

New Mexico to be site of spaceport

December 13 2005

Officials from the London-based Virgin Galactic and New Mexico say they've signed an agreement to build a \$200 million spaceport.

Virgin Galactic agreed to locate its world headquarters and mission control facility at a 27-square-mile area in southern New Mexico.

Virgin Galactic is a company established by Richard Branson's Virgin Group to develop space tourism. The company said it will own and operate privately built spaceships that will allow affordable sub-orbital space tourism for the first time in history.

Virgin Galactic President Will Whitehorn said New Mexico is an ideal operations base: good climate, free airspace, low population density, high altitude and stunning scenery.

"We look forward to working together to make the 'Final Frontier' a reality for tens of thousands of pioneering space tourists," Whitehorn said. "Our activities will prove the commercial viability and excellent safety technology behind private personal spaceflight and give birth to a new industry in New Mexico."

Copyright 2005 by United Press International

Citation: New Mexico to be site of spaceport (2005, December 13) retrieved 2 May 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2005-12-mexico-site-spaceport.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.