

NONREIMBURSABLE SPACE ACT AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

AND REAL WORLD DESIGN CHALLENGE
FOR INCREASING THE STEM WORKFORCE
(Agreement #40014)

ARTICLE 1. AUTHORITY AND PARTIES

In accordance with the National Aeronautics and Space Act (51 U.S.C. § 20113(e)), this Agreement is entered into by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, located at 300 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20546 (hereinafter referred to as "NASA") and Real World Design Challenge located at 1116 Moorefield Creek Road, SW, Vienna, VA 22180-6245 (hereinafter referred to as "Partner" or "RWDC"). NASA and Partner may be individually referred to as a "Party" and collectively referred to as the "Parties."

ARTICLE 2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Space Act Agreement is to enable collaboration between NASA and the Real World Design Challenge (RWDC) to support efforts to expand access to STEM challenges among high school students. Since 2008, RWDC has designed and managed an annual competition (the "Challenge") for high school students to work on real world engineering challenges in a team environment. Student teams utilize professional engineering software provided by RWDC to develop solutions and supporting presentations to share their findings with panels of judges.

NASA and RWDC have a shared interest in attracting students from groups traditionally underrepresented in STEM and in building a diverse future STEM workforce. RWDC provides this Challenge opportunity free of charge. Educators working with teams of high school students receive all software, training, and curriculum support materials necessary to participate in the Challenge in addition to access to a network of program mentors. On average 425 high school teams participate in the Challenge each year engaging approximately 28,000 students. RWDC is pursuing additional partnership with youth-serving and afterschool organizations to expand access and opportunity to participate in the Challenge. Through this partnership NASA will work with RWDC to help RWDC incorporate aeronautics research concepts, real world examples and connected careers into Challenge content. NASA will support RWDC by providing access to subject matter experts to ensure the technical accuracy of content.

ARTICLE 3. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. NASA will use reasonable efforts to:

1. Work with RWDC to identify and provide publicly available information and imagery on NASA technology, missions, and careers and publicly available STEM education lessons and

resources ("NASA Materials").

2. Facilitate periodic informational exchanges between NASA and RWDC to provide opportunities for RWDC to interview technical experts about NASA missions, technology, careers, and experiences in STEM as needed and arranged by both Parties.
3. Review Challenge material and product designs, activities, and any promotional materials related to the Challenge resources developed under this Agreement which incorporate NASA Materials at a point when changes can still be made to in order to facilitate technical accuracy and accurate treatment of NASA-related subject matter, and to ensure compliance with this Agreement.

B. Partner will use reasonable efforts to:

1. Design and develop Challenge resources using the NASA Materials in accordance with NASA media usage guidelines (<https://www.nasa.gov/multimedia/guidelines/index.html>).
2. Participate in periodic informational exchanges with NASA STEM Engagement and technical staff about NASA missions, technology, careers and experiences in STEM to assist RWDC in their development of the Challenge as needed and arranged by both Parties.
3. Provide to NASA for review final product designs, activities, and any promotional materials related to the Challenge and other resources developed under this Agreement which incorporate NASA Materials at a point when changes can still be made to in order to facilitate accuracy and fidelity to NASA missions, technology, careers and content, and to ensure compliance with this Agreement.
4. Ensure students and educators are able to participate in the Challenge developed under this Agreement at no cost. Make any resources developed under this Agreement freely and publicly available for all to use.
5. Provide metrics and data to NASA for use in internal NASA analytics describing the reach and impact of the interactive learning experiences developed under this Agreement.

