



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JOINT SPACEPORT AMERICA AND ESRA STATEMENT REGARDING COVID-19 AND THE 2020 SPACEPORT AMERICA CUP COMPETITION

On behalf of Spaceport America and the Experimental Sounding Rocket Association (ESRA), we would like to provide the following update regarding our response to the COVID-19 (aka Coronavirus) outbreak. Spaceport America and ESRA continue to monitor world events with respect to the outbreak. Currently, there are no plans to cancel or postpone this year's event (June 16-20, 2020).

However, we recognize that some teams may not be able to travel to the event due to travel restrictions. If that occurs, ESRA will provide a credit to affected teams for the 2021 competition or a full refund for all fees. We ask that student teams who encounter this situation please reach out to ESRA via general.info@esrarocket.org.

We know that this outbreak presents an unusual situation in world events. We ask for your patience as we react thoughtfully to the facts as they unfold. Please continue to exercise caution, wash hands frequently, and remain home if you are sick.

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ABOUT SPACEPORT AMERICA

[Spaceport America](#) is the first purpose-built commercial spaceport in the world. The FAA-licensed launch complex, situated on 18,000 acres adjacent to the U.S. Army White Sands Missile Range in southern New Mexico, has a rocket friendly environment of 6,000 square miles of restricted airspace, low population density, a 12,000-foot spaceway, and 340 days of sunshine and low humidity. Some of the most respected companies in the commercial space industry are customers at Spaceport America: Virgin Galactic, Boeing, UP Aerospace, EnergeticX, EXOS Aerospace, and SpinLaunch. Visit <https://www.spaceportamerica.com> for more information.

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ABOUT THE EXPERIMENTAL SOUNDING ROCKET ASSOCIATION

The [Experimental Sounding Rocket Association](#) (ESRA) is a non-profit organization founded in 2003 for the purpose of fostering and promoting engineering knowledge and experience in the field of rocketry. ESRA's primary focus is providing safe and exciting opportunities for academic groups to compete in



aerospace challenges. ESRA has operated the Intercollegiate Rocket Engineering Competition (IREC) since 2006. In 2017, ESRA partnered with Spaceport America to expand the IREC into the Spaceport America Cup. Visit <http://www.soundingrocket.org> for more information.

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