

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Wednesday, March 26, 2008

For More Information Contact:  
Wil Simon, CSA Media Consultant  
(805) 358-7038  
[wilsimonmedia@gmail.com](mailto:wilsimonmedia@gmail.com)



## **21<sup>st</sup> Century Challenges Facing Aerospace Suppliers Captured in “Suppliers Innovation Initiative” Brochure Gives Snapshot of Supplier Industry to Insiders and Outsiders**

Los Angeles, CA – The California Space Authority (CSA) released a new brochure today intended to capture the 21<sup>st</sup> Century requirements, challenges, successes and resources facing aerospace suppliers.

“This brochure is designed to be colorful, readable, and to provide relevant information for suppliers,” explains Judy Turner, CSA Program and Partnerships Director, “but also for those outside the industry in government, business and media who may not realize the serious ramifications of the U.S. falling behind in space enterprise and development.”

“We are eager to use this brochure,” says Andrea Seastrand, CSA Executive Director. “We wanted a portable tool that would easily explain the state of the aerospace supplier world to interested parties inside and outside the industry. The result is a brochure that identifies the requirements, challenges, successes, and resources facing suppliers today from the information gleaned from comments and reports at last year’s Suppliers Transformation Annual Forum.”

The 2007 forum was co-hosted by CSA and Raytheon and supported through the U.S. Department of Labor’s Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development (WIRED) grant. The one-day event drew more than 200 attendees with more than 100 being aerospace suppliers. The idea for the event germinated as a project idea within the California Innovation Corridor—a WIRED network of more than 60-plus statewide organizations involved in 25 projects directed toward creating innovation in workplace methods, products, skills, and ideas. The nonexclusive forum, allowed any supplier to attend, and integrated suppliers into the planning of the forum agenda dealing with challenges and solutions facing major aerospace manufacturers and their relationships with subcontracting companies in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

“Fifty percent of aerospace suppliers are in California,” adds Christine Purcell, CSA Manager, Industry Workforce and Manufacturing Development. “Our goal in this brochure was to characterize the supply base and identify common requirements and resources. We are trying to help suppliers be globally competitive which is critical for national and economic security.”

Turner adds, “Our hope is that this brochure will remind organizations and businesses to join CSA’s collaborative and innovative network—the California Innovation Corridor—that serves to invigorate workforce operations, motivate industry professionals, and legislate changes that enable suppliers to be highly competitive in the world marketplace.”

The Supplier Innovation Initiative brochure has a resource section that identifies more than a dozen different organizations that serve supplier interests and cites the California Innovation Corridor home website at [www.innovatecalifornia.net](http://www.innovatecalifornia.net), which provides a more exhaustive list of available resources.

Ideas and information, drawn extensively from last year’s forum, came from numerous participating organizations such as the California Innovation Corridor, Raytheon, California Space Authority, CMTC,

*California Space Authority is a nonprofit organization supporting California’s commercial, civil and national security space stakeholders. Governed by a statewide board of directors, CSA works closely with the State of California, industry, other government, education, workforce entities and academia to support space enterprise development and expansion statewide.*

ACE Clearwater Enterprises, California Community Colleges CACT, ETP, Society of Manufacturing Engineers, Northrop Grumman, Antelope Valley College, The Aerospace Corporation, USC Viterbi School of Engineering, Qual-Pro, Cal-State LA, Lockheed Martin, The Boeing Company, Labor & Workforce Development Agency, Aerojet, and Santa Ana Chamber of Commerce.

The next supplier's forum is scheduled to take place in Los Angeles later this year.

###