



Press Release

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**THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND AND EMBRY-RIDDLE AERONAUTICAL
UNIVERSITY TAKE TOP HONORS IN THE 2004 21ST ANNUAL
AHS/INDUSTRY/NASA STUDENT DESIGN COMPETITION**

ALEXANDRIA, VA - AHS Executive Director M. E. Rhett Flater announced that the **University of Maryland** came in first place in the 21st Student Design Competition graduate category and **Georgia Institute of Technology** captured second place honors. **The US Air Force Institute of Technology** won third place as well as the "New Entrant" category.

In the undergraduate category, **Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University** won first-place. AgustaWestland was the sponsor of the 21st annual competition which rotates among Boeing, Sikorsky, Bell Helicopter Textron, Inc. and AgustaWestland. NASA has also been a major underwriter of this program

The AHS Student Design Competition, which challenges students to design a vertical lift aircraft which meets specified requirements, provides a practical exercise for engineering students at nationally accredited colleges and universities. The competition promotes student interest in vertical flight technology. The first- and second-place winning teams are awarded a cash stipend and the winning team is invited to the AHS Annual Forum and Technology Display to present their winning entry. Members of the teams receive one-day complimentary registration to the forum, the vertical flight industry's principal professional technical event. This year AgustaWestland also introduced a "New Entrant" category to stimulate interest in the competition.

This year AgustaWestland challenged participants to develop a helicopter specifically designed for high altitude rescue operations. The aircraft had to be certified for single pilot, day/night operations with cruise speeds of at least 145 knots.

For those interested in more information about the AHS Student Design Competition please visit our web site at <http://www.vtol.org> The web site also contains the Request for Proposal for the 2005 AHS Student Design Competition. AHS International - The Vertical Flight Society is a

professional, technical society founded in 1943, that represents the interests of the worldwide vertical flight industry.

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[Past award recipients](#)