News Release

Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency

Harnessing American Ingenuity

3701 North Fairfax Drive
Arlington, VA 22203-1714

*Visit the Grand Challenge website, www.darpa.mil/grandchallenge ,
for updated information on prize amounts.*

DARPA Finalizes Field of Participants for 2007 Urban Challenge
Announcement of Track B Teams Expands Field to 89 Competitors

Seventy-eight teams filed applications to compete as Track B teams for the DARPA Urban Challenge, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) announced today. The teams join the 11 Track A teams announced earlier and will compete for starting positions in DARPA's robotic vehicle race, scheduled to take place on November 3, 2007.

"The first two Grand Challenges showed that tackling a formidable challenge is a reward in itself," said DARPA Director Dr. Tony Tether. "The outstanding response to Track B tells me there is great interest in taking on the very difficult technical challenge of developing unmanned ground vehicles that can operate safely in urban areas."

All but three of the 23 teams that competed in the 2005 Grand Challenge have returned. Research universities and engineering schools, automobile manufacturers and suppliers, and defense contractors are among the well-represented sectors in the 2007 field. Also notable is the field's strong international flavor, including representation from Australia, Austria, China, France, Germany, New Zealand and Mexico. A list of the entire field of 89 teams is attached.

Teams have qualified to compete in the Urban Challenge under two tracks (Track A and Track B). Track A teams were selected from proposals submitted to DARPA and will receive up to $1 million in technology development funds. Track B was an open enrollment opportunity; teams do not receive any funds from DARPA but compete equally with Track A teams to qualify for the final event.

"The depth and the quality of the field of competitors is a testimony to how far the technology has advanced since the first Grand Challenge in 2004," added Dr. Norman Whitaker, DARPA's Urban Challenge program manager. "The Urban Challenge will present a highly complex and demanding trial that will truly put this field of robotic vehicles to the test."

(more)

The Urban Challenge will feature fully autonomous ground vehicles conducting simulated military supply missions safely and effectively in a mock urban area. In the final event, on November 3, 2007, at an undisclosed location in the western U.S., robotic vehicles will attempt to complete a 60-mile course through traffic in less than six hours, operating under their own computer-based control. To succeed, vehicles must obey traffic laws while merging into moving traffic, navigating traffic circles, negotiating busy intersections, and avoiding obstacles.

DARPA's Grand Challenge has been successful in attracting enthusiasts from around the world to develop autonomous vehicle technology that will some day protect the lives of American men and women on the battlefield. Operation of autonomous vehicles in the Urban Challenge will test the ability of robots to operate safely and effectively in populated areas.

The DARPA Grand Challenge Website (www.darpa.mil/grandchallenge) is the primary source for information about the Urban Challenge event and includes the latest information on the event as well as information for participants.

-END-

ABOUT DARPA
DARPA is the central research and development organization for the Department of Defense (DoD). The Agency manages and directs basic and applied research and development projects for DoD and pursues research and technology that provide dramatic advances in support of military missions.

(NOTE: The full list of teams is attached.)

Urban Grand Challenge
Full Field of Teams
October 18, 2006

Track A

Team Name	Location	Team Website
Team Autonomous Solutions	Young Ward, UT	www.autonomoussolutions.com/darpa
Team Caltech	Pasadena, CA	http://team.caltech.edu
Tartan Racing	Pittsburgh, PA	www.tartanracing.org
Team Cornell	Ithaca, NY	www.cornellracing.com
Intelligent Vehicle Systems Team	Dearborn, MI	n/a
Team MIT	Cambridge, MA	http://grandchallenge.mit.edu
Team Oshkosh Truck	Oshkosh, WI	www.terramax.com
Team Scorpion	Tucson, AZ	www.team-scorpion.com
Stanford Racing Team	Stanford, CA	www.stanfordracing.org
The Golem Group	Santa Monica, CA	www.golemgroup.com
VictorTango	Blacksburg, VA	www.me.vt.edu/urbanchallenge

