

NASA EPSCoR Suborbital Flight Opportunity

A New Partnership with NASA's Flight Opportunities Program

Jeppie Compton - EPSCoR

Alexander van Dijk - Flight Opportunities

Image credit: Virgin Galactic



NASA EPSCoR Suborbital Flight Opportunity

- A new partnership between EPSCoR and NASA's Flight Opportunities Program to enable suborbital flight opportunities for the EPSCoR community



Brock LeMeres (Montana State)



Carlos Cabrera (University of Puerto Rico)



Andrei Zagrai (New Mexico State)



Flight Opportunities Program

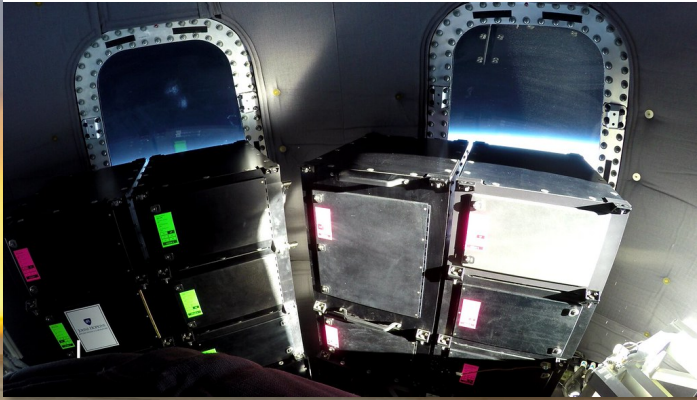
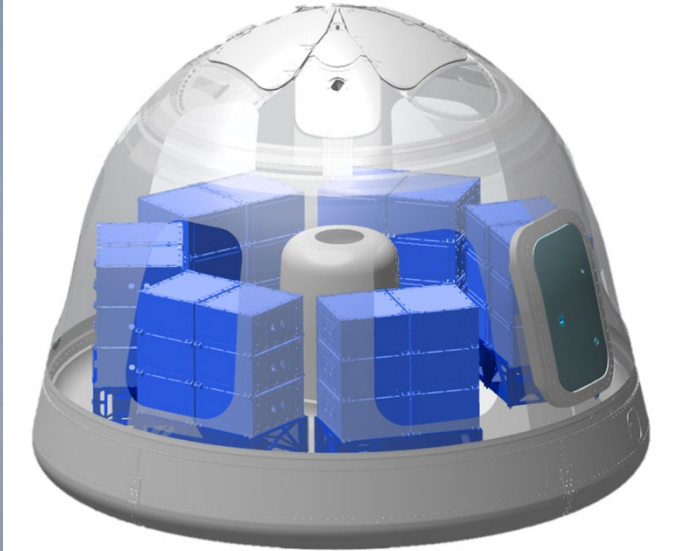
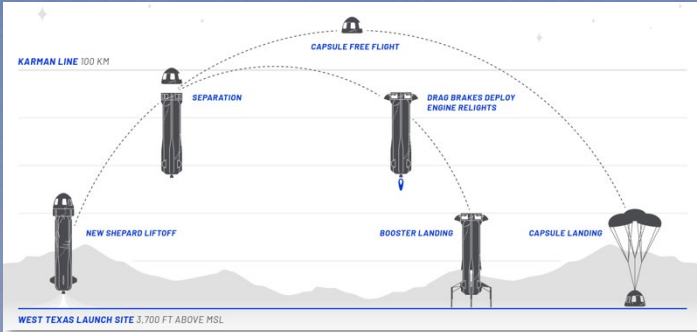
- \$25M program
- Part of NASA's Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD)
- Objective: to rapidly flight test promising technologies for space exploration, scientific discovery, and the expansion of space commerce in relevant (suborbital) space-like environments using currently available U.S. commercial vehicles.

