



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### WORLD-CLASS FIELD ANNOUNCED FOR THE 2007 AMGEN TOUR OF CALIFORNIA

#### INTERNATIONAL PROFESSIONAL CYCLING ROAD RACE COMES TO SAN JOSE FEBRUARY 21

February 18-25 Race Receives Highest UCI Designation for a Race Outside Europe

LOS ANGELES, February 14, 2007 – The world-class roster of teams and cyclists – considered to be the finest collection of talent to compete in a U.S. stage race – entered in the 2007 Amgen Tour of California, an internationally sanctioned professional cycling road race that will host 18 teams and 144 riders racing throughout California February 18-25, 2007, has been announced by race presenters AEG.\*

The race will complete its Stage 3 finish the afternoon of Wednesday, February 21, in front of San Jose City Hall, 200 E. Santa Clara Street, in Downtown San Jose.

In its second year, the race has already received an upgraded rating from the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI), the international governing body of cycling, to a 2. Hors Classe (2.HC), the highest rating a professional stage race outside of Europe can receive.

The race will bring the top cycling talent in the world to compete across 650 miles of California roadway from San Francisco to Long Beach. Attracting an unprecedented field of riders from 28 countries, cyclists hail from countries as far away as Trinidad and Tobago, Lithuania, Uzbekistan, Cuba, South Africa, Belarus, Luxembourg and Kazakhstan.

The collection of riders, considered the strongest field of participants ever to race in the United States, will include Discovery Channel Pro Cycling, T-Mobile, Predictor-Lotto, HealthNet and Team CSC, which returns to defend the title as the overall classification winner of the 2006 Amgen Tour of California. Some of the notable riders expected to begin the race in San Francisco on Feb. 18 include:

#### **Top 2006 Tour de France Finishers:**

- Thor Hushovd (Crédit Agricole): Prologue and Stage 20; third overall Sprit
- Jens Voigt (Team CSC): Stage 13
- Michael Rasmussen (Rabobank Cycling Team): Stage 16; first overall KOM
- Matteo Tosatto (Quick Step-Innergetic): Stage 18
- Michael Rogers (T-Mobile Team): Tenth overall
- Levi Leipheimer (Discovery Channel Pro Cycling Team): Ninth overall KOM

#### **Top 2006 Giro d'Italia Finishers:**

- Ivan Basso (Discovery Channel Pro Cycling Team): First overall; second overall KOM
- Franco Pellizotti (Liquigas Pro Cycling Team): Eighth overall

#### **2006 World Champion Medalists:**

- Paolo Bettini (Quick Step-Innergetic): World Road Race Champion
- Fabian Cancellara (Team CSC): World Time Trial Champion
- Dave Zabriskie (Team CSC): World Time Trial Championships silver medalist

### **Top 2006 Amgen Tour of California Finishers:**

- Dave Zabriskie (Team CSC): Second overall
- George Hincapie (Discovery Channel Pro Cycling Team): Stage 2 and 5; fourth overall and third overall in sprint classification
- Levi Leipheimer (Discovery Channel Pro Cycling Team): Prologue; sixth overall and first overall KOM
- Juan Jose Haedo (Team CSC): Stage 1 and 4; second overall in sprint classification
- Thomas Peterson (Team Slipstream Powered by Chipotle): First overall Best Young Rider
- Bobby Julich (Team CSC): Third overall
- Team CSC: Defending team champions

### **California Natives/Residents:**

- BMC Racing Team: Ken Hanson (San Luis Obispo); Scott Nydam (Santa Rosa); Mike Sayers (Sacramento); Jackson Stewart (Los Gatos)
- Discovery Channel Pro Cycling Team: Levi Leipheimer (Santa Rosa); Tony Cruz (Long Beach)
- Health Net Pro Cycling Team Presented by Maxxis: Australian rider Karl Menzies (Folsom); Kyle Gritters (San Diego)
- Predictor-Lotto: Fred Rodriguez (Emeryville)
- Priority Health Cycling Team Presented by Bissell: Ben Jacques-Maynes (San Jose); Garrett Peltonen (Folsom)
- Team Slipstream Powered by Chipotle: Lucas Euser (Napa, San Luis Obispo); Steven Cozza (Petaluma)
- Toyota-United Pro Cycling Team: Cuban rider Ivan Dominguez (Chatsworth)

“We concentrated last year on making the inaugural Amgen Tour of California race experience great for riders, and that positive experience coupled with the phenomenal success of the race has resulted in one of the best fields ever to race on U.S. soil,” said Shawn Hunter, president of AEG Sports, presenters of the race. “This field puts the Amgen Tour of California on par with the Grand Tours in Europe, and we’re thrilled to welcome such an accomplished group of cyclists from the international community to California.”

