

American Rocket Company (AMROC) Records

2006

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Collection Overview

Repository: National Air and Space Museum Archives

Title: American Rocket Company (AMROC) Records

Date: (bulk 1987-1995)

Identifier: NASM.2006.0047

Creator: American Rocket Company (AMROC)

Extent: 2.18 Cubic feet ((2 box))

Language: English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Scott Sacknoff, Gift, 2006

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Biographical / Historical

The American Rocket Company (AMROC) was established in 1985 by George Koopman with the goal of developing space exploration with hybrid rocket technology. Promoting the safety and economical aspects of hybrid motors, AMROC developed several hybrid rocket motors through various partnerships and programs. AMROC's first proposed launch, with Single Engine Test-1 (SET-1), was postponed numerous times and the eventual attempt was not successful. AMROC was eventually crushed by a combination of hardships, including financial difficulties and the sudden death of Koopman due to a car accident. Without Koopman's motivation and leadership AMROC slowly deteriorated. The company did, however, play a key role in the development of hybrid rocket motors. The innovative technology AMROC used is still being used in the development of hybrid rocket technology.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of AMROC's business records. Included here is information on AMROC's various hybrid rocket motor programs and models, including Aquila, Hybrid Engine Analysis and Technology (HEAT), and SET-1, as well as general information relating to hybrid rocket technology. The types of materials present here include: correspondence, articles, press releases, presentations, analyses, reports, programs, agreements, and financial data.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

AMRCO Single Engine Test-1 (SET-1)
AMROC Aquila
AMROC Hybrid Engine Analysis Technology (HEAT)
Astronautics
Periodicals
Rocket engines
Rocketry

Types of Materials:

Correspondence
Financial records
Photographs
Technical manuals -- 20th century