Currently available U.S. commercial vehicles*

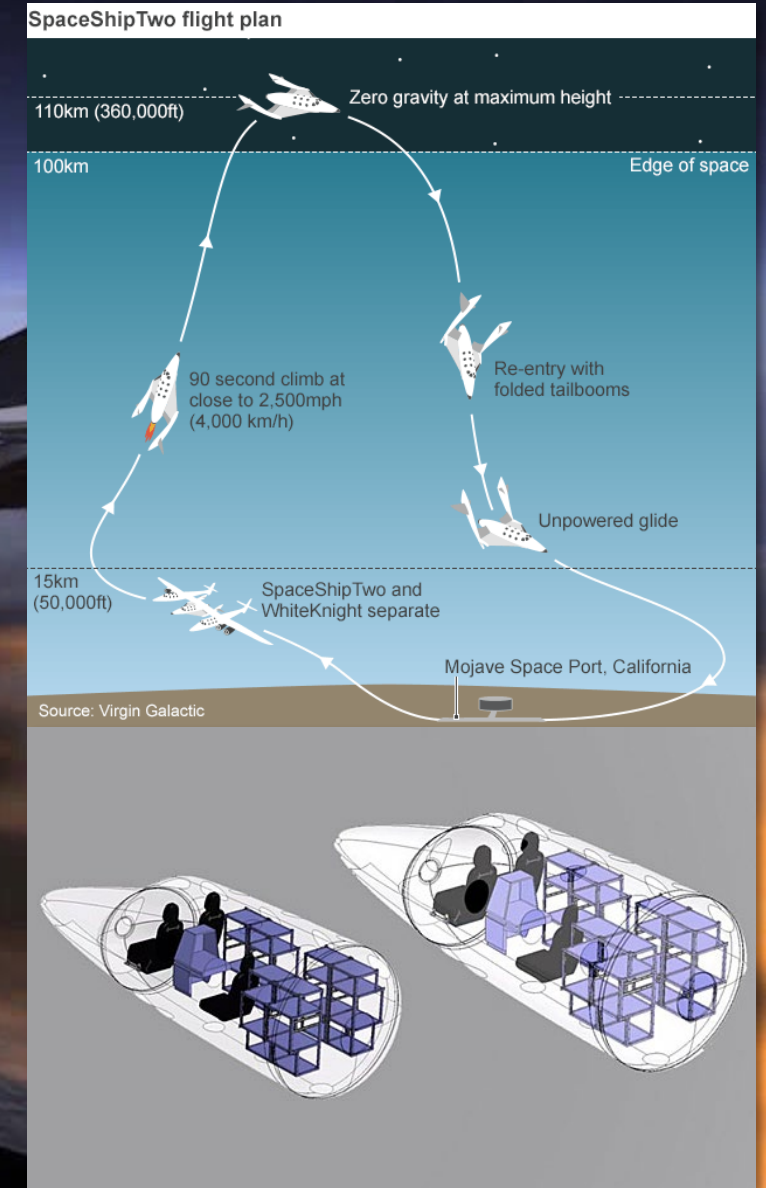
- Suborbital rockets
 - Blue Origin, Exos Aerospace, UP Aerospace, Virgin Galactic
- Rocket-powered lander vehicles
 - Masten Space
- High-altitude balloons
 - Angstrom, BlackSky, NSC, Raven, Stratodynamics, World View
- Aircraft following reduced-gravity flight profiles
 - Zero Gravity Corporation

