

***Astronaut Rick Searfoss, Colonel, USAF Retired, Professional Speaker, Author,
Consultant, and Test Pilot
Leadership, Teamwork, Innovation, and Execution Excellence***

Colonel Rick Searfoss shares with only a handful of people in history the sublime joys of actually flying in space. In his career he has led many different teams, including commanding the most complex science research space mission ever, the STS-90 Neurolab flight on Columbia. He also piloted two other space flights, including a joint Russian-American mission to the Mir space station.

For over a decade Rick has stayed very active on the corporate speaking circuit as a high-content expert speaker on the topics of leadership, teamwork, innovation, and peak performance (www.ricksearfoss.com, www.liftofftoleadership.com, and www.astronautspeaker.com). His extensive leadership experience and work with some of the most innovative companies of the new millennium enable him to fulfill his mission of sharing the teamwork, leadership, and innovation lessons of human space flight with business leaders worldwide. He is the author of *LIFTOFF: An Astronaut Commander's Countdown for Purpose-Poered Leadership*.

Prior to becoming an astronaut Colonel Searfoss was a fighter pilot and test pilot in the U.S. Air Force, with over 6100 hours flying time in 84 different types of aircraft. A distinguished graduate of the U.S. Air Force Fighter Weapons School and the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School, he currently serves as Chief Test Pilot for XCOR Aerospace, working with the team developing the Lynx suborbital spaceplane. In this role he also flew the EZ Rocket and Rocket Racer technology demonstrator prototypes and has piloted more flights in rocket-powered craft than anyone else on the planet. He also has been a contract flight test instructor for the National Test Pilot School, and currently instructs Upset Recovery Training for Flight Research Inc. in Impala Jet and Sabreliner aircraft. He holds FAA ratings of ATP and Certified Flight Instructor single-engine, multi-engine, instrument, and glider.

Colonel Searfoss graduated first in his class from the United States Air Force Academy in 1978. He later earned a master of science degree in aeronautics from the California Institute of Technology on a National Science Foundation Fellowship and completed USAF Squadron Officer School, Air Command and Staff College, and Air War College.

His numerous awards include the Harmon, Fairchild, Price and Tober Awards as the number one overall, academic, engineering, and aeronautical engineering graduate in his USAF Academy class, Air Force Aero Propulsion Laboratory Excellence in Turbine Engine Design award, USAF Squadron Officer's School Commandant's Trophy as top graduate, Tactical Air Command F-111 Instructor Pilot of the Year, Outstanding Young Men of America, Air Force Commendation Medal and Meritorious Service Medals, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, NASA Exceptional Service Medal, NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal, Air Force Distinguished Flying Cross, and the Legion of Merit.