Paxon (vice-chair) | Travis Day | Eric Enriquez | Kim Skinner | Manuel Sanchez*

# 2023 BY THE NUMBERS

**59,840**

« Visitors to Spaceport America

**\$60m**

« \$60 million value added to the region in 2022

**1st**

« First Pakistani woman, first mother-daughter duo and first residents of Antigua & Barbuda to go to space

**6**

« Commercial spaceflights

**109**

« Spaceport America Cup rocket launches

**17**

« Countries represented at the Spaceport America Cup

**18**

« Space flight participants\*

**1,651**

« College students on-site for the Spaceport America Cup

**9,000+**

« Students reached through STEM events





# TENANTS & CUSTOMERS\*



« Spaceport America’s anchor tenant, Virgin Galactic is the premier commercial spaceflight company on the planet. Founded by Richard Branson and the Virgin Group conglomerate, Virgin Galactic has flown nine separate missions to space since May of 2021.



[www.VirginGalactic.com](http://www.VirginGalactic.com)



« Prismatic started working with un-crewed stratospheric air systems in 2011, formed by a team with experience in these systems reaching back to the early 2000s. BAE Systems started working with Prismatic in 2017, and acquired the company in 2021.



[www.PrismaticLTD.co.uk](http://www.PrismaticLTD.co.uk)



« UP Aerospace is a space launch and flight test service provider specializing in advanced engineering, launch technology development, and state-of-the-art rapid and low cost launch operations. Its headquarters are located in Denver, Colorado, with launch facilities at Spaceport America in New Mexico.



[www.UPAerospace.com](http://www.UPAerospace.com)



« SpinLaunch is revolutionizing access to space by building a kinetically powered system to put constellations of satellites into space. They have constructed the world’s largest evacuated centrifuge at Spaceport America and have executed 10 test flights since 2021.



[www.SpinLaunch.com](http://www.SpinLaunch.com)



« HAPSMobile Inc. is a subsidiary of SoftBank Corp. that plans and operates a High Altitude Platform Station (HAPS) business with the aim of bridging the world’s digital divide. HAPSMobile is primarily engaged in network equipment research and development for the HAPS business, construction of core networks, new business planning and activities for spectrum usage.



[www.HAPSMobile.com](http://www.HAPSMobile.com)



« AeroVironment provides customers with more actionable intelligence so they can proceed with certainty. Based in California, AeroVironment is a global leader in unmanned aircraft systems and tactical missile systems, and serves defense, government and commercial customers.



[www.AVinc.com](http://www.AVinc.com)



« Swift Engineering is an innovation company with a 35-year history of design, engineering and build heritage in intelligent systems and advanced vehicles, including autonomous systems, helicopters, submarines, spacecraft, ground vehicles, robotics, and advanced composites for military, healthcare, agriculture and industrial applications.



[www.SwiftEngineering.com](http://www.SwiftEngineering.com)



« Isotropic Networks, Inc., is the leading global provider of converged connectivity services and network management solutions. Isotropic owns and operates teleports on three continents, enabling global coverage and a level of flexibility that is unprecedented in the satellite industry.



[www.Isotropic.network](http://www.Isotropic.network)



**STRATODYNAMICS AVIATION INC.**

« Stratodynamics Inc. is an Earth Observation service provider pioneering new, dynamic methods to offer high-altitude, airborne assessments using uncrewed aerial vehicles. Stratodynamics is also developing turbulence detection solutions for the aviation and urban air mobility sectors with licensed NASA technology.



[www.Stratodynamics.ca](http://www.Stratodynamics.ca)

\*While engaging in business partnerships with various organizations in aerospace and non-aerospace sectors, Spaceport America adheres to an NDA policy with its tenants and customers. This policy ensures the security and privacy of our tenant and customer base and, as a result, additional organizations have been omitted from this section as they are not yet in a position to divulge their respective scopes of work. When chosen to be made public by the tenant and/or customer, the working relationship between Spaceport America, these parties and the work being conducted will be released to the general public.