The 2007 Amgen Tour of California roster includes the following 18 professional cycling teams. The nine ProTour teams compete regularly on the UCI's ProTour race calendar, including the Grand Tours of Europe: Giro d'Italia, Tour de France and the Vuelta a Espana.

\*Team rosters are subject to change:

### **Pro Tour Teams**

#### 1.) Discovery Channel Pro Cycling Team (USA)

Ivan Basso (ITA)

Antonio "Tony" Cruz (USA)

Tom Danielson (USA)

George Hincapie (USA)

Levi Leipheimer (USA)

Jason McCartney (USA)

Tomas Vaitkus (LIT)

Brian Vandborg (DEN)

#### 2.) Team CSC (DEN)

Fabian Cancellara (SUI)

Juan Jose Haedo (ARG)

Bobby Julich (USA)

Karsten Kroon (NED)

Stuart O'Grady (AUS)

Christian Vandavelde (USA)

Jens Voigt (GER)

David "Dave" Zabriskie (USA)

3.) Quick Step-Innergetic (BEL)

Paolo Bettini (ITA)  
Mauro Facci (ITA)  
Leonardo Scarselli (ITA)  
Bram Tankink (NED)  
Matteo Tosatto (ITA)  
Jurgen Van De Walle (BEL)  
Geert Verheyen (BEL)  
Giovanni Visconti (ITA)

4.) Predictor-Lotto (BEL)

Mario Aerts (BEL)  
Bart Dockx (BEL)  
Nick Gates (AUS)  
Chris Horner (USA)  
Nic Ingels (BEL)  
Josep Jufre Pou (ESP)  
Matthew Lloyd (AUS)  
Fred Rodriguez (USA)

5.) Rabobank Cycling Team (NED)

Mauricio Albert Ardila Cano (COL)  
Graeme Brown (AUS)  
Bram De Groot (NED)  
Theo Eltink (NED)  
Robert Gesink (NED)  
Mathew Hayman (AUS)  
Grischa Niermann (GER)  
Michael Rasmussen (DEN)

6.) T-Mobile Team (GER)

Michael Barry (CAN)  
Gerald Ciolek (GER)  
Adam Hansen (AUS)  
Greg Henderson (NZL)  
Kim Kirchen (LUX)  
Aaron Olson (USA)  
Jakob Piil (DEN)  
Michael Rogers (AUS)

7.) Liquigas Pro Cycling Team (ITL)

Kjell Carlstrom (FIIN)  
Mauro Da Dalto (ITA)  
Enrico Gasparotto (ITA)  
Luca Paolini (ITA)  
Franco Pellizotti (ITA)  
Manuel Quinzato (ITA)  
Charles Wegelius (GBR)  
Frederik Willems (BEL)

8.) Crédit Agricole (FRA)

Dimitri Fofonov (KAZ)  
Sebastien Hinault (FRA)  
Thor Hushovd (NOR)

Mads Kaggestad (NOR)  
Christophe Kern (FRA)  
Christophe Laurent (FRA)  
Cyril Lemoine (FRA)  
Jean Marc Marino (FRA)

9.) Gerolsteiner (GER)  
Robert Förster (GER)  
Torsten Heikmann (GER)  
Bernhard Kohl (AUT)  
Sven Krauss (GER)  
Volker Ordowski (GER)  
Fabian Wegmann (GER)  
Peter Wrolich (AUT)  
Oliver Zaugg (SUI)

### **Pro Continental Teams**

10.) The Health Net Pro Cycling Team Presented by Maxxis (USA)  
Russell Downing (GBR)  
Kyle Gritters (USA)  
Ryder Hesjedal (CAN)  
Tim Johnson (USA)  
Karl Menzies (AUS)  
Shawn Milne (USA)  
Kirk O'Bee (USA)  
Rory Sutherland (AUS)

11.) Navigators Insurance Cycling Team (USA)  
Glen Chadwick (NZL)  
Hilton Clarke (AUS)  
Ben Day (AUS)  
Valeriy Kobzarenko (UKR)  
Sergey Lagutin (UZB)  
Darren Lill (RSA)  
Viktor Rapinski (BLR)  
Phil Zajicek (USA)

12.) Team Slipstream Powered by Chipotle (USA)  
Steven Cozza (USA)  
Jason Donald (USA)  
Lucas Euser (USA)  
William Frischkorn (USA)  
Patrick McCarty (USA)  
Danny Pate (USA)  
Thomas "Tom" Peterson (USA)  
Taylor Tolleson (USA)

