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**July 14, 2005**

## **Media Advisory**

### **Solar Car Challenge Video Available Via Satellite Uplinks**

**What:** The North American Solar Challenge (NASC): at 2,500-miles, is the longest solar car competition in the world and it will travel from Austin, Texas to Calgary, Alberta, July 17-27. The North American Solar Challenge is an educational event in which college teams compete to build and drive solar-powered cars across the country. The car with the fastest cumulative time will win the competition. NASC cars must be powered solely by sunshine. The competitors use photovoltaic (solar) cells to convert sunlight into electricity to power their cars. Weather and energy management play important roles in the event. The cars mostly travel at highway speeds and are required to obey local speed limits, but in general the sunnier the day, the faster and farther the cars can run. Bright days also allow the cars to “fill up” their batteries for cloudy or rainy days.

**When:** The competition runs July 17-27. It begins at 9 a.m. MST, Sunday July 17 at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, 1800 N. Congress Avenue, in Austin, Texas. The finish will be at approximately 11 a.m. MST, Wednesday, July 27, in Calgary, Alberta.

**Video Uplinks:** Video of the competition will be available via satellite at the following time.

**Sunday, July 17**

Time: 1430 - 1445 EDT (1:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. CDT)

KU BAND SBS6 / transponder 2 full

Audio: 6.2 & 6.8, downlink frequency: 11749.5 MHz Vertical

(Editor's Note: Daily challenge results, team information and photos will be posted on the Internet at <http://americansolarchallenge.org/index.html>.)

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**The contest is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Natural Resources Canada, DOE's National Renewable Energy Laboratory, TransAlta, University of Calgary, CSI Wireless, AMD and Manitoba Transportation and Government Services.**

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