



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Australian Space Beer successfully tested on parabolic flight

Cape Canaveral, Florida, 26 Feb 2011— Vostok “4 Pines Stout” Space Beer, the epic Australian Stout derived brew designed for drinking in space, successfully completed its first of several qualifying flight trials. The experiment marks the start of humanity’s first formal study on alcohol absorption in microgravity and provided our first look at the challenges of drinking a beer in space.

Vostok “4 Pines Stout” Space Beer, produced jointly by 4 Pines Brewing Company and Saber Astronautics Australia, is a recipe designed to be consumed in low gravity while its parent beer the Vostok “4 Pines Stout” is still tasty here on Earth. The Space Beer is to meet expected demand from the soon to launch space tourism market, which will have thousands of passengers booked on suborbital flights starting in 2012. While there are rumors of astronauts having an occasional tippie, NASA currently forbids drinking in space—so formal studies on the effects of alcohol in space were never done.

The flight experiment "stress test" was completed today on Zero Gravity Corporation's (ZERO-G) modified 727 aircraft flying in parabolic arcs to provide repeated sets of 30-second of 0-g time. On each arc, the test subject was required to quickly drink a sample of beer while experiencing the full range from nearly twice Earth gravity (1.8g) down to zero. Equivalent to “shaking the beer inside the drinker”, the test was designed to exceed the normal conditions that a person in space would experience, in order to agitate the carbonation.

A microgravity expert from the non-profit organization Astronauts4Hire (A4H) provided the test subject. The tester, who also works part-time as an in-flight coach for ZERO-G, had over 300 parabolas in microgravity. The tester consumed nearly 1-litre of the beer during weightless portions of the flight, while recording basic biometric data to track effects of the experiment. Qualities of the beer were also recorded as a snapshot of the test subject’s response and compared with baselines measured during conventional taste tests which occurred last month.

The researcher completed all six samples of beer and preliminary results show minimal effect from carbonation. While this shows that the current recipe is viable for drinking in space, additional experiments are being planned to further understand factors related to alcohol absorption and other microgravity effects to the human body.

Vostok “4 Pines Stout” is available today to the general public to drink on Earth as an Australian craft beer www.4pinesbeer.com.au/beers/stout



4 Pines Brewing Company is a microbrewery located in Manly, a beachside suburb of Sydney, Australia. They have made a name for themselves for their first-class handcrafted beer, which has won national and international awards for its purity and impressive flavour profiles. For more information, please visit www.4pinesbeer.com.au or contact Jaron Mitchell at jaron@4pinesbeer.com.au or +61 405 637 644. More information about Vostok Space Beer is available at www.vostokspacebeer.com.



Saber Astronautics is an engineering company researching logistics and operations solutions for the space industry. They are also actively involved in bringing their passion for space to the public community. For more information, please visit www.saberastro.com.



Astronauts for Hire, Inc. is a non-profit corporation poised to blaze new trails in the commercial spaceflight industry. Its members are available for hire by researchers to conduct experiments on microgravity and suborbital flights. As the gateway to commercial human spaceflight, Astronauts4Hire serves as the matchmaker among the suborbital research community, training providers, and spaceflight operators. For more information, please visit www.Astronauts4Hire.org

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