* Non-exclusive list

Blue Origin



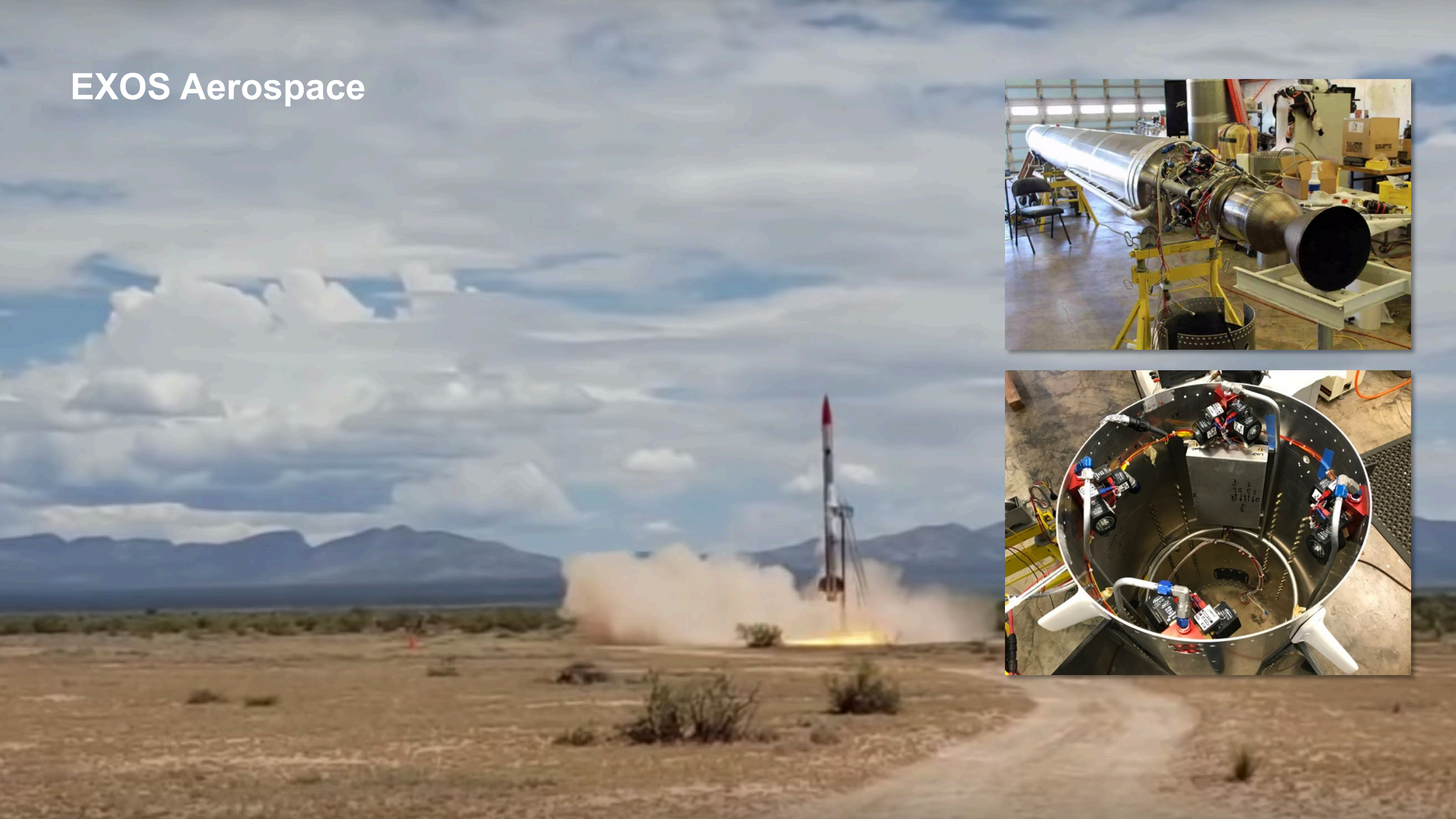
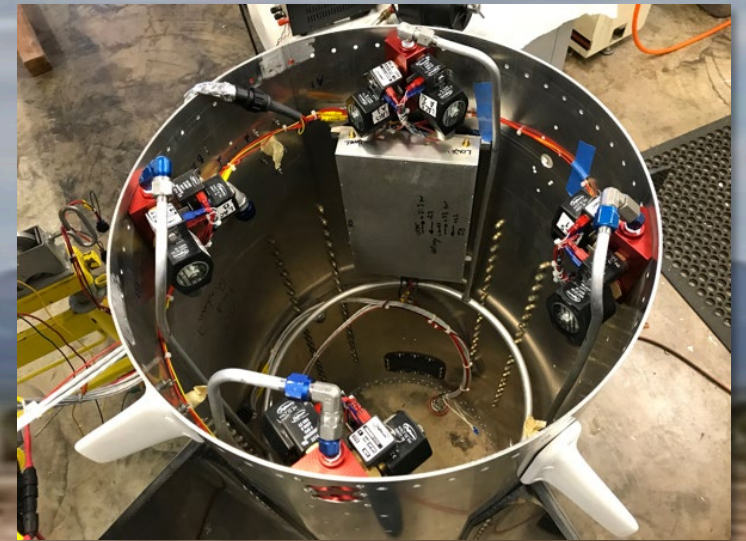
Virgin Galactic