ARTICLE 4. SCHEDULE AND MILESTONES

The planned major milestones for the activities defined in the "Responsibilities" Article are as follows:

Informational and planning meetings about ways to Integrate NASA materials into RWDC, design challenge planning, ways RWDC can support NASA and workforce development (Approx. 15x/year or as appropriate).	Bi-Monthly
NASA to provide RWDC with NASA materials to share with student participants.	Fall Each Year

NASA to work with RWDC design challenge team to align SMEs as appropriate to guide annual design challenge topic.	Fall Each Year
NASA to review and approve any NASA materials being integrated into RWDC content.	As Needed
RWDC to provide NASA annual reporting about the number and basic demographics of students participating in the design challenge.	End of FY
NASA, when available, to provide a Blue Ribbon Judge for the RWDC.	Spring Each Year

ARTICLE 5. FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

There will be no transfer of funds between the Parties under this Agreement and each Party will fund its own participation. All activities under or pursuant to this Agreement are subject to the availability of funds, and no provision of this Agreement shall be interpreted to require obligation or payment of funds in violation of the Anti-Deficiency Act, (31 U.S.C. § 1341).

ARTICLE 6. PRIORITY OF USE

Any schedule or milestone in this Agreement is estimated based upon the Parties' current understanding of the projected availability of NASA goods, services, facilities, or equipment. In the event that NASA's projected availability changes, Partner shall be given reasonable notice of that change, so that the schedule and milestones may be adjusted accordingly. The Parties agree that NASA's use of the goods, services, facilities, or equipment shall have priority over the use planned in this Agreement. Should a conflict arise, NASA in its sole discretion shall determine whether to exercise that priority. Likewise, should a conflict arise as between two or more non-NASA Partners, NASA, in its sole discretion, shall determine the priority as between those Partners. This Agreement does not obligate NASA to seek alternative government property or services under the jurisdiction of NASA at other locations.

ARTICLE 7. NONEXCLUSIVITY

This Agreement is not exclusive; accordingly, NASA may enter into similar agreements for the same or similar purpose with other private or public entities.

ARTICLE 8. LIABILITY

- A. Each Party hereby waives any claim against the other Party or one or more of its Related Entities (defined below) for any injury to, or death of, the waiving Party or one or more of its Related Entities, or for damage to, or loss of, the waiving Party's property or the property of its Related Entities arising from or related to activities conducted under this Agreement, whether such injury, death, damage, or loss arises through negligence or otherwise, except in the case of willful misconduct.
- B. Partner further agrees to extend this waiver to its related entities by requiring them, by contract or otherwise, to waive all claims against NASA and its Related Entities for injury, death, damage, or loss arising from or related to activities conducted under this Agreement. For purposes of this Agreement, "Related Entities" shall mean contractors and subcontractors

of a Party at any tier; grantees, investigators, customers, and users of a Party at any tier and their contractors or subcontractor at any tier; or, employees of the Party or any of the foregoing.

- C. Notwithstanding the other provisions of this Article, the waivers of liability set forth in this section shall not be applicable to:
- i. Claims between a Party and its own Related Entity or between its own Related Entities;
 - ii. Claims made by a natural person, his/her estate, survivors, or anyone claiming by or through him/her (except when such person or entity is a Party to this Agreement or is otherwise bound by the terms of this waiver) for bodily injury to, or other impairment of health of, or death of, such person;
 - iii. Claims for damage caused by willful misconduct;
 - iv. Intellectual property claims;
 - v. Claims for damage resulting from a failure of a Party to extend the waiver of liability to its Related Entities, pursuant to paragraph B of this Article; or
 - vi. Claims by a Party arising out of or relating to another Party's failure to perform its obligations under this Agreement.

ARTICLE 9. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS - DATA RIGHTS

Information and data exchanged under this Agreement is exchanged without restrictions unless required by national security regulations (e.g., classified information) or as otherwise provided in this Agreement or agreed to by the Parties for specifically identified information or data (e.g., information or data specifically marked with a restrictive notice).

ARTICLE 10. USE OF NASA NAME AND NASA EMBLEMS

- A. NASA Name and Initials Partner shall not use "National Aeronautics and Space Administration" or "NASA" in a way that creates the impression that a product or service has the authorization, support, sponsorship, or endorsement of NASA, which does not, in fact, exist. Except for releases under the "Release of General Information to the Public and Media" Article, Partner must submit any proposed public use of the NASA name or initials (including press releases and all promotional and advertising use) to the NASA Associate Administrator for the Office of Communications or designee ("NASA Communications") for review and approval. Approval by NASA Office of Communications shall be based on applicable law and policy governing the use of the NASA name and initials.
- B. NASA Emblems Use of NASA emblems (i.e., NASA Seal, NASA Insignia, NASA logotype, NASA Program Identifiers, and the NASA Flag) is governed by 14 C.F.R. Part 1221. Partner must submit any proposed use of the emblems to NASA Communications for review and approval.

