

Space Elevator Pioneers Yuri Artsutanov and Jerome Pearson to appear at the 2010 Space Elevator Conference

Redmond, Wash./Mountain View, Calif. (July 26, 2010) --The International Space Elevator Consortium (ISEC), an independent coalition designed to promote outreach and foster research relating to the construction of an Elevator to Space announced today that Russian engineer Yuri Artsutanov and American engineer Jerome Pearson, pioneers of the modern Space Elevator concept, will appear at the 2010 Space Elevator Conference.

The Conference, which will be held next month at the Microsoft Conference Center, will feature scientists, researchers and space enthusiasts from throughout the world as they explore the technical, legal and social issues relating to building an Elevator to Space.

Known as the “Fathers of the Modern Space Elevator Program,” Artsutanov and Pearson are credited with independently creating the first modern blueprints for building an Elevator to Space. Artsutanov’s proposal, created in the early 1960s, used the newly discovered graphite whiskers to propose an Elevator to Space using cables attached to a satellite, and running in both directions. Independently of Artsutanov, in the United States Pearson conducted his own research on an Elevator to Space while at NASA. In 1975, Pearson published a proposal “The Orbital Tower: A Spacecraft Launcher Using The Earth’s Rotational Energy.”

“We are thrilled beyond words that both Mr. Artsutanov and Mr. Pearson have agreed to come to the Space Elevator Conference,” said Ted Semon, president of ISEC. “Those who are familiar with the idea of the Space Elevator know that Yuri and Jerome were originators of the modern-day concept of a ‘tensile’ structure as the foundation for a realistic Space Elevator. Their ability to take the idea of a Space Elevator, first proposed as a tower by Russian Konstantin Tsiolkovsky, and come up with an Engineering solution which can actually make something like this happen, is the basis for all work done on this concept since then.”

The Space Elevator Conference will be held from August 12th through the 15th at the Microsoft Conference Center in Redmond, Washington. For more information about the conference, please visit their website at <http://www.spaceelevatorconference.org>.

For more details on the appearances by Artsutanov and Pearson, please contact ISEC President Ted Semon (ted.semon@isec.info) or Conference co-chair David Horn (David.Horn@microsoft.com)

Headquartered in Mountain View, Calif., a leading technology center, the International Space Elevator Consortium (ISEC) is a non-profit organization devoted to the research and construction of an Elevator to Space. Founding members of ISEC include the Spaceward Foundation, the Space Elevator Reference, the Space Elevator Blog, EuroSpaceward and the Japan Space Elevator Association. For more information please visit www.isec.info.

Press Inquiries:

Ted Semon
ISEC
1-630-240-4797
ted.semon@isec.com

Belinda Young
BYPR
1-206-932-3145
byoung@bypr.com