Track B

Team Name	Location	Team Website
Team Grand Challenger	Houston, TX	www.grandchallenger.com
CarOLO	Braunschweig, Germany	www.sse.cs.tu-bs.de/CarOLO
Martian Mentors	Goodrich, MI	www.msu.edu/user/yokosaw1/darpa/max.htm
AutoTrek	Morrestown, NJ	www.csquaredeng.com/autotrek/autotrek.html
Mojavaton	Grand Junction, CO	www.mojavaton.com
True Vision Robotics	Atascadero, CA	www.truevisionrobotics.com/
ROBOKAR	Spring Lake Park, MN	n/a
Team-LUX	Woodstock, MD	www.team-lux.com/
UD Team Grand Challenge	Dayton, OH	www.udteamgrandchallenge.com/
RoboRide	Homewood, AL	www.RoboRide.org
Trobo	Petal, MS	www.upwindvision.com/
base17 Robotics	Westfield, IN	www.base17.com/
Magnolia	Ridgeland, MS	www.venkatagoli.com/research/maverick
Ody-Era	Carmel, IN	www.geocities.com/odyera2007
American Industrial Magic	Traverse City, MI	http://aimagic.org
Spurrier's Hurriers	Mary Esther, FL	www.spurrier.com/a-car.html
Natalythe Engineering	San Diego, CA	n/a
Team Cybernet	Ann Arbor, MI	www.cybernet.com/urbanchallenge
Albertabot	Fredericton, Canada	www.albertabot.org
Insight Racing	Cary, NC	www.insightracing.org
LAAE	Hacienda Heights, CA	www.laaedarpachallenge.org
Team AnnieWay	Karlsruhe, Germany	http://annieway.mrt.uni-karlsruhe.de
Project Horizon	Melbourne, FL	http://horizon.fit.edu
Team Juggernaut	Sandy, UT	www.designjug.com
BYUC	Provo, UT	http://ynot.ece.byu.edu/
Team Case	Cleveland, OH	http://urbanchallenge.case.edu/
Team Promethean	Pittsburgh, PA	www.prometheanrobotics.com
UU	Westminster, MD	www.gdrs.com/urbanchallenge
A Bunch of Dropouts	Kingman, AZ	www.samitherobot.com
Highlander Racing	Newark, NJ	www.grandchallenge.njit.edu/
Gator Nation	Gainesville, FL	http://cimar.mae.ufl.edu
Spring Light	Shanghai, China	n/a
University of Utah	Salt Lake City, UT	http://cs.utah.edu/urban

Team Name	Location	Team Website
Team White Cougar	Las Vegas, NV	www.whitecougar.com/
"R" Junk Works	Palmdale, CA	www.rjunkworks.com
TeamNOVA	Chickasha, OK	www.usao.edu/softthought
Magic Highway, U.S.A.	Topanga, CA	n/a
Princeton University	Princeton, NJ	http://pave.princeton.edu
Team Berlin	Berlin, Germany	http://robotics.mi.fu-berlin.de/pmwiki
Indiana Robotic Navigation	Greenwood, IN	http://indianaroboticnavigation.com
Team CajunBot	Lafayette, LA	www.cajunbot.com
Axion Racing	Westlake Village, CA	n/a
OSU-ACT	Columbus, OH	www.ece.osu.edu/ion2
Team Banzai	Irvine, CA	http://team.gobanzai.com/
Cakewalk	Whiteland, IN	www.cakewalkconsulting.com
TeamXAR	Irvine, CA	www.teamxar.com
Team Gray	Metairie, LA	www.graymatterinc.com/teamgray
Team UCF	Orlando, FL	http://knightrider.eecs.ucf.edu
Team 23 Racing	San Diego, CA	www.23.darkdevice.com
Team Jefferson	Crozet, VA	www.teamjefferson.com
Sting Racing	Atlanta, GA	www.sting-racing.org
Team Urbanator	Owens Cross Roads, AL	www.boeing.com/ids/advanced_systems/urbanchallenge.htm
Oak Ridge Robotics	Oak Ridge, TN	www.orrobotics.com
SciAutonics / Auburn Engineering	Thousand Oaks, CA	www.sciautonics.com
The Ben Franklin Racing Team	Philadelphia, PA	www.benfranklinracingteam.org
DOTMOBIL Team	Boran sur Oise, France	www.dotmobil.com/dotmobil-team/
Team Orange	Urbana, IL	www.urbanalegend.com
I-Team	Campbell, CA	n/a
Space Cowboys	Pinckney, MI	www.blackartsdesigns.com
Berkeley-Sydney Driving Team	Berkeley, CA	http://chess.eecs.berkeley.edu/dgc3/
MEXICO	Puebla, Mexico	www.grandchallenge.org.mx
University of Missouri-Rolla Urban Challenge Team	Rolla, MO	http://robotics.umr.edu/grandchallenge
CyberRider	Cambridge, MA	www.cyberrider.org
AvantGuardium	Bethesda, MD	www.avantguardium.com/
Palos Verdes High School Roadwarriors	Palos Verdes, CA	www.pvrw.com
ROWSG	Corvallis, OR	www.geocities.com/rowsg_beaveroid
Cincinnati Bearcats	Cincinnati, OH	www.robotics.uc.edu
Grand Challenge NomadZ	Auckland, New Zealand	http://team.grandchallenge.co.nz
Pegasus	College Station, TX	www.pegasus-bridge.com
Team Helios	Greenfield, WI	www.teamhelios.com
Austin Robot Technology	Austin, TX	www.austinrobot.com
UrbanRangers	Indianapolis, IN	n/a
The Artificial Automotive Group	Linz, Austria	www.artificialautomotivegroup.com
PHD (Programmers Hate Driving)	Phoenix, AZ	http://hdvforever.com/darpa
Team CART	Princeton, WV	http://team.cartlink.org
Team Tebo	Irvine, CA	n/a
Juxtopia	Baltimore, MD	n/a
UBC Thunderbird Robotics	Vancouver, Canada	www.ubcthunderbird.com

Note: Some teams have not yet activated their websites. The DARPA Grand Challenge website (www.darpa.mil/grandchallenge) should have up-to-date URLs if teams make any changes in the future.

-END-