## Commercial Spaceline Operations

« Beginning with its *Unity 25* launch on Thursday, May 25, Virgin Galactic conducted six manned commercial spaceflights from Spaceport America in 2023.

« Over the course of those six spaceflights, a total of 24 individuals from around the globe ventured into space, becoming astronauts in the process.

« Individuals from six different nations on four continents were among the 24 newest astronauts. Included among these individuals were the youngest person to go to space, the first Pakistani woman to go to space and the first mother-daughter tandem to go to space.

« Through human history, no single organization on the planet has succeeded in sending humans to space at a higher rate than Virgin Galactic did in the final half of 2023.

« For each spaceflight, over 100 individuals from various locations around the United States and abroad made the journey to southern New Mexico, injecting dollars into both Doña Ana and Sierra counties by making use of hotels, resorts and restaurants.

« Global news coverage was a hallmark of each commercial spaceflight, too, namely for August's *Galactic O2* flight.

« Over 17,000 earned media pieces and north of 36.34 media impressions were generated as a result of the *Galactic O2* flight.

« Much of this was a direct result of NBC's exclusive coverage of the flight for a stretch of three days. Through that three-day span, nearly one billion individuals made up the combined national, local and online viewership with Spaceport America and, by extension, New Mexico, at the forefront.

## SPACEFLIGHT SPECIFICS

- « Unity 25 | Thursday, May 25, 2023
  - « Pilots | Michael Masucci, CJ Sturckow
  - « Space Flight Participants | Jamila Gilbert, Christopher Huie Beth Moses, Luke Mays
- « Galactic O1 | Thursday, June 29, 2023
  - « Pilots | Michael Masucci, Nicola Pecile
  - « Space Flight Participants | Colin Bennett, Pantaleone Carlucci, Angelo Landolfi, Walter Villadei
- « Galactic O2 | Thursday, August 10, 2023
  - « Pilots | Kelly Latimer, Nicola Pecile
  - « Space Flight Participants | Jon Goodwin, Anastatia Mayers, Beth Moses, Keisha Schahaff
- « Galactic O3 | Friday, September 8, 2023
  - « Pilots | Michael Masucci, Nicola Pecile
  - « Space Flight Participants | Ken Baxter, Beth Moses, Timothy Nash, Adrian Reynard
- « Galactic O4 | Friday, October 6, 2023
  - « Pilots | Kelly Latimer, CJ Sturckow
  - « Space Flight Participants | Trevor Beattie, Beth Moses, Ron Rosano, Namira Salim
- « Galactic O5 | Thursday, November 2, 2023
  - « Pilots | Kelly Latimer, Michael Masucci
  - « Space Flight Participants | Colin Bennett, Kellie Girardi, Ketty Maisonrouge, Alan Stern





# VG'S 2024 OPERATIONS

« On Tuesday, Nov. 7, 2023, in order to focus its efforts on the development of its next-generation spacecraft, Virgin Galactic announced it would lay off some 185 individuals - roughly 18% of its total workforce

« The impact to the state of New Mexico meant that 73 individuals were laid off as a result of the move.

« As a result, Virgin Galactic will conduct two additional spaceflights (*Galactic 06* and *Galactic 07*) over the first two quarters of 2024 before pausing spaceflight activities.

« Virgin Galactic's new Delta-class spacecraft represent a marked improvement over the company's current iteration of space-faring vehicles. Manufactured at a facility in Mesa, Ariz., which has the ability to construct up to six per year, the Delta-class features an increased capacity of up to six passengers as well as additional room for payloads for scientific research missions. These increased capacities have the potential to increase per-flight revenue by 12 times when compared to spaceflights taken by *VMS Unity* and *VMS Eve*.

« The Delta-class spacecraft's operational cadence will be as high as twice per week as compared to the once per month cadence possible with *VMS Unity* and *VMS Eve*. Each Delta-class spacecraft will have a life cycle of 500 or more flights and will cost between \$50-60 million to construct.

## THE FUTURE

« Following the announced pause of spaceflight activities by Virgin Galactic in the final half of 2024, there are no proposed changes to the existing lease payment structure by the company to Spaceport America. Over 200 Virgin Galactic employees remained employed in New Mexico.

