



Shaping the Future of Aerospace

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AIAA HOSTS FIFTH ANNUAL CALIFORNIA AEROSPACE DAYS

Event to Feature Several Panels and Press Conference on the State of Aerospace in California

February 22, 2016 – Reston, Va. – The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), along with sponsors Aerojet Rocketdyne, The Aerospace Corporation, The Boeing Company, and Northrop Grumman Corporation, will host this year's California Aerospace Days event at the California State Capitol, in Sacramento, February 29 – March 1. The event will feature a press conference at 11:30 a.m. (PT) on March 1, where senior representatives of the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation and the San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation will release the results of the first-ever Southern California Aerospace Economic Impact Study. The study will provide an in-depth analysis that will quantify the depth of the industry across eight Southern California counties.

"AIAA is pleased to be able to help host California Aerospace Days again this year," said Sandra Magnus, AIAA executive director. "The aerospace industry has its roots in California and remains an important economic sector for the state. California Aerospace Days focuses on highlighting the many achievements of aerospace in the state of California and the importance of its role nationally. The community is excited to have this opportunity to discuss aerospace with lawmakers and encourage their continued support for California's aerospace industry."

The event will also feature a joint hearing on February 29, held by the Assembly Select Committee on Aerospace and the Senate Select Committee on Defense and Aerospace, exploring the challenges and opportunities for women in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Senior female representatives from Aerojet Rocketdyne, The Aerospace Corporation, The Boeing Company, California Polytechnic University – San Louis Obispo, the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Northrop Grumman Aerospace Systems, and Virgin Galactic will participate.

"California has always been on the cutting edge of Aerospace development and innovation," said Senator Jean Fuller (R-Bakersfield). "We have a rich history of being the first in many Aerospace accomplishments and I know our Aerospace companies will continue this leadership," said Senator Fuller. "I'm pleased to join with Assemblymember O'Donnell in celebrating our heritage and future with Aerospace Days at the Capitol."

Separate briefings during the event will focus on the breadth of the aerospace community in California, including how small businesses are transforming the aerospace sector, the challenges faced by aerospace suppliers statewide, and how unmanned aerial vehicles will be integrated into the National Airspace System.

"I am proud to honor the economic and educational role aerospace has played throughout California's history," said Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell (D-Long Beach). "Aerospace Days provide us an opportunity to celebrate those contributions as well as recommit and energize California's ongoing partnership with the industry."

About AIAA

AIAA is the world's largest aerospace professional society, serving a diverse range of more than 30,000 individual members from 88 countries, and 95 corporate members. AIAA members help make the world safer, more connected, more accessible, and more prosperous. For more information, visit www.aiaa.org, or follow us on Twitter @AIAA.

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