ARTICLE 11. RELEASE OF GENERAL INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC AND MEDIA

NASA or Partner may, consistent with Federal law and this Agreement, release general information regarding its own participation in this Agreement as desired. Pursuant to Section 841(d) of the NASA Transition Authorization Act of 2017, Public Law 115-10 (the “NTAA”), NASA is obligated to publicly disclose copies of all agreements conducted pursuant to NASA’s 51 U.S.C. §20113(e) authority in a searchable format on the NASA website within 60 days after the agreement is signed by the Parties. The Parties acknowledge that a copy of this Agreement will be disclosed, without redactions, in accordance with the NTAA.

ARTICLE 12. DISCLAIMER OF WARRANTY

Goods, services, facilities, or equipment provided by NASA under this Agreement are provided “as is.” NASA makes no express or implied warranty as to the condition of any such goods, services, facilities, or equipment, or as to the condition of any research or information generated under this Agreement, or as to any products made or developed under or as a result of this Agreement including as a result of the use of information generated hereunder, or as to the merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose of such research, information, or resulting product, or that the goods, services, facilities or equipment provided will accomplish the intended results or are safe for any purpose including the intended purpose, or that any of the above will not interfere with privately-owned rights of others. Neither the government nor its contractors shall be liable for special, consequential or incidental damages attributed to such equipment, facilities, technical information, or services provided under this Agreement or such research, information, or resulting products made or developed under or as a result of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 13. DISCLAIMER OF ENDORSEMENT

NASA does not endorse or sponsor any commercial product, service, or activity. NASA’s participation in this Agreement or provision of goods, services, facilities or equipment under this Agreement does not constitute endorsement by NASA. Partner agrees that nothing in this Agreement will be construed to imply that NASA authorizes, supports, endorses, or sponsors any product or service of Partner resulting from activities conducted under this Agreement, regardless of the fact that such product or service may employ NASA-developed technology.

ARTICLE 14. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND REGULATIONS

- A. The Parties shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations including, but not limited to, safety; security; export control; environmental; and suspension and debarment laws and regulations. Access by a Partner to NASA facilities or property, or to a NASA Information Technology (IT) system or application, is contingent upon compliance with NASA security and safety policies and guidelines including, but not limited to, standards on badging, credentials, and facility and IT system/application access, including use of Interconnection Security Agreements (ISAs), when applicable.
- B. With respect to any export control requirements: 1. The Parties will comply with all U.S. export control laws and regulations, including the International Traffic in Arms

Regulations (ITAR), 22 C.F.R. Parts 120 through 130, and the Export Administration Regulations (EAR), 15 C.F.R. Parts 730 through 799, in performing work under this Agreement or any Annex to this Agreement. In the absence of available license exemptions or exceptions, the Partner shall be responsible for obtaining the appropriate licenses or other approvals, if required, for exports of hardware, technical data and software, or for the provision of technical assistance. 2. The Partner shall be responsible for obtaining export licenses, if required, before utilizing foreign persons in the performance of work under this Agreement or any Annex under this Agreement, including instances where the work is to be performed on-site at NASA and where the foreign person will have access to export-controlled technical data or software. 3. The Partner will be responsible for all regulatory record-keeping requirements associated with the use of licenses and license exemptions or exceptions. 4. The Partner will be responsible for ensuring that the provisions of this Article apply to its Related Entities.

C. With respect to suspension and debarment requirements: 1. The Partner hereby certifies, to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it has complied, and shall comply, with 2 C.F.R. Part 180, Subpart C, as supplemented by 2 C.F.R. Part 1880, Subpart C. 2. The Partner shall include language and requirements equivalent to those set forth in subparagraph C.1., above, in any lower-tier covered transaction entered into under this Agreement.

