

## **SpaceCAD rocket design software selected for the Team America Rocket Challenge (TARC)**



*Stuttgart, Germany and Washington D.C., September 2, 2004* – **Model rocket design software SpaceCAD has been selected official software for world's largest rocket contest, the Team America Challenge TARC. Sponsored by AIA and the National Association of Rocketry, the Challenge is the world's largest model rocket contest for middle and high school students, with more than 16,000 students participating in the 2003 and 2004 competitions.**

"SpaceCAD is the best choice for teams in the rocket challenge that want to win" says Andreas Firnau, founder of SpaceCAD.com. "With its ease of use and its vast set of options, SpaceCAD is a perfect fit". Special features have been added to support this year's challenge, like the parachute designer. "The parachute designer supports all types of parachute deployment – timer based, height based. It supports two parachutes, so that you can have a small drogue chute that opens after apogee and a large one that opens close to the ground. This reduces the risk of losing your rocket because of drift while still providing safe landing conditions". SpaceCAD also computes the time it takes the rocket to land with the selected parachute configuration.

TARC teams also benefit from special pricing offers. The TARC edition of SpaceCAD, that includes all features plus the parachute designer, is offered for only US\$35, including shipping (versus US\$59 for the non-discounted version). Members have to present their credentials to be eligible for this specially discounted version.

The parachute designer is also available for current SpaceCAD users, for an upgrade price of US\$10.

### **More information**

TARC home page: <http://www.rocketcontest.org/>  
SpaceCAD home page: <http://www.spacecad.com/>

### **About the Team America Rocket Challenge**

The contest requires that teams be made up of three to fifteen students currently enrolled in grades 7 through 12 in a U.S. school. Teams will be composed of students at the same middle school or high school, or members of the same chapter or unit of a U.S. incorporated non-profit youth organization (excluding the National Association of Rocketry, Tripoli Rocketry Association, or any other rocket club or organization). In

addition, teams will be supervised by a teacher approved by the principal of their school or by an officially-appointed adult leader of their youth organization. Each student member will be required to make a significant contribution to the designing, building, or launching of the team's entry and no part may be done by an adult, by a company or by any person not a student on that team. Supervising teachers may supervise more than one team.

Only the first 1,250 teams that submit a completed application package postmarked on or before November 30, 2004, will be allowed to compete in this year's event. The finals for the contest will be on May 21, 2005, at The Plains, Virginia. For more information, and to sign up to be notified about when the rules and application will be posted, please visit [www.rocketcontest.org](http://www.rocketcontest.org).

#### **About SpaceCAD (<http://www.spacecad.com>)**

SpaceCAD is the fastest growing model rocket software for model rocketeers that want to design or modify their own model rockets on their PC. SpaceCAD is an intuitive model rocket design suite that provides features like stability and flight prediction in one seamless package. SpaceCAD delights users who are dissatisfied with difficult software that requires hours of effort to learn.

Unlike other model rocket software, SpaceCAD also focuses on supporting the actual building of model rockets by providing extensive pattern printout options and has an extensive database of modelling materials that can be customized and extended. And there is a library of great SpaceCAD user's designs on their web site!

SpaceCAD calculates the stability of model rockets by automatically determining the Centre of Gravity and the Centre of Pressure of model rockets, and instantly graphs a flight prediction for acceleration, speed and altitude. SpaceCAD can even design and analyse model rockets with multiple stages. It gives recommendations on rod length, parachute size and best delay times for any model rocket. SpaceCAD automatically checks for updates online - without sending personal information.