

# M SP Newsletter

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## NTPS EASA Certified

The National Test Pilot School (NTPS) is pleased to announce that the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) Certified NTPS as a Part-ORA Approved Training Organisation (ATO) for Part-FCL Flight Test Training. This means that NTPS is the first (and for the current time the only) Test Pilot School in the world to be certified by EASA to provide Flight Test Ratings.

### Upcoming Events:

<i>Independence Day</i>	7/4
<i>Board Meeting</i>	7/5
<i>Senator Fuller's Office Hours</i>	7/17
<i>Plane Crazy Saturday</i>	7/16
<i>Board Meeting</i>	7/19
<i>Congressman McCarthy Office Hours</i>	7/28

## A Glimpse Inside the Stratolaunch Hangar

It is a very rare occasion that airport tenants will invite reporters inside their hangars to take pictures and see the progress of a vehicle. However, that is exactly what Vulcan Aerospace did just this past month. Multiple media representatives had the opportunity to step inside the Stratolaunch Hangar, the largest hangar at Mojave Air & Space Port, to learn more about what is happening inside.

Inside the specially built hangar is the world's largest airplane—by wingspan at least. At about 385 feet (117 meters), you could set the aircraft on a football field and the wings would go past the goal

posts on both sides. Final weight, including fuel and payload will likely be around 1.3 million pounds. This giant aircraft will be flown by a crew of only three, pilot, co-pilot, and flight engineer.

Nicknamed Roc by Scaled Composites, after the mythical bird, it is intended to be launch platform. It has a design similar to that of White Knight 2, the SpaceShip 2 mother-ship. It has a large wing, twin fuselages, and will be powered by 6 jet engines taken from two Boeing 747s. They tried to reuse as much of those two 747s as possible, including a cockpit and landing gear. How-

ever much of the airplane is being newly built by Scaled Composites. In fact, Burt Rutan, founder of Scaled Composites helped design the Stratolaunch aircraft.

While many questions were answered during the tour, some of the biggest questions still remain unanswered. They have not yet announced what kind of launch vehicles Stratolaunch will be launching, nor have they announced any sort of a timeline. Though company officials did say that the aircraft is about 3/4 complete.

## Photo of the Month



Photo by:  
Chris Garner  
Photography

# MOJAVE

AIR AND SPACE PORT



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*"There isn't a flight goes by when I don't stare out and thank my lucky stars for what I'm seeing and feeling."*

*-Sir Richard Branson*

## Dick Rutan Wins Endeavor Inspiration Award

The Endeavor Awards were created to honor volunteer pilots and those who use their flight talents to support people in need. The recipient of the 2016 Endeavor Inspiration Award was former President of the Board, and Scaled Composites co-founder, Dick Rutan. Most famous for piloting the Voyager in 1986, Dick has completed many other record setting flights. As a test pilot for the United States Air Force, Dick was awarded the Silver Star, 5 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 16 Air Medals, and the Purple Heart. In 2002 He was inducted into the Aviation Hall of Fame. Mr. Rutan has certainly been an inspiration to us all here in Mojave, and we congratulate him on his newest award.



Tragically, on June 20, 2016, seven year old Mojave resident Damariz Villanueva lost her life as the result of a traffic collision. Mojave residents have joined together to coordinate a fund raising car wash to help the family in their time of need.

WHEN: Saturday July 2, 2016, 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. WHERE: Shell Gas Station, 16048 Sierra Highway, Mojave CA

## 4th Annual Flight Test Camp A Success

The 4th annual National Test Pilot School Flight Test Camp has come to a close and was once again a success. Hosted by the National Test Pilot School, this is a wonderful opportunity for local high school students to spend some time at Mojave Air & Space Port learning about flight test and other similar careers available to them. The experience includes Merlin Flights with data collection, data analysis, flight briefs, simulator flights, lectures and tours. This year Orbital ATK, Masten Space Systems, Scaled Composites, The SpaceShip Company, and the Mojave Air & Space Port Fire Department and Control Tower all once again opened their doors to the students. The 18 students ranged in age from 15-18 years and have high career aspirations including test pilots, doctors, and engineers.