D. With respect to the requirements in Section 889 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2019, Public Law 115-232: 1. In performing this Agreement, Partner will not use, integrate with a NASA system, or procure with NASA funds (if applicable), “covered telecommunications equipment or services” (as defined in Section 889(f)(3) of the NDAA). 2. The Partner will ensure that the provisions of this Article apply to its Related Entities.

ARTICLE 15. TERM OF AGREEMENT

This Agreement becomes effective upon the date of the last signature below (“Effective Date”) and shall remain in effect until the completion of all obligations of both Parties hereto, or five years from the Effective Date, whichever comes first.

ARTICLE 16. RIGHT TO TERMINATE

Either Party may unilaterally terminate this Agreement by providing thirty (30) calendar days written notice to the other Party.

ARTICLE 17. CONTINUING OBLIGATIONS

The rights and obligations of the Parties that, by their nature, would continue beyond the expiration or termination of this Agreement, e.g., “Liability and Risk of Loss” and “Intellectual Property Rights”-related clauses shall survive such expiration or termination of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 18. POINTS OF CONTACT

The following personnel are designated as the Points of Contact between the Parties in the performance of this Agreement.

Management Points of Contact

NASA

April Lanotte
STEM Integration Lead
300 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20546
Phone: 202.374.9694
april.a.lanotte@nasa.gov

Real World Design Challenge

Jeffrey Coppola
Deputy Director
1116 Moorefield Creek Road, SW
Vienna, VA 22180-6245
Phone: 703-965-2870
jeffcoppola@gmail.com

ARTICLE 19. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Except as otherwise provided in the Article entitled “Priority of Use,” the Article entitled “Intellectual Property Rights – Invention and Patent Rights” (for those activities governed by 37 C.F.R. Part 404), and those situations where a pre-existing statutory or regulatory system exists (e.g., under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552), all disputes concerning questions of fact or law arising under this Agreement shall be referred by the claimant in writing to the appropriate person identified in this Agreement as the “Points of Contact.” The persons identified as the “Points of Contact” for NASA and the Partner will consult and attempt to resolve all issues arising from the implementation of this Agreement. If they are unable to come to agreement on any issue, the dispute will be referred to the signatories to this Agreement, or their designees, for joint resolution. If the Parties remain unable to resolve the dispute, then the NASA signatory or that person’s designee, as applicable, will issue a written decision that will be the final agency decision for the purpose of judicial review. Nothing in this Article limits or prevents either Party from pursuing any other right or remedy available by law upon the issuance of the final agency decision.

ARTICLE 20. MODIFICATIONS

Any modification to this Agreement shall be executed, in writing, and signed by an authorized representative of NASA and the Partner.

ARTICLE 21. ASSIGNMENT

Neither this Agreement nor any interest arising under it will be assigned by the Partner or NASA without the express written consent of the officials executing, or successors, or higher- level officials possessing original or delegated authority to execute this Agreement.

ARTICLE 22. APPLICABLE LAW

U.S. Federal law governs this Agreement for all purposes, including, but not limited to, determining the validity of the Agreement, the meaning of its provisions, and the rights, obligations and remedies of the Parties.

ARTICLE 23. INDEPENDENT RELATIONSHIP

This Agreement is not intended to constitute, create, give effect to or otherwise recognize a joint venture, partnership, or formal business organization, or agency agreement of any kind, and the rights and obligations of the Parties shall be only those expressly set forth herein.

ARTICLE 24. LOAN OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY

The parties shall enter into a NASA Form 893, Loan of NASA Equipment, for NASA equipment loaned to Partner.

ARTICLE 25. SIGNATORY AUTHORITY

The signatories to this Agreement covenant and warrant that they have authority to execute this Agreement. By signing below, the undersigned agrees to the above terms and conditions.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION REAL WORLD DESIGN CHALLENGE

BY: _____
Robert Pearce
Associate Administrator, Aeronautics Mission Directorate

BY:  _____
Dr. Ralph K. Coppola
Founder & Executive Director

DATE: _____

DATE: June 10, 2024