



Contact:
Michelle Peters
michelle@gozerog.com
Ph: +1 321.482.2964

Kern the Travelling Gnome Goes on a ZERO-G *Weightless Experience*[™]

Arlington, Virginia, US – November 13, 2012 – Did you know your weight varies around the globe? Because of slight changes in gravity, you'd weigh more at the South Pole than at the Equator. To help prove the point, Zero Gravity Corporation (ZERO-G) weighed Kern the Travelling Gnome near the Kennedy Space Center, Florida and then took him on a weightless adventure!

As part of a world-wide, mass participation experiment, ZERO-G weighed Kern the Travelling Gnome on November 10, 2012 just prior to taking flight on ZG 317. His official weight at the site was 307.97 grams which is less than at the South Pole and more than at the Hadron Collider at CERN in Switzerland, just two of the many other locations around the globe that Kern has been officially weighed. After the official weighing on the ground, Kern joined 32 other passengers aboard *G-FORCE ONE*[™], ZERO-G's modified Boeing 727-200 aircraft, for a ZERO-G *Weightless Experience*[™].

"We are delighted to host Kern on G-FORCE ONE in Florida, and high above the Gulf of Mexico, as part of this global science project," commented Terese Brewster, ZERO-G's President and COO. During the flight, Kern, who is named after the set of precision scales with which he travels, pre-calibrated according to local gravity at Kern HQ, Balingen, Germany, weighed between zero grams, at the height of the parabolic arcs, and 554.35 grams, during the 1.8g portions of the flight. His weight variations result from the parabolic nature of the flight performed by ZERO-G's specially-trained pilots. Flying the standard 15 parabola flight profile at altitudes ranging from 24,000 to 32,000 feet, Kern the Travelling Gnome experienced a Martian parabola (1/3rd of Earth's gravity), two Lunar parabolas (1/6th of Earth gravity) and 12 zero gravity parabolas.

About ZERO-G

[Zero Gravity Corporation](#) is a privately held company whose mission is to make the excitement and adventure of weightlessness accessible to everyone. Based in Arlington, Va.,

ZERO-G is the first and only FAA-approved provider of weightless flights to the general public; entertainment and film industries; corporate and incentive markets; non-profit organizations; research and education sectors; as well as foreign and domestic government agencies.

Founded by X PRIZE Chairman and space visionary, Dr. Peter H. Diamandis; former NASA astronaut, Dr. Byron K. Lichtenberg; and NASA engineer Ray Cronise, ZERO-G worked more than a decade to bring the marvel of weightless flight to the public. Since launching the *ZERO-G Experience™* in October 2004, the company has conducted more than 315 weightless flights and flown over 9,000 people from around the world, including celebrity and media personalities; corporate charters; educators and students; research scientists; and individuals aged eight to 93. ZERO-G operates under the highest safety standards as set by the FAA (Part-121) with its partner Amerijet International Inc. For more information, visit www.GoZeroG.com.

For more information and pictures about Kern The Travelling Gnome, or the physics and background behind the experiment, visit <http://m.flickr.com/#/photos/gnomeexperiment/>, or www.gnomeexperiment.com or contact James Nestor at kerngnome@gmail.com.

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