UP Aerospace



EXOS Aerospace



Masten Space Systems



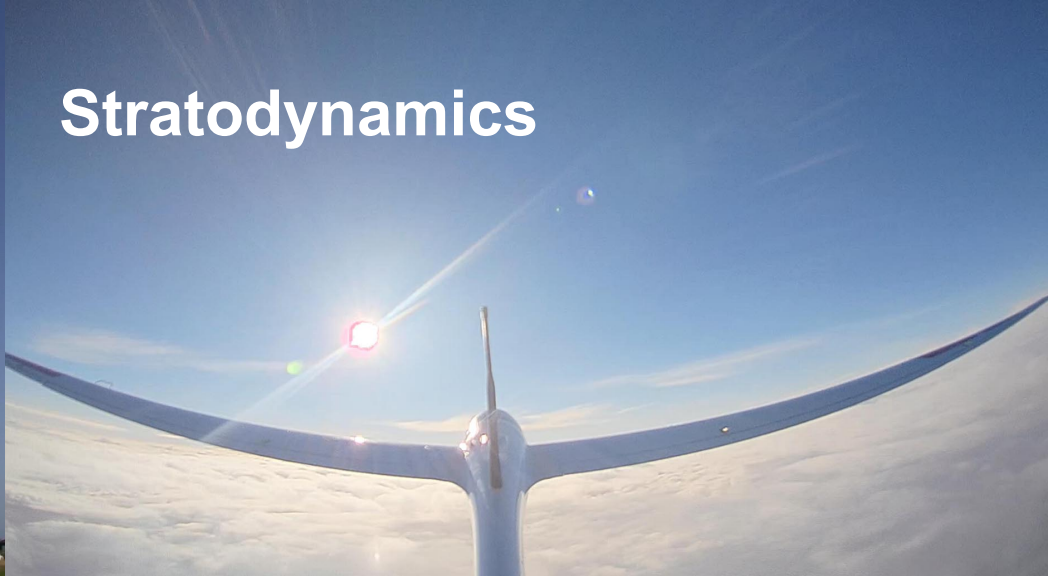
BlackSky Aerospace



NSC



Stratodynamics



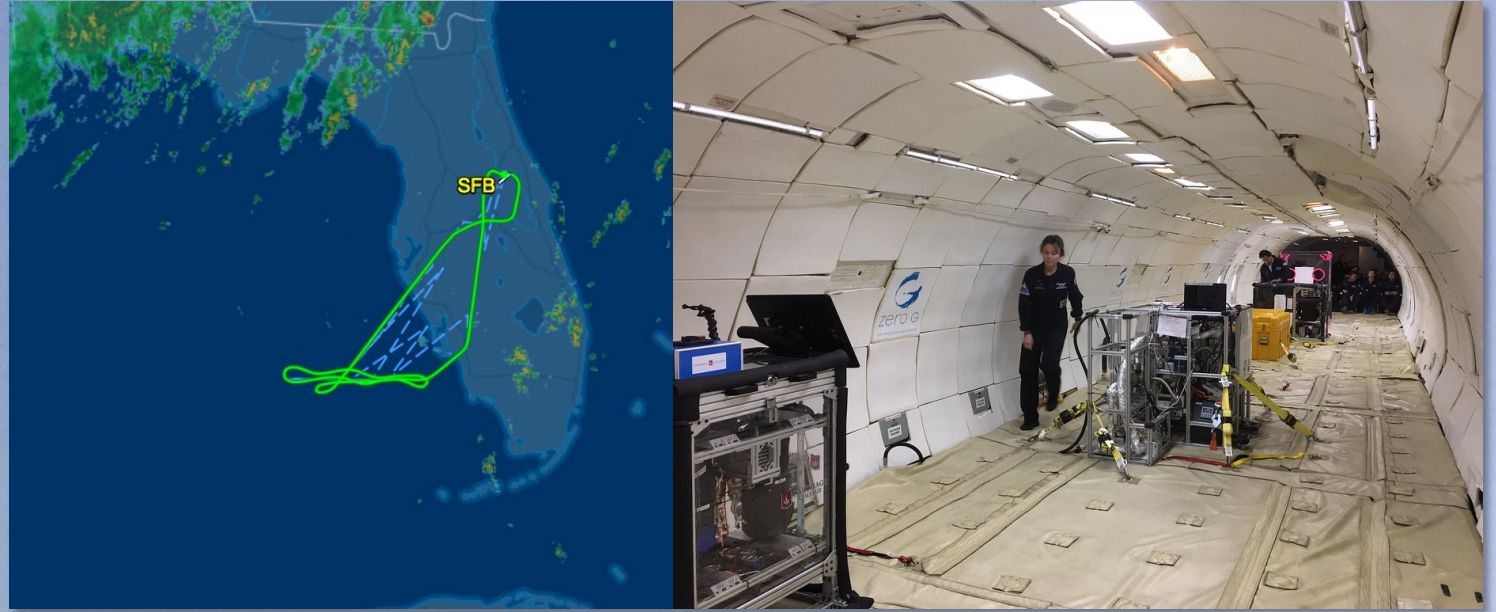
Raven Aerostar



World View



Zero Gravity Corporation



How Does It work?

- Modeled after existing EPSCoR ISS Flight Opportunity
- Pilot in FY2021: Amendment to ISS Flight Opportunity solicitation
- All Jurisdictions eligible to propose to Amendment
- EPSCoR funds \$100K development funds
- Flight Opportunities funds commercial suborbital flight(s)
 - At FO program discretion whether to buy flight for PI or provide funding to PI to buy flight from flight provider
- Expecting 2-3 awards in FY2021 (depending on available funds)

