



Media Release

Office of Economic Development

SAN JOSE ANNOUNCED AS HOST CITY FOR 2008 AMGEN TOUR OF CALIFORNIA

World-Class Cycling Field Will Return to California in February to Compete Across 700 Miles of California Roadway During Eight-Day Stage Race

SAN JOSE, CALIF. (July 25, 2007) – San Jose will return Wednesday, February 20, 2008 as a host city of the *Amgen Tour of California*, the third running of America's most important cycling event, as announced by race organizer AEG.

The 2008 *Amgen Tour of California* professional cycling road race will take place February 17-24, 2008, as confirmed today by AEG, presenters of the record-setting 'Tour de France-style' cycling road race staged across many of California's most scenic state highways, roadways and coastline drives. Already considered cycling's most important and successful road race held in the United States, the event's third running will cover more than 700 miles (increased from 650 miles in 2007) over the eight days.

Through a series of local press conferences and briefings today, race organizers also announced the 12 official stage start and finish cities that have been selected for the 2008 race, including three new locales – Modesto, Palo Alto and Pasadena – that will join Sacramento, San Jose, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clarita, Santa Rosa, Sausalito, Seaside and Solvang as host cities along the route.

San Jose has hosted the Amgen Tour of California with great success since the race's inception in 2006. "We are thrilled to again host the Amgen Tour of California!" said San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed. "This world-class cycling race builds on our rich cycling history and on the momentum created by the successful Amgen Tour of California stages hosted by San Jose for the past two years. It definitely helps to further the City of San Jose and the greater South Bay region as a global center of professional cycling. We look forward to a great race in February 2008."

In just two years, the *Amgen Tour of California* has become the most successful race in the United States, both in attendance and economic growth. The 2007 race brought more than 1.6 million spectators, setting records for a single sporting event in the state of California, as well as any cycling event ever held on U.S. soil. The race also has generated \$100 million in economic growth for the state each year.

In San Jose, the race had a direct economic impact benefit. Earlier this year, the event brought in more than 40,000 people to San Jose and contributed an estimated \$1.9 million to the San Jose economy.

"We are committed to making the *Amgen Tour of California* bigger and better every year, continuing to raise the bar for what it means to be the largest, most important cycling race in America," said Shawn Hunter, president, AEG Sports, presenters of the event. "From the world-class riders and aggressive and challenging competition, to the tremendous amount of support from the fans and host cities, the *Amgen Tour of California* has grown to become a highly anticipated event within the international cycling community in only two years. Now in our third year, fans can expect the best race yet."

Returning for a third year as the title sponsor of the 2008 *Amgen Tour of California*, Amgen, the world's leading biotechnology company, will continue to leverage the race to raise awareness and support for people affected by cancer through the *Breakaway from Cancer*TM education and fundraising initiative. Based in Thousand Oaks, Calif., Amgen's invaluable support of the *Amgen Tour of California* has helped to ensure its continued success and impact beyond the sporting arena.

"Amgen is excited to join AEG for a third year as the title sponsor of the *Amgen Tour of California*," said Jim Daly, senior vice president of North America Commercial Operations at Amgen. "We look forward to another great race week and the opportunity to again lead the *Breakaway from Cancer* initiative to increase awareness of the support and educational resources available to help people living with cancer."

In its first two years, the *Amgen Tour of California* attracted some of the world's most renowned and respected riders, creating action-packed competition with non-stop excitement. As the winner of the 2007 *Amgen Tour of California*, California resident Levi Leipheimer (USA) of the Discovery Channel Pro Cycling Team has already gone on to win two stages in the Tour of Georgia and is currently racing in fourth place in this year's Tour de France.

"I think this race is great. It's indescribable," said Levi Leipheimer, general classification winner of the 2007 *Amgen Tour of California* and member of the Discovery Channel Pro Cycling Team. "It's beautiful. We have an awesome field, all the riders are still raving from last year and they'll be looking forward to 2008."

Sanctioned by the UCI (Union Cycliste International) and USA Cycling, the *Amgen Tour of California* has drawn the attention of everyone from cycling enthusiasts to first-time spectators, making it one of the most anticipated events on the international cycling calendar.

Beginning with the Prologue in Palo Alto through the grand finale in Pasadena, the 2008 race will visit 12 host cities for official stage starts and finishes, while cities along the route will also have the opportunity to witness the excitement of elite professional cycling. Stages for the 2008 *Amgen Tour of California* include:

- Prologue: Sunday, Feb. 17 - Palo Alto
- Stage 1: Monday, Feb. 18 - Sausalito to Santa Rosa
- Stage 2: Tuesday, Feb. 19 - Santa Rosa to Sacramento
- Stage 3: Wednesday, Feb. 20 - Modesto to San Jose
- Stage 4: Thursday, Feb. 21 - Seaside to San Luis Obispo
- Stage 5: Friday, Feb. 22 - Solvang time trial
- Stage 6: Saturday, Feb. 23 - Santa Barbara to Santa Clarita
- Stage 7: Sunday, Feb. 24 – Santa Clarita to Pasadena road race concluding with a circuit race in Pasadena

***For further information on the 2008 *Amgen Tour of California*, please visit www.amgentourofcalifornia.com.**

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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 our pioneering science and our vital medicines, visit 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, and NOKIA Theatre Times Square; sports franchises including the Los Angeles Kings (NHL), four Major League Soccer franchises, a Major League Lacrosse team, 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 and in Ontario, California as well as a soccer stadium in Harrison, New Jersey. For more information, visit AEG today at www.aegworldwide.com.

ABOUT THE CITY OF SAN JOSE'S OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The City of San Jose's Office of Economic Development (OED) is committed to a vital, competitive San Jose economy that increases prosperity for people and companies and enhances City revenues. The Office guides the City's economic strategy, provides assistance for business success, helps connect employers with trained workers, and provides art and cultural resources to our community. OED directs production and programming for the Amgen Tour of California in San Jose. For more information, please visit, www.sjeconomy.com.

ABOUT THE CITY OF SAN JOSE

From its founding in 1777 as California's first city, San Jose has been a leader, driven by its spirit of innovation. Today, San Jose stands as the largest city in Northern California and the Capital of Silicon Valley—the world's leading center of innovation. The city, the 10th largest in the U.S., is committed to remaining a top-ranked place to do business, work, live, play and learn. For more information, visit, www.sanjoseca.gov.

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