« Virgin Galactic's pause in spaceflight operations will last from 12-18 months. During that time, testing of each Delta-class spacecraft will occur at Spaceport America.



photo credit: Spaceport America







« PHASA-35 spec sheet + additional information



# BAE SYSTEMS

## PHASA-35

« Through the summer months of 2023, Prismatic Ltd., a British company and subsidiary of Europe’s largest defense contractor BAE Systems, became the newest tenant of the world’s first purpose-built commercial spaceport when it performed first-stage flight tests of PHASA-35 on site.

« A High-Altitude Psuedo Satellite or High-Altitude Platform System (HAPS) system, PHASA-35 Attained a peak altitude of over 66,000 feet through the course of its 24-hour flight period.

« PHASA-35 slowly powered its way into the stratosphere before successfully touching down at its home base at Spaceport America.

« The trial gave BAE Systems’ engineering team the ability to engage in performance assessments of the experimental solar-electric drone while it maneuvered to the far reaches of Earth’s atmosphere.

« Originally conceived and developed by Prismatic Ltd., in 2018, PHASA-35’s voyage to the stratosphere represented an important milestone as it pertains to application potential. PHASA-35 was designed to operate above weather phenomena and conventional air traffic to provide a persistent and stable platform for a multitude of uses including ultra-long endurance intelligence operations, security, reconnaissance missions and surveillance undertakings.

« Boasting a 35-meter wingspan and employing a collection of world-class technologies which include advanced composites, energy management, solar electric cells and photovoltaic arrays, PHASA-35 is provided with energy throughout the daylight hours thanks to the technologies. They also allow PHASA-35 to operate under the cover of darkness by tapping into its rechargeable cells where the energy gathered during the day is stored.

« June’s trial represented the starting point of a series of continued trials for PHASA-35. The trial series plans to further ascertain and confirm system performance, support development activities and validate test points. Following successes of these further tests, PHASA-35 would be cleared for use in defense and commercial markets in North America, Europe, and the rest of the planet.



photo credit: BAE Systems

photo credit: BAE Systems







# 2023 SPACEPORT AMERICA® CUP

Co-hosted by Spaceport America and the Experimental Sounding Rocket Association (ESRA)



« Spaceport America Cup website

« The world's largest intercollegiate rocketry competition returned to southern New Mexico in 2023 and the result was over 100 launches to heights of 10,000-30,000 feet over the course of one week (June 19-24, 2023).

« In all, nearly 1,700 intercollegiate rocketeers from 19 countries across all six populated continents of the planet journeyed to the Land of Enchantment to take part in the event. Nearly 6,000 total students took part in total with each learning how Spaceport America plays a vital role in "Space Valley," which stretches from northern New Mexico all the way to El Paso, Texas.

« In addition to a rocketry competition, the Cup has evolved into a networking opportunity for job seekers who are near graduation from colleges and universities. Nearly 40 sponsors from the aerospace and space industries not only funneled funds into the Cup, they built up their respective workforces by interfacing with future engineers and aerospace professionals.

« Brigham Young University was named the overall winner of the event while, for the second-straight year, New Mexico State University took home the Chile Cup.

« With a sizable contingent of individuals in Doña Ana County and the City of Las Cruces for that stretch, the economic impact of the Spaceport America Cup has been calculated at \$1.2 million. Earned media calculator for the event stand at nearly \$800,000.

« Established in 2019 as a regional competition between the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, New Mexico State University, the University of New Mexico (UNM) and the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP), the Chile Cup is a regional award designed to enhance the inclusion of each regional university taking part in the Spaceport America Cup. Further, the Chile Cup helps to solidify each institution as some of the planet's premier engineering universities.

« In November of 2023, the Spaceport America Cup was honored by the New Mexico Hospitality Association (NMHA) by winning a Top HAT (hospitality and tourism) award for Outstanding Event.

