



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Airship Ventures Zeppelin to Cross Atlantic to the U.S.**

**World's largest airship to be transported on ocean carrier to its new home**

**Hamburg, September, 27<sup>th</sup> 2008 – The largest airship in the world, the 246-foot-long Airship Ventures Zeppelin will soon be traveling onboard a craft even larger than herself.**

One of only three Zeppelins in the world, the airship departed from the second-largest port in Europe for a voyage to her new home in the United States. The airship was loaded at the Airbus station at the Port of Hamburg, Germany, onto a 530 foot-long multipurpose/semisubmersible ro/ro ship, managed by Combi Lift/Denmark, and fixed by Condock Befrachtungs-Gesellschaft/Hamburg, part of the Harren&Partner Group, the MV "Combi Dock I." After securing the Zeppelin to the ships deck the engines and empennages were removed for the voyage cross the Atlantic. As the Zeppelin is formed with a semi-rigid structure inside its hull, it cannot be 'deflated' for transportation like a blimp.

After departing the Finkenwerder terminal in Hamburg, the ship will travel 5,200 miles to the Port of Beaumont, Texas. After reassembly and airworthiness testing, the airship will fly overland to her new home base at Moffett Field/NASA Ames Research Center in Mountain View, California.

A marvel of modern airship design, the Zeppelin NT ("New Technology") is manufactured in Germany by Zeppelin Luftschifftechnik GmbH. Powerful engines, state-of-the-art avionics, and fly-by-wire flight controls enable the airship to perform maneuvers similar to those performed by helicopters, including vertical takeoffs and landings. At 246 feet in length, Zeppelin NT is 15 feet longer than a Boeing 747, and dwarfs the largest blimp currently flying in the U.S. by more than 50 feet.



Moffett Field -based **Airship Ventures** owns and will operate this Zeppelin - offering the only airship passenger flight service in the United States. The Airship Ventures Zeppelin will be permanently based in the Bay Area, offering itineraries showcasing the San Francisco and Silicon Valley landscapes, Sonoma/Napa wine regions, and the Monterey/Big Sur coastline.

For more information about the Airship Ventures Zeppelin, or for ticket availability visit [www.airshipventures.com](http://www.airshipventures.com), or call 650-969-8100.

#### **ABOUT ZEPPELIN LUFTSCHIFFTECHNIK GMBH & CO. KG**

Zeppelin Luftschifftechnik GmbH & Co. KG, headquartered in historic Friedrichshafen, Germany, develops, manufactures and markets the Zeppelin NT, a modern lighter than air multi-purpose airship. Zeppelin NT airships are currently operating in Japan and Germany. In partnership with Deutsche Zeppelin-Reederei GmbH, a wholly owned subsidiary of Zeppelin Luftschifftechnik, a Zeppelin NT 07 has flown commercial air tours, advertising and scientific missions throughout Europe since 2001.

#### **ABOUT AIRSHIP VENTURES, INC.**

Founded in 2007, **Airship Ventures Inc.** is a privately owned corporation formed with the objective of bringing Zeppelin-NT airships to the USA for "flight-seeing" tours, media and science mission operations. Initially based with one ship in the Bay Area, the company plans to eventually have a number of airships operating throughout the USA. Manufactured in Germany, the **Zeppelin-NT07** is the world's largest airship. At 246 feet in length, it is longer than a 747, more than 50 feet longer than the largest blimp, and is configured to carry 12 passengers and two crew. Using inert helium gas for lift, and vectored engines mounted to an internal framework for thrust, the Zeppelin-NT has been flying with an unparalleled safety record since 1997, in Germany and Japan. For more information, visit: [www.airshipventures.com](http://www.airshipventures.com)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **Zeppelin media contact:**

Kathrin Runge

+49 7541 5900-547

[presse@zeppelin-nt.de](mailto:presse@zeppelin-nt.de)

[www.zeppelin-nt.de](http://www.zeppelin-nt.de)

#### **Airship Ventures media contact:**

Beth Pursley

650-969-8100 x122

[bpursley@airshipventures.com](mailto:bpursley@airshipventures.com)

[www.airshipventures.com](http://www.airshipventures.com)