

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sierra Nevada Corporation's Space Systems Delivers the Dream Chaser® First Flight Test Vehicle Structure, Completing a Major Milestone for NASA's Commercial Crew Program

Sparks, NV – February 2nd, 2012 –Sierra Nevada Corporation (SNC) Space Systems announces the completion of a major Dream Chaser® milestone under NASA's Commercial Crew Development Round 2 (CCDev2) Program. Successful completion of this milestone required the assembly and delivery of the primary structure of the first Dream Chaser flight test vehicle. SNC has now completed all of its 11 scheduled CCDev milestones on time and on budget.



“SNC is proud to have met its schedule and cost targets in the delivery of our first flight structure as we continue to make preparations for our vehicle's first full-scale flight. The Dream Chaser Program is making great strides towards developing a safe and cost-effective space system that will provide our country with the capability to safely transport crew and critical cargo to and from the International Space Station,” said Mark Sirangelo, head of SNC's Space Systems.

The Dream Chaser Flight Test Vehicle will be used to execute several remaining CCDev2 milestones, including a captive carry flight and the first free flight of the vehicle which is scheduled for the third quarter of this year. Program Director of Flight Operations, Steve Lindsey, joined the Dream Chaser team in 2011 after five Space Shuttle flights and three years as Chief of the Astronaut Office. Lindsey will manage SNC flight operations for the Flight Test Vehicle. Dream Chaser's CCDev2 flight tests will be conducted with the assistance of the NASA Dryden Flight Research Center (DRFC). DRFC, under the direction of David McBride, is located at Edwards Air Force Base in California and serves as NASA's primary center for atmospheric flight research and operations.

“The delivery of the Dream Chaser Flight Test Vehicle illustrates the significant progress our team has made as part of NASA's CCDev Program,” said Jim Voss, SNC's Vice President for Space Exploration Systems. “Our team now includes over a dozen heritage space companies and seven NASA Centers whose combined strength has continued to allow us to exceed the Program's expectations. The composite structure provided by our partner organizations will allow our team to further execute concurrent design and development for the Dream Chaser orbital crew vehicle.”

The all-composite structure was designed by the SNC team and built in conjunction with SNC Dream Chaser team organizations AdamWorks of Centennial, Colo., Applied Composite Technology of Gunnison, Utah, and Scaled Composites of Mojave, Calif. SNC is now assembling the vehicle in the company's Louisville, Colo. facility.

About Sierra Nevada Corporation

[Sierra Nevada Corporation](#) (SNC) is one of America's fastest growing private companies based on its significant expansion and reputation for rapid, innovative, and agile technology solutions in electronics, aerospace, avionics, space, propulsion, micro-satellite, aircraft, communications systems and solar energy. Under the leadership of CEO [Fatih Ozmen](#) and President and CFO [Eren Ozmen](#), SNC employs over 2,100 people in 31 locations in 16 states. SNC's seven unique business areas are dedicated to providing leading-edge solutions to SNC's dynamic customer base.

SNC is also the Top Woman-Owned Federal Contractor in the United States. Over the last 30 years under the Ozmen's leadership, SNC has remained focused on providing its customers the very best in diversified technologies to meet their needs and has a strong and proven track record of success. The company continues to focus its growth on the commercial sector through internal advancements and outside acquisitions, including the emerging markets of renewable energy, telemedicine, nanotechnology, cyber and net-centric operations. For more information on SNC visit www.sncorp.com.

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About Sierra Nevada Corporation's Space Systems

Sierra Nevada Corporation's Space Systems business area headquartered in Louisville, Colorado, designs and manufactures advanced spacecraft, space vehicles, and spacecraft subsystems for commercial and government customers. Space Systems (SS) has more than 20 years heritage in space, successfully delivering over 400 subsystems for 300+ satellite missions. Current key programs include NASA's Commercial Crew Development program where it is developing the Dream Chaser® seven-passenger vehicle to take astronauts to the International Space Station; the ORBCOMM Generation 2 program; the SpaceShip2 program where it is developing a non-toxic "green" rocket engine for Virgin Galactic's suborbital space vehicle to carry tourists to space; and the Modular Space Vehicle program for the Department of Defense's Operationally Responsive Space Office. For more information about SNC's Space Systems visit www.sncspace.com.

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