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BLUE ORIGIN NEW SHEPARD TO RECEIVE THE 2016 ROBERT J. COLLIER TROPHY

Washington, DC, March 29, 2017– The National Aeronautic Association (NAA) announced last evening at their Spring Awards Dinner that the Blue Origin New Shepard has been named as the recipient of the 2016 Robert J. Collier Trophy “... for successfully demonstrating rocket booster reusability with the New Shepard human spaceflight vehicle through five successful test flights of a single booster and engine, all of which performed powered vertical landings on Earth.”

The Collier Trophy is awarded annually “...for the greatest achievement in aeronautics or astronautics in America, with respect to improving the performance, efficiency, and safety of air or space vehicles, the value of which has been thoroughly demonstrated by actual use during the preceding year.” The list of Collier recipients represents a timeline of air and space achievements, marking major events in the history of flight.

“Blue Origin's New Shepard program is remarkable,” said Jim Albaugh, Chairman of NAA. “Developing the first new large liquid hydrogen rocket engine in almost 20 years and demonstrating repeatable vertical takeoffs and landings makes the long sought after goal of low cost reusable rockets and access to space a reality. NAA salutes the New Shepard team for their accomplishments.”

“Winning the Collier Trophy is incredibly emotional for me and the whole Blue Origin team,” said Jeff Bezos, Founder of Blue Origin. “Everyone on the team has given so much to get to this point, and we are deeply encouraged by this recognition. We will never stop working to drive down the cost of getting to space.”

The Collier Trophy will be formally presented at the Annual Robert J. Collier Trophy Dinner on a date and location to be determined. For more information or to view a complete list of previous recipients of the Collier Trophy, please visit www.naa.aero.

The National Aeronautic Association is a non-profit, membership organization devoted to fostering America's aerospace leadership and promoting public understanding of the importance of aviation and space flight to the United States.

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