### **Continental Teams**

13.) Toyota-United Pro Cycling Team (USA)  
Chris Baldwin (USA)  
Heath Blackgrove (NZL)  
Ivan Dominguez (CUB)  
Justin England (USA)  
Mark Scanlon (IRL)

Sean Sullivan (AUS)  
Henk Vogels (AUS)  
Chris Wherry (USA)

14.) BMC Racing Team (USA)

Jonathan Garcia (USA)  
Ken Hanson (USA)  
Ian McKissick (USA)  
Alex Moos (SUI)  
Scott Nydam (USA)  
Michael Sayers (USA)  
Jackson Stewart (USA)  
David Vitoria (SUI)

15.) Jelly Belly Cycling Team (USA)

Andrew Bajadali (USA)  
Alex Candelario (USA)  
Brian Dziewa (USA)  
Brice Jones (USA)  
Mike Jones (USA)  
Bryce Mead (USA)  
Jeremy Powers (USA)  
Nick Reistad (USA)

16.) Colavita/Sutter Home Presented by Cooking Light Team (USA)

Alejandro Acton (ARG)  
Gustavo Artacho (ARG)  
Anthony Colby (USA)  
Charles Dionne (CAN)  
Davide Frattini (ITA)  
Peter Hatton (AUS)  
David McCann (IRL)  
Tyler Wren (USA)

17.) Priority Health Cycling Team Presented by Bissell (USA)

Emile Abraham (TTO)  
Ben Jacques-Maynes (USA)  
Edward "Ted" King (USA)  
Robbie King (USA)  
Garrett Peltonen (USA)  
Brian Sheedy (USA)  
Tom Zirbel (USA)  
Scott Zwizanski (USA)

**National Teams**

18.) USA Cycling National Development Team (USA)

Brent Bookwalter (USA)  
Sheldon Deeny (USA)  
John Devine (USA)  
Caleb Fairly (USA)  
Zachary Grabowski (USA)  
Scott Stewart (USA)  
Chris Stockburger (USA)  
Tejay Van Garderen (USA)

For more information about the 2007 Amgen Tour of California, as well as a nightly viewing schedule on VERSUS, please visit [www.amgentourofcalifornia.com](http://www.amgentourofcalifornia.com).

#### ABOUT AMGEN

Amgen discovers, develops and delivers innovative human therapeutics. A biotechnology pioneer since 1980, Amgen was one of the first companies to realize the new science's promise by bringing safe and effective medicines from lab, to manufacturing plant, to patient. Amgen therapeutics have changed the practice of medicine, helping millions of people around the world in the fight against cancer, kidney disease, rheumatoid arthritis, and other serious illnesses. With a broad and deep pipeline of potential new medicines, Amgen remains committed to advancing science to dramatically improve people's lives. To learn more about Amgen's pioneering science and vital medicines, visit [www.amgen.com](http://www.amgen.com).

#### ABOUT AEG

AEG is one of the leading sports and entertainment presenters in the world. AEG, a wholly owned subsidiary of The Anschutz Company, owns or controls a collection of companies including facilities such as STAPLES Center, The Home Depot Center, Toyota Park, Toyota Sports Center, Anaheim Convention Center Arena, El Rey Theatre, The Colosseum at Caesars Palace, NOKIA Theatre at Grand Prairie and NOKIA Theatre Times Square; sports franchises including the Los Angeles Kings (NHL), Los Angeles Riptide (MLL), four Major League Soccer franchises, , two hockey franchises operated in Europe, management of privately held shares of the Los Angeles Lakers (NBA) and Los Angeles Sparks (WNBA), the ING Bay to Breakers foot race and the Amgen Tour of California cycling road race; AEG LIVE, the organization's live-entertainment division, is a collection of companies dedicated to all aspects of live contemporary music performance, touring and a variety of programming and multi-media production. Additionally, the company has begun fully developing London's 28-acre Millennium Dome which includes a 23,000-seat arena, the O2 and over 650,000sf of leisure and entertainment use within the 'Dome' and additional arenas, The O2 World on a 45-acre site in the heart of Berlin, Citizen's Business Bank Arena in Ontario, California, Sprint Center in Kansas City, Missouri as well as Red Bull Park, a soccer stadium in Harrison, New Jersey and L.A. Live, a \$2.5 billion sports and entertainment district in downtown Los Angeles. For more information, visit AEG today at [www.aegworldwide.com](http://www.aegworldwide.com)

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