What are we looking for?

- Pilot: casting wide net, objective to support work performed under EPSCoR solicitations (Research CAN, R3 awards, ISS Flight Opportunity)
- Flight Opportunities Program mostly targets technology maturation given its STMD origin, but we also allow science, especially where relevant for technology development
- Suborbital flight testing is often a stepping stone

Key Dates

- **November 16:** Suborbital FO Amendment Released
- **February 15:** Proposals due
- Feb-March: Online Review
- April: Mission Directorate Panel Review
- May: Award Notification

For questions:

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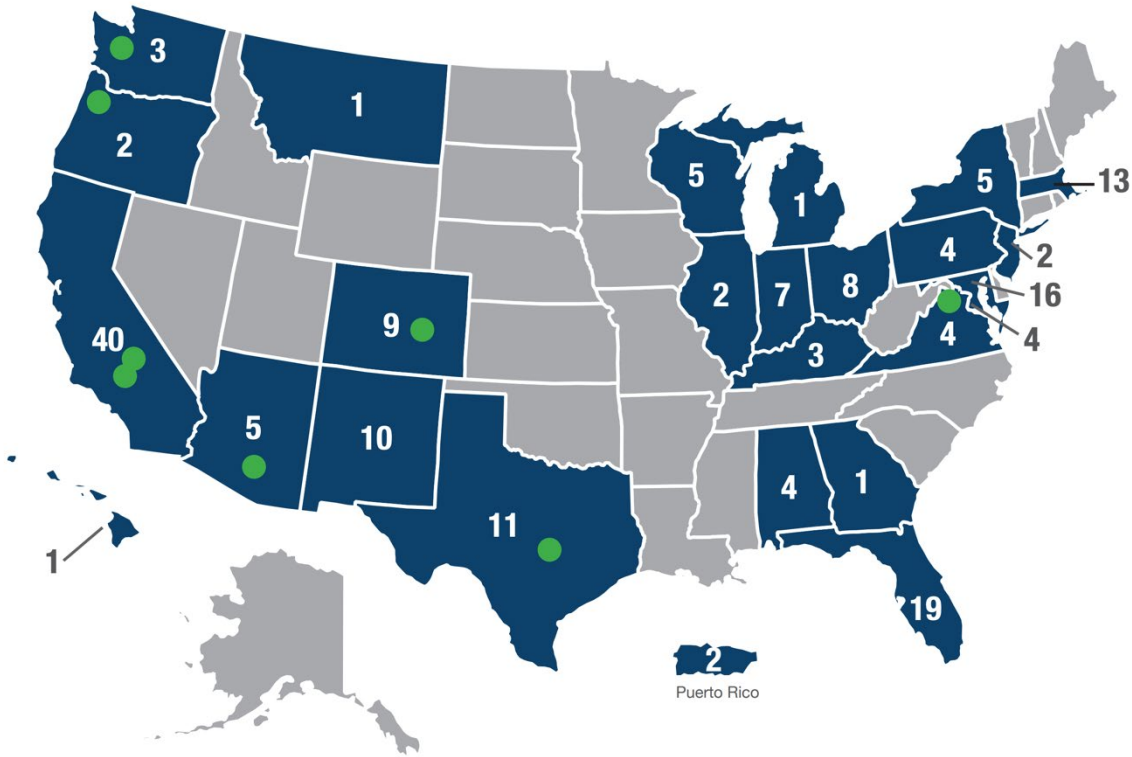
www.nasa.gov/flightopportunities

