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MEDIA ALERT

August 1, 2008

California Space Authority
Contact: Eric A. Daniels
916-551-1543

eric.daniels@californiaspaceauthority.org



**VIEW REGOLITH CHALLENGE VIA WEBCAM
Cal Poly Ensures All Can Watch**

San Luis Obispo – The 2008 Regolith Excavation Challenge is an effort to advance technologies. It's no surprise, then, that those who wish to view the contest as it plays out may do so in real-time from the comfort of their own personal computers via a webcam being made possible by California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo (Cal Poly).

To watch, key in: http://www.facilities.calpoly.edu/campusprojects/EngIV_Web_Cam.htm

The 2008 Regolith Excavation Challenge is a national prize competition under NASA Centennial Challenges to promote the development of new technologies that can excavate lunar regolith. Excavation is a necessary first step towards lunar resource utilization, and the unique physical properties of lunar regolith make excavation a difficult task. Advances in lunar regolith excavation have the potential to contribute significantly to the nation's space exploration operations.

The competition begins on Saturday, August 2, 2008 at 7:30 am and will continue throughout the day until 7:00 pm and then resume again on Sunday, August 3 at 7:00 am.

The California Space Authority (CSA) and its sister organization, the California Space Education and Workforce Institute (CSEWI) are organizing the event at Cal Poly.

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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.



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