



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**AEG CONFIRMS PROFESSIONAL CYCLING TEAMS FOR INAUGURAL  
AMGEN TOUR OF CALIFORNIA**  
*Race Presenter Announces Roster of 16 International and Domestic  
Cycling Teams for February, 2006 Event*

**LOS ANGELES**, January 17, 2005 – AEG, one of the world’s leading sports and entertainment presenters, today announced that it has confirmed 16 domestic and international cycling teams for its inaugural Amgen Tour of California. **Team CSC**, the world’s number-one ranked cycling team, Tour de France Champion **Discovery Channel Pro Cycling Team** and **Health Net presented by Maxxis**, winner of USA Cycling’s 2005 National Race Calendar, will lead 16 of world’s top cycling teams in the Tour de France style event scheduled for February 19-26, 2006.

“The level of competition coming to the inaugural Tour is unprecedented in the United States and rivals any race that was held worldwide last year,” said Bob Colarossi, managing director of AEG Cycling, LLC. “We have invited the best teams that the world has to offer to compete on an outstanding course. We are particularly thrilled that so many Californians will have the opportunity to line the race course and experience first-hand the thrill of cycling at this level.”

“The Amgen Tour of California is an event that attracts our style of racing - - we like to ride aggressively and show some spectacular cycling,” said Bjarne Riis, manager of Team CSC. “The organizers have put together a really challenging route that suits the riders we will bring. Naturally, we have very high ambitions for this race we have always enjoyed racing in the States and we look forward to a great week in California in February.”

Split evenly between teams who compete on the UCI Pro Tour and those who race predominately in the United States, the field of 128 athletes will be

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among the most internationally diverse and accomplished group of cyclists ever assembled for a professional stage race on American soil. The growing class of top domestic professionals will also be represented by America's premier developmental team, Team TIAA-CREF, the first-year United Pro Cycling Team, and Northern California based Kodakgallery.com/Sierra Nevada Pro Cycling Team.

"The commitment of eight UCI Pro Tour teams to the inaugural Amgen Tour of California is a tremendous testament to the caliber of the event and its future as a world class stage race in the United States," said Gerard Bisceglia, chief executive officer of USA Cycling. "Secondly it provides sports fans a rare opportunity to see so many top American cycling pros compete on their home soil against a strong international field."

Of the teams competing in the 2006 event, three (Discovery Channel Pro Cycling, Team CSC and Health Net presented by Maxxis) will hold their pre-season training camps in Solvang, California. Many of the Santa Barbara county roads that these teams use in their training will be part of the official 2006 race route, including the Category One ascent of San Marcos Pass.

"With the team and our title sponsor both being based in California, we've been looking forward to the Tour of California ever since early talk of it began last year," said Jeff Corbett, directeur sportif of the Oakland-based Health Net Pro Cycling Team Presented by Maxxis. "It's an opportunity to develop another top tier international stage race in the U.S." Corbett went on to add that "on the road to the NRC crown in 2005, we enjoyed a lot of success against top international teams, including the Pro Tour teams. We're looking forward to competing with them again during the Tour of California."

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**Amgen Tour of California 2006 Team Roster:**

Team CSC (CSC) – DEN  
Discovery Channel Pro Cycling Team (DSC) – USA  
Phonak Hearing Systems (PHO) – SUI  
Gerolsteiner (GST) – GER  
Davitamon-Lotto (DVL) – BEL  
Prodir-Saunier Duval (SDV) – ESP  
Credit Agricole (C.A.) – FRA  
T-Mobile Team (TMO) – GER  
Health Net Presented by Maxxis (HNM) – USA  
Navigators Insurance Cycling Team (NIC) – USA  
Colavita Olive Oil/Sutter Home Wines Professional Cycling Team (UCI Continental)  
United Pro Cycling Team (UCI Continental)  
Team TIAA-CREF (UCI Continental)  
Kodakgallery.com/Sierra Nevada Pro Cycling (UCI Continental)  
Jelly Belly Cycling Team (UCI Continental)  
KB Home Mexican National Team

For more information about the teams competing in the Amgen Tour of California, please visit [www.amgentourofcalifornia.com](http://www.amgentourofcalifornia.com)

**ABOUT AMGEN**

Amgen discovers, develops and delivers innovative human therapeutics. A biotechnology pioneer since 1980, Amgen was one of the first companies to 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 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 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](http://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 Corporation, owns or controls a collection of companies including facilities such as STAPLES Center, The Home Depot Center, Toyota Sports Center, NOKIA Theater Times Square, NOKIA Theatre at Grand Prairie and London's Manchester Evening News Arena; sports franchises including the Los Angeles Kings (NHL), Manchester Monarchs (AHL), Reading Royals (ECHL), Chicago Fire, Los Angeles Galaxy, Metrostars and San Jose Earthquakes (MLS), three hockey franchises operated in Europe, the Hammarby (Sweden) Futbol Club and management of shares of the Los Angeles Lakers (NBA) and Los Angeles Sparks (WNBA) owned by Philip Anschutz; AEG Marketing, a sponsorship, sales, naming rights and consulting company; AEG Merchandising, a multi-faceted merchandising company; and AEG Creative, a full-service marketing and advertising agency. AEG LIVE, one of the world's leading promoters of live concerts and other special events is also owned by AEG which is headquartered in Los Angeles.

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