

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sierra Nevada Corporation Selected Under NASA's Human Space Transportation Program
SNC Dream Chaser™ Space Program to Provide Commercial Crew Capability

Sparks, Nevada – February 15th, 2010 – Sierra Nevada Corporation (SNC) is pleased to announce that it has been selected to begin development of commercial crew transportation system to and from low earth orbit as part of NASA's Commercial Crew Development (CCDev) initiative and competition. It is part of an innovative effort by NASA to foster entrepreneurial activity leading to high tech growth in engineering, analysis, design and research and to promote economic growth.



“The President has asked NASA to partner with the aerospace industry in a fundamentally new way, making commercially provided services the primary mode of astronaut transportation to the International Space Station” said NASA Administrator Charles Bolden in his official statement on the program. “We are pleased to be able to quickly move forward to advance this exciting plan for NASA.”

This agreement builds on SNC's long standing relationship with NASA which has been developed as a result of two years effort under a previous unfunded Space Act Agreement for the Dream Chaser system as well as multiple other NASA major space programs. The Dream Chaser vehicle has a previous NASA heritage, expects to launch on an existing United Launch Alliance system and will have on-board propulsion utilizing SNC's space qualified hybrid motor technology. It is a piloted space solution which launches vertically and lands horizontally and will be able to carry a crew of six and critical cargo to the ISS and other LEO destinations. This combination of space heritage and proven technology will enable SNC's unique space transportation system to effectively and reliably carry crew and cargo to low earth orbit. SNC expects to work in full cooperation with NASA to ensure the highest degree of safety on all aspects of the program and on each mission.

“We are excited about NASA's selection of SNC and its support for additional development and potential utilization of SNC's unique Dream Chaser transportation system.” said Mark Sirangelo, SNC's Corporate Vice President in charge of SNC's Space Systems Group. “We understand the challenge in front of us and believe that by working closely and have a continuous interchange with NASA we will be able to help accelerate the creation of new jobs and our ability to meet our country and industry's near and long term needs for space transport.”

SNC Space Systems was formed through the merger of three heritage space companies and has 20 years of space flight experience having participated successfully in over 300 space missions. In addition, SNC in its other business operations has significant experience in major aerospace development programs including the modification and fielding of over 200 high performance aircraft for the U.S. Government.

Dream Chaser on FoxNews.com:

<http://www.foxnews.com/slideshow/scitech/2010/02/01/build-nasas-space-taxis?slide=1>

About Sierra Nevada Corporation

Sierra Nevada Corporation (SNC) is known for its rapid, innovative, and agile technology solutions in electronics, aerospace, avionics, space, propulsion, micro-satellite, aircraft and communications systems for both the private and public sectors. Founded in 1963, SNC's seven unique business areas employs approximately 2000 people in 35 different locations in 20 states – all of whom are dedicated to providing leading-edge solutions to SNC's dynamic customer base.

Over its 46 year history, 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. SNC has grown into one of the Top Woman-Owned Federal Contractors in the United States while maintaining its reputation for innovation and agility. The company continues to focus its growth on the commercial sector through internal advancements and outside acquisitions, including the emerging markets of telemedicine, nanotechnology, energy and net-centric operations. For more information on SNC visit www.sncorp.com

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