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**FLIGHT TEST MUSEUM  
FOUNDATION (FTMF)**

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**Flight Test Museum Foundation (FTMF) Will Kick Off “Friendship Drive” on May 5 to Raise \$1.2 Million for Phase II Construction of Edwards’ Flight Test Museum**

Edwards, Calif., April 11, 2023 —The Flight Test Museum Foundation, a nonprofit building the only national museum dedicated to flight test, will kick off its “Friendship Drive” fundraising campaign on Friday, May 5 at 11 a.m. at Century Circle, the site of the new museum located at the entrance of Edwards Air Force Base.

FTMF representatives will provide details about the second phase of construction and how the public can participate in raising \$1.2 million to complete the museum’s hangar by Fall 2023. The event is open to the public and the media.

**What:** “Friendship Drive” public fundraising campaign update and enrollment

**When:** Friday, May 5 at 11 a.m. PT

**Where:** Century Circle, entrance of Edwards AFB

**Who:** Representatives of the Flight Test Museum Foundation and community partners

The first phase was successfully completed in Fall 2022 with the placement of the foundation and the initial assembly of the steel structure.

Organizational fundraising partners include the Antelope Valley Economic Development and Growth Enterprise, Edwards AFB Civilian/Military Support Group, the William J. "Pete" Knight chapter of the Air and Space Forces Association, the Society of Experimental Test Pilots, and the Society of Flight Test Engineers. Representatives of these organizations are expected to attend the event and share how they are supporting the campaign.

The vision of legendary test pilots Chuck Yeager, Bob Hoover, Bob Cardenas, and Pete Knight, the 75,000-square-foot museum will serve to protect the heritage of the significant advancements in flight test that have taken place in the storied Aerospace Valley of Southern California and inspire the next generation to pursue a career in aviation.

The museum will preserve, restore, and exhibit historical air- and spacecraft, house thousands of rare artifacts, and include the Bob Hoover Flight Test Research Library of SETP archives, a lecture hall, several classrooms, and gift shop.

Once open, thousands of individuals are expected to visit the flight test museum which will positively impact the local economy of the Aerospace Valley and East Kern County.

**###**

**FTMF IS NOW OFFERING THE MEDIA AN “ALL ACCESS” INVITATION TO CHECK OUT THE TOP MILITARY AIRCRAFT UP CLOSE AND INTERVIEW THE TEST PILOTS THAT FLY THEM. THIS VIP ACCESS WILL BE GRANTED ON A LIMITED “FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE” BASIS!**

## FTMF Background:

The main goal is to protect and preserve these historical and extremely rare aircraft inside the new structure and away from the damaging outside elements. The hall will house one of the most unique collections of research aircraft in the world and provide a place for the world to see it.

Our mission is to preserve, display, and educate **the public** about the more than 75 years of flight tests, aerospace and technological developments in the Aerospace Valley. Our Educational Programs provide online and in person activities, lessons, and classes on the principles of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math in flight test and aerospace research to expand knowledge, inspire, and motivate future generations using examples of the advancements in aerospace in our collection.

Innovation and exploration are alive and well in the Aerospace Valley. In the past, the pilots and engineers broke the shackles of traditional thinking that held them back from chasing their wild ambition to fly faster, longer, and further than anyone ever had. Today, Blue Origin rocket testing is conducted, the Space Force is testing systems, and NASA is developing a commercial supersonic aircraft with the Skunkworks. History is being made every day in the Aerospace Valley, and the museum is the place for the world to learn about it.

## Supporting Photos: Phase Two - 360,000 lbs. of Steel Erected for the “New FTMF Museum”



Photos taken by Jim Krantz  
and provided by: Flight Test  
Museum Foundation



For more information about the Flight Test Museum Foundation, please visit [www.FlightTestMuseum.org](http://www.FlightTestMuseum.org) or contact Lisa Brown directly at: [Lbrown@FlightTestMuseum.org](mailto:Lbrown@FlightTestMuseum.org) or call 323.630.4789.