

On the Inside of *SpaceShipOne*

Dan Linehan
Author and Purdue Alum

Thursday, November 20, 2008

3:00 P.M.
ARMS 1109

Abstract: On October 4, 2004, *SpaceShipOne* (*SS1*) captured the \$10 million Ansari X Prize. Legendary aircraft designer Burt Rutan and Microsoft cofounder Paul Allen teamed up to build the world's first privately built and piloted manned spacecraft. Developed in secrecy, *SS1* reached space three times, flying a trajectory similar to the first two Mercury missions. Innovative designs, like the feather mechanism used for reentry, and practical approaches, like the use of a hybrid rocket engine, were the key to *SS1*'s success. The how's and why's of *SS1*'s design, construction, testing, and operation as well as the development of Virgin Galactic's *SpaceShipTwo* will be discussed with the aid of photos, video, and animation.

About the speaker: Dan Linehan is the author of *SpaceShipOne: An Illustrated History*, with a foreword by Arthur C. Clarke (Zenith Press, 2008). Critically acclaimed by the likes of *Air & Space/Smithsonian*, *MSNBC.com*, and *Ad Astra*, this first book covering *SS1* provides in-depth information and never before published details. Linehan got his BS in physics from Stony Brook and his MS in engineering from Purdue. After working as an engineer for five years, he changed careers in 2000 to become a writer, editor, and publisher. From 2003 to 2005, Linehan was the editor and principle feature writer for the award-winning program of the California International Airshow. www.dslinehan.com/spaceshipone

COLLOQUIUM



An informal coffee & cookie reception will be held prior to the lecture at 2:30 p.m. in the AAE/ARMS undergraduate lounge (directly in front of ARMS 3rd floor elevators)