

NEWSPACE MARKET · COMPANY PROFILE



UP Aerospace

United States · founded 1998 · upaerospace.com

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as of 27 August 2026

UP Aerospace

UP Aerospace Inc. is a privately held suborbital launch and flight test services company founded in 1998 by Jerry Larson, a former Lockheed Martin aerospace engineer, and formally incorporated in 2004. Headquartered in Denver, Colorado, the company built its reputation on providing low-cost, rapid-turnaround access to space for research, technology demonstration, and educational payloads, positioning itself as an alternative to larger, more expensive orbital launch providers for customers who only need a brief window of microgravity or a hypersonic flight environment. UP Aerospace conducts its launch operations from Spaceport America in New Mexico, where it became one of the facility's founding tenants. Its first launch attempt, a SpaceLoft XL sounding rocket flown on September 25, 2006, ended in failure, but the company achieved a widely publicized success in 2007 when it launched the cremated remains of Star Trek actor James Doohan and Mercury astronaut Gordon Cooper on a successful suborbital flight — the first successful launch from Spaceport America. Since then, UP Aerospace has completed more than twenty missions, working with customers including NASA's Flight Opportunities Program, Los Alamos National Laboratory, and various university and commercial research groups, while using White Sands Missile Range for downrange payload recovery. The company's flagship product is the SpaceLoft XL sounding rocket, a solid-fuel, single-stage suborbital vehicle capable of carrying payloads of roughly 36 kg (79 lb) to altitudes around 120–225 km, providing several minutes of microgravity time before a parachute-assisted, on-land payload recovery. The vehicle has flown for nearly two decades and remains one of the most flight-proven commercial sounding rockets operating from U

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SERVICES

Services

Flight Test Service

UP Aerospace provides flight test services, including the launch and recovery of rockets for testing advanced technologies and components.

In-flight Telemetry Transmission

UP Aerospace provides in-flight telemetry transmission for monitoring payload performance and functionality during missions.

Payload Recovery

UP Aerospace provides payload recovery services, ensuring the retrieval and return of customer payloads after missions.

Separation and Deployment Missions

UP Aerospace specializes in separation and deployment missions, where payloads are released and deployed from launch vehicles during flight.

Space Launch Services

UP Aerospace provides space launch services, specializing in advanced engineering, launch technology development, and rapid, low-cost launch operations.

Product catalogue



UP AEROSPACE

SpaceLoft

The SpaceLoft is an in-house developed and proven launch platform providing access to the space environment with demonstrated micro-gravity times in excess of 3 minutes.

price on request



UP AEROSPACE

SpaceLoft XL

Flight-proven solid-fuel suborbital sounding rocket providing low-cost microgravity and hypersonic test flights from Spaceport America.

Payload capacity	36 kg (79 lb)
Altitude	120–225 km
Stages	1 (solid-fuel)
Microgravity duration	Up to 5 minutes
First flight	25 September 2006
Launch site	Spaceport America, New Mexico
Recovery	Parachute, on-land recovery via White Sands Missile Range

price on request



UP AEROSPACE

Spyder Sub-Orbital Vehicle

High-performance single-stage suborbital rocket capable of Mach 10+ speeds and 400 km altitude, developed with NASA support.

Diameter	17.25 in
Max speed	Mach 10+
Max altitude	400 km
Stages	1
First flight	June 2025
Launch site	Spaceport America, New Mexico

price on request

Contact UP Aerospace

Open the company profile on NewSpace Market to see full specifications and datasheets, and to send a request for quotation that reaches the manufacturer directly.

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