

# What I have learned is key to thriving in the Solar Car Challenge since 1997

**Presented by Chris Jones, Chief Judge and Foundation Board Member**  
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# Who I am

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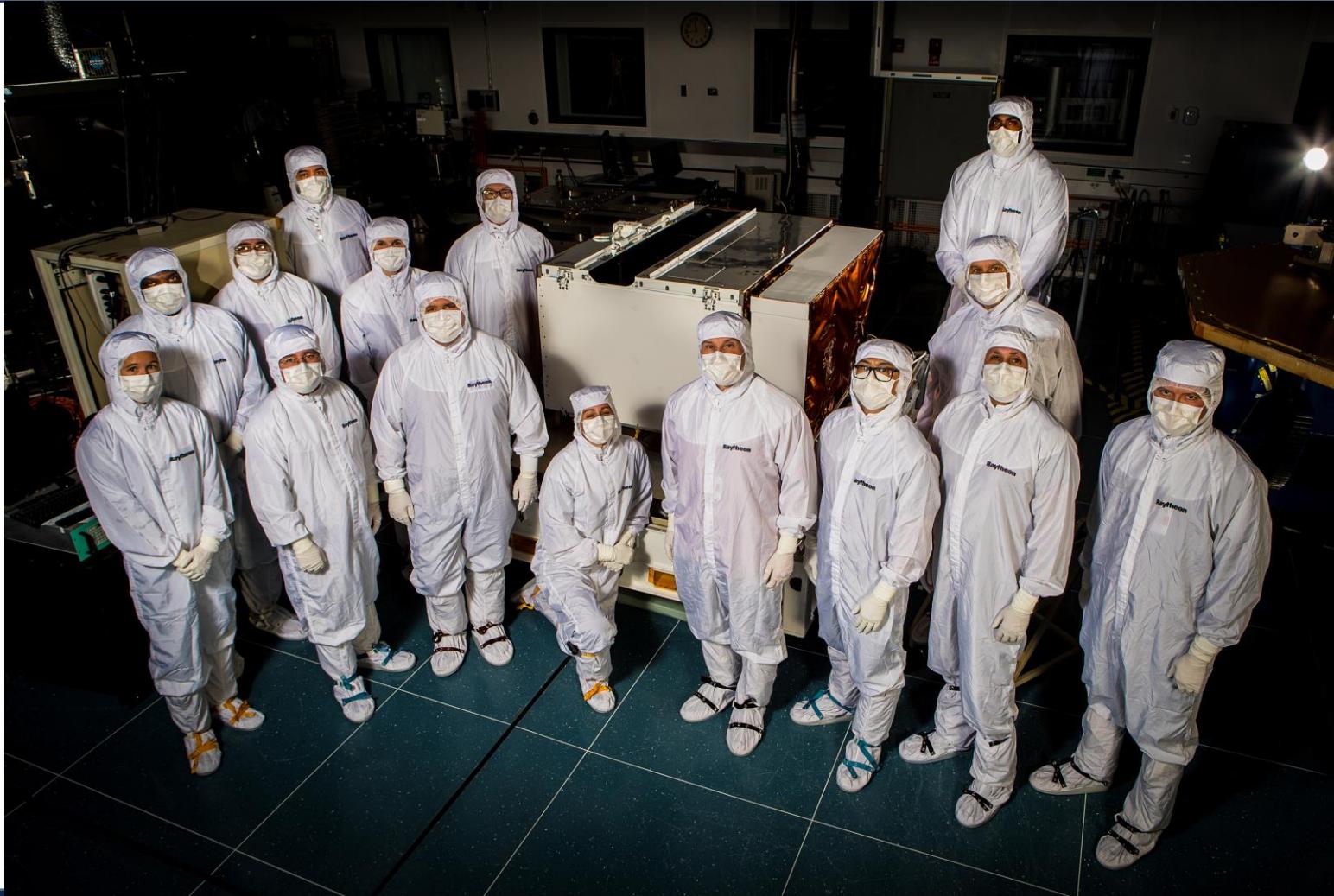
- I raced in 1997, 1998, and 1999
- I have a Mechanical Engineering Degree from Cal Poly
- I worked at JPL in an advanced technologies lab
- I was a Director at Raytheon Space and Airborne Systems
- I am Currently a senior manager at Northrop Grumman
- I have multiple satellites in orbit right now

# One of the things I'm Proud of

- This is the NASA blue Marble 2012
- Taken by the Raytheon VIIRS instrument
- [NASA Article](#)



# This is what took the Picture





# What is most important for success?

- **Rules for building your car**
  - **The Number One Rule**
    - It has to work
  - **The Number Two Rule**
    - If you do your very best it just might work...
  - **The Number Three Rule**
    - Cheat whenever possible.
    - No, don't actually cheat – be smart in what you do and how you approach it
- **Reliability**
  - Failing Fast Before you get to the event
- **Driving your car before the event**
  - Total Miles Driven
  - Driver Training
- **Read The rules**
  - Understand the rules and ask questions
  - Practice Scrutineering

# What are the most common things that cause a team to fail



- 1. The car was still being built at scrutineering**
- 2. Lack of testing**
- 3. Failure to Read or understand the rules**



# Please Listen

- You have already heard speakers touch on these things
- You will hear more the rest of today and tomorrow
  - Please listen when someone says “This is important”

# Questions?