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/nasafo/albums>

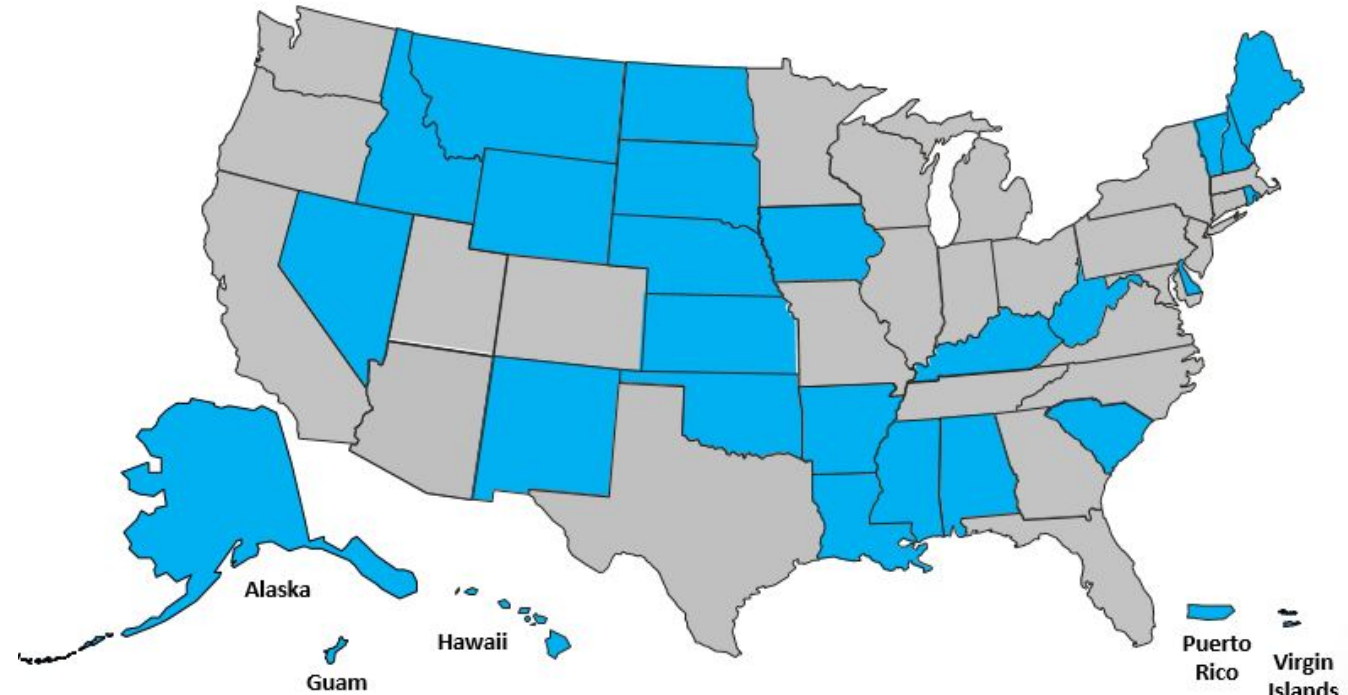
Thank you.

Backup

FO Awards vs 28 EPSCoR Jurisdictions



of FO Awards by State
(2017 Annual Report)



28 EPSCoR Jurisdictions