« Looking ahead to 2024, 157 teams from 21 countries have been chosen to take part in the 2024 Spaceport America Cup.



photo credit: ESRA

photo credit: Algernon D'Annassa







« USAF Thunderbirds training highlights (video)



## U.S. AIR FORCE THUNDERBIRDS 2023 TRAINING EXERCISES

« For the third time since September of 2021, The United States Air Force Air Demonstration Squadron “Thunderbirds” made their way to Spaceport America for multiple weeks of winter training. The Thunderbirds’ 2023 training regimen occurred through a two-week stretch in January.

« The Thunderbirds’ training season runs from November through March and serves as a time to integrate and synchronize the team and practice the demonstration display. The 2023 winter training trip kicked off at Spaceport America, New Mexico and continued to Edwards Air Force Base in California.

« 2022 saw the first winter training by the USAF Thunderbirds at Spaceport America. That training session marked the squadron’s first outside of their homebase at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada. The decision was made to increase aerospace opportunity and flexibility for the team’s training needs, while also allowing them to practice in conditions of increasing difficulty.

« Through the course of 2023, the Thunderbirds went on to perform at events such as the Daytona 500, the Pennzoil 400, the U.S. Air Force Academy Graduation, the Chicago Air & Water Show and the Orlando Air and Space Show.





# STEM & OUTREACH

« An integral part of Spaceport America’s statutory mission, STEM and outreach events in the year 2023 continued to inspire thousands of students both in New Mexico and around the planet.

« Site visits to Spaceport America by various youth organizations and classes illustrate the site’s importance within the state, region, nation and world when it comes to the aerospace and space industries.

« Through the 2023 Doña Ana County Summer Internship program, two high school students received the opportunity to obtain hands-on experience by serving Spaceport America in an internship capacity.

« Two university-level students also secured a summer’s worth of experience in the business development and aerospace engineering areas.

# 59,840

« Visitors to Spaceport America in 2023

# 9,000+

« Students (K-12 and university) reached through various STEM-related events in 2023



« In July of 2023, Spaceport America’s pair of summer interns traveled to Albuquerque, N.M., to take part in NewSpace Nexus’ Intern Day. Featuring over 100 students from around the world, the day allowed hands-on experimentation and networking opportunities for all.



« Virgin Galactic’s spaceflights through 2023 offered individuals from around the area a one-of-a-kind opportunity to witness history. Business development groups, university officials, city and state government officials and journalists from around the world attended these launches.



« High school students from Deming High School toured Spaceport America in the fall of 2023 to learn more about the site and its operations.



« As part of New Mexico’s 100th-year celebration of its 4-H clubs, a site visit by students from around the state was built in to the centennial programming.





# ECONOMIC IMPACT



« 2022 Spaceport America Economic Impact Report

« In late August of 2023, Spaceport America, in partnership with the New Mexico State University (NMSU) Arrowhead Center for Border Economic Development (C-BED), released an economic impact report encompassing the 2022 calendar year.

« Seven major areas – tenant operations, tenant employment, privately-funded construction, out-of-state visitor spending, revenues, total economic impact and tax revenue impact – are detailed in the report. A brief introduction and overview of the industry is also included as is a summation of Spaceport America’s tenant base and other activities.

« NMSA plans to work with the Arrowhead Center and NMSU’s C-BED to produce a recurrent report on an annual basis. The year-by-year data will yield comprehensive information to better calculate the cumulative impact of the spaceport.

**\$60 million**

« Total value added production in 2022

**\$45 million**

« Total labor income in 2022

**\$24 million**

« Total value added production for Sierra County in 2022

**\$27 million**

« Total value added production for Doña Ana County in 2022

**810**

« Total jobs created as a result of Spaceport America



photo credit: BAE Systems



# REGIONAL COLLABORATION

## NEW MEXICO SPACE VALLEY COALITION

« The New Mexico Space Valley Coalition is a statewide team of public and private entities that have come together to rocket forward the commercial space industry in the state.

« Within the borders of New Mexico exist over 100 private sector space companies as well as three federal laboratories (Air Force Research Laboratory, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Sandia National Laboratories).

