

FIFTH ANNUAL
CALIFORNIA CAPITAL AIRSHOW
MATHER AIRPORT • SEPTEMBER 11-12, 2010

Smoke-n-Thunder Jet Car

Out on the taxiway, you can hear the defining roar of an engine and see billowing clouds of smoke. You can feel the reverberations of mini sonic booms. You look up and realize that it's not an aircraft. In front of you is the Air Force Reserve Jet Car preparing to accelerate.



Before beginning his show, Bill Braack, driver, slowly drives past the crowd. He engages the afterburner which shoots 20 foot flames, produces billowing smoke and mini sonic booms.

At the end of the runway, the jet car comes to a standstill. An airplane above has challenged Bill to race. Jaws drop as the aircraft approaches. Bill is signaled by his crew member that the aircraft is directly overhead. He kicks in the afterburner and accelerates the Jet Car – he races at a speed approaching 400 mph and overtakes the plane in seconds. Bill is pulling 4.5 G's. As he deploys the parachute to bring his car to a stop, he experiences 11 G's of negative force.

After more than 4,000 performances, Smoke-n-Thunder still boasts a 100 percent safety record.