



**ROCKET RACING LEAGUE®**  
**COMPANY BACKGROUNDER**

Founded in 2005 by two-time Indianapolis 500 champion team owner Granger Whitelaw and aerospace pioneer and X PRIZE Foundation founder Dr. Peter Diamandis, the Rocket Racing League® ([www.rocketracingleague.com](http://www.rocketracingleague.com)) is the only entertainment sports league that combines the exhilaration of racing with the power of rocket engines, fully satisfying our universal love for power and flight through the thrill of Rocket Racers®.

### **Rocket Racing League® – The Rocket Racers®**

Rocket Racer® is the name of the race vehicles being developed to compete in the Rocket Racing League®.

The RRL™ and its technology partners flew and retired a pre-cursor vehicle called the “EZ-Rocket.” The EZ-Rocket utilized a modified Long-EZ aircraft frame and two, four hundred pound liquid oxygen (LOX) and alcohol engines.

The next generation of race vehicle, called the Rocket Racer®, is currently under development and began test flights in the fall of 2007. This vehicle will utilize a Velocity ([www.velocityaircraft.com](http://www.velocityaircraft.com)) airframe and a single 1,500-2,000 pound thrust liquid oxygen and kerosene rocket engine that emits a 10-15 foot-long flame and roar heard and felt for miles around.

Rocket Racer® vehicles are scheduled to compete in exhibition races is 2008, with as many as 10 Rocket Racer® vehicles competing in an official Rocket Racing League® season by 2010. The RRL™ will take every safety precaution in the design of all Rocket Racer® aircraft to enhance the safety of pilots, their planes, and the viewing audience.

### **Rocket Racing League® – The Races**

To be held at venues across the country, the Rocket Racing League® will feature multiple races pitting up to 10 Rocket Racers® going head to head in a 4-lap, multiple elimination heat format on a 5-mile “Formula One”-like closed circuit raceway in the sky. The Rocket Racer® pilots see the “raceway in the sky” via in-panel and 3D helmet displays. For the hundreds of thousands of fans in attendance, they will witness the racing action live and in real-time display on multiple large projection screens. For the millions of fans watching on televisions and PCs at home, they will experience the thrill of the Rocket Racing League® via unique remote and rocket-mounted cameras that give at-home fans the sensation of riding right alongside famed League pilots.

### **Rocket Racing League® – The Pilots**

Capable of accelerating from zero to full-throttle in a split second, the Rocket Racers® will be piloted by world-renowned aviators including retired NASA Astronaut **Rick Searfoss**, aerobatic pilot **Sean Tucker**, Len Fox, and Jim Bridenstine, among others.

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## Rocket Racing League® - The Teams

Six teams are currently registered to compete in the Rocket Racing League's® Inaugural Season. The teams include **Thunderhawk Rocket Racing**, **Santa Fe Racing**, **Bridenstine Rocket Racing**, **Rocket Star Racing**, **Team Extreme Rocket Racing** and Canada-based **Beyond Gravity Rocket Racing**.

## Rocket Racing League® – Management

### Granger B. Whitelaw, Co-founder, President & CEO

Granger Whitelaw serves as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Rocket Racing League®, overseeing the league's management, operations, partnerships and corporate affairs. Mr. Whitelaw is the Founding Partner and Managing Director of BlueCar Partners, LLC, a global venture-consulting firm that provides capital, strategic consulting and business development services to promote the growth and success of innovative companies. Over the past 15 years, Mr. Whitelaw has led the firm in the launch and expansion of more than 20 companies, including the AMBER Development Group which supports the next-generation of the Amber Alert system, International Fuel Technology, a fuel science and research company, GPS Industries, creator of GPS-related sporting equipment, Kalorama Studios, a major motion picture and event site in Washington, D.C., TrendSphere, a think tank and consultancy for Fortune 500 Chief Technology Officers, and Vemics, creator of breakthrough collaboration technologies. Previously, Mr. Whitelaw served as Vice President of Mergers & Acquisitions at Grady & Hatch.

### Dr. Peter H. Diamandis, Co-founder and Chairman

A pioneer and leader in the commercial space arena, Dr. Peter H. Diamandis created many of the leading commercial space companies; opening the personal spaceflight industry. Dr. Diamandis is the Chairman and CEO of the X PRIZE Foundation ([www.xprize.org](http://www.xprize.org)), which awarded the \$10,000,000 Ansari X PRIZE ([www.xprize.org](http://www.xprize.org)) for private spaceflight and is now implementing prizes in a variety of different arenas. He is the Chairman & Co-Founder of the Rocket Racing League®. Diamandis also serves as the CEO of Zero Gravity Corporation ([www.nogravity.com](http://www.nogravity.com)) a commercial space company developing private, FAA-certified parabolic flight utilizing Boeing 727-200 aircraft. Diamandis is a co-founder of Space Adventures, Inc. ([www.spaceadventures.com](http://www.spaceadventures.com)), the company that brokered Anousheh Ansari, Dennis Tito and Mark Shuttleworth's flight to the International Space Station.

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