

**1903 WRIGHT FLYER AND ECLIPSE 500 STAND TOGETHER SYMBOLIZING
THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF AVIATION'S PAST
AND THE PROMISE OF AVIATION'S FUTURE**

What:

The First Flight Centennial is a six-day tribute to the past, present and future of aviation. As part of this historic celebration, the Experimental Aircraft Association and Eclipse Aviation will bring the Wright Flyer reproduction together with the revolutionary new Eclipse 500 jet, allowing photographers and media to capture a moment that signifies the transition from the first century of flight to the second.

Where:

The Wright Flyer reproduction and the Eclipse 500 will meet at the Wright Brothers National Memorial in Kill Devil Hills, N.C. The two groundbreaking aircraft will sit together for the first time outside EAA's Countdown to Kitty Hawk Pavilion.

When:

Today -- Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2003 at 2 p.m. EST

Why:

While the Wright Flyer reproduction honors aviation's past, the Eclipse 500 symbolizes the future of flight. At a time when many are lamenting the retirement of the Concorde and the struggles of aerospace leaders like Boeing, this moment will show that the spirit of innovation inspired by the Wright Brothers lives on in breakthroughs like the Eclipse 500 jet, which are poised to change the way the world travels in the second century of flight.

About the Eclipse 500:

Eclipse Aviation is applying advanced electronics systems, manufacturing and business practices to produce the Eclipse 500 -- an aircraft that will cost less than a quarter of today's small jet aircraft and be significantly safer and easier to operate. The Eclipse 500 has spurred both the new very light jet phenomenon and the growth of the emerging air taxi marketplace.

Available Visuals:

- Wright Flyer representing aviation's past side-by-side with Eclipse 500, hailed by many as aviation's future

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