« New Mexico's three research universities stand out in engineering and the sciences, resulting largely from the state's long history as a world-class research center being home to several federal and private sector research institutions.

« In 2021, the Space Valley Coalition received \$500,000 from the U.S. Economic Development administration as one of 60 finalists for the Build Back Better Regional Challenge.



« The National Science Foundation (NSF) announced in May of 2022 that it sought proposals for its Regional Innovation Engines, or NSF Engines, grant.

« Out of 188 proposals received, the NSA selected 34 semifinalists before cutting that number down to 16 finalists.

« Spaceport America linked up with two parent submission organizations from around the region as a partner organization. Both of the proposals submitted from those organizations were announced as finalists in August of 2023. The chosen finalist proposal will see up to \$160 million in federal funding funneled into its area over the course of a decade.

« Of the two finalist proposals which centered around aerospace, Spaceport America was featured as a partner organization in both. Both of those proposals are highlighted below.

## PASO DEL NORTE INNOVATION FOR DEFENSE & AEROSPACE

### I.D.E.A Engine

**Lead Institution** | The University of Texas at El Paso  
**Partner Organizations** | County of El Paso • El Paso Community College • National Center for Defense Manufacturing and Machining • **Spaceport America** • Workforce Solutions Borderplex, Inc.

## SPACE FOR EARTH, SPACE FOR ALL

**Space Valley's Role in Securing America's Economic and Political Future**

**Lead Institution** | New Mexico Trade Alliance  
**Partner Organizations** | Central New Mexico Community College • Levado, LLC • Navajo Technical University • New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology • New Mexico Manufacturing Extension Partnership • New Mexico State University • **Spaceport America** • STEMArts Lab • University of New Mexico

### COALITION MEMBERS



### COALITION PARTNERS



## BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT



« Identifying and attracting a robust catalog of space and aerospace organizations to the state of New Mexico is the charge of Spaceport America's business development sector.

« From start-ups to established organizations, Spaceport America consistently explores the connections it can make with future tenants, clients and customers.

« In order to facilitate introductions between outside agencies and Spaceport America, attendance at various trade shows around the United States is crucial as is developing relationships with economic development organizations around the city, state and region.

« For any and all business inquiries, parties are encouraged to contact:

**Francisco Pallares**  
 Director of Business Development.  
 francisco.pallares@spaceportamerica.com  
 575-367-8522

## MASTER PLAN EFFORT



« In May of 2023, following the conclusion of a RFP process, Spaceport America announced it had awarded its Master Plan Project to **RS&H**. One of the nation's leading architecture, engineering, and consulting firms, RS&H possesses a team which encompasses commercial space and aerospace experts.


« RS&H will be supported by two companies, **Populous** and **Zia Engineering & Environmental Consultants**, respectively leading key aspects of the future visioning and environmental stewardship that are critical to the important project.

« The spaceport master plan study will include various considerations for future operations (space and aviation), macro and micro-industry trends, national security space requirements and operations, public and private investments, potential launch vehicles operating from the site, frequency of flights, potential payloads, propellant storage, regulatory trends, and development options for future spaceport operations.

« The team will engage with local, state, and national aerospace leaders to help guide the sustainable development of Spaceport America.

« Stakeholders will play a critical role in this 12-month effort to develop the master plan as the team works to identify opportunities for growth in New Mexico's aerospace industry. Public involvement will help define the best path ahead for Spaceport America through a "needs and wants" assessment. In this effort, RS&H will launch a comprehensive outreach campaign to facilitate engagement with key stakeholders.





“The entire flight was just **EXHILIRATING**. I remember turning my head and looking out the window, and I was like, “Oh my God.’ It was the **MOST BEAUTIFUL SIGHT** I’ve ever seen.”

- ANASTATIA MAYERS, Virgin Galactic Astronaut 013, youngest person to go to space, member of first mother-daughter duo to go to space, one of the two first individuals from the nation of Antigua and Barbuda to go to space.

photo credit: Virgin Galactic



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\*visiting and touring Spaceport America requires prior authorization  
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