

AIRFLARE – THE NEW WINTER SAFETY APP for SKIERS

BOULDER, CO — Every winter season, millions of individuals and families enjoy time out on the slopes. While most outings are enjoyed incident free, the nature of skiing and boarding does have inherent risks. Most common are the minor inconvenience and stress of a separated party member, to the more significant dangers posed by tree wells or becoming lost while chasing powder beyond resort boundaries.

To address these risks, a new tool is making its way onto the scene at several mountain resorts across the United States. AirFlare, an app downloaded to a mobile phone, enables friends, family and search teams to pinpoint the location of skiers and outdoor enthusiasts of all types if they become lost or injured and need help.

AirFlare began on the simple idea that the vast majority of people who adventure outside do so with a mobile phone. In the outdoors, mobile phones are used as a camera, trip planner, GPS device and backup flashlight. Why can't phones do more to help us if we ever become lost or missing and in need of assistance on an outdoor adventure?

According to Denis Lee, AirFlare's co-founder, the AirFlare journey began when a friend failed to return from a winter outing in the mountains of Washington State. He had a personal locator device with him, but had an accident that prevented him from activating it. As avid adventurers, the AirFlare team was already familiar with various beacon and satellite communication devices available and realized they served a niche market. Beyond the added cost and weight of these specialized devices, they often were not a practical fit for the way so many people recreate outside.

According to Lee, "I saw a lot of the already available rescue technologies out on extended backpacking trips and alpine expeditions, but noticed they often didn't make the

gear list for a casual hike or a day out mountain biking. We built AirFlare for the everyday adventurer," Lee said.

The idea was simple. Leverage the powerful technology you likely already have in your pocket to help friends, loved ones and search teams locate you if you need help. "Our vision was to build an app that could conceptually be downloaded to every outdoor adventurer's phone because of its low cost and simplicity," Lee said. "We designed it to be extremely power conscious, and most importantly, to require no user action. So many people go on outdoor adventures alone, and we wanted AirFlare to be able to help them if they ever got into a situation where they couldn't help themselves. That's what started all of this, really."

AirFlare provides powerful location sharing features to help keep families and groups safe. If you are out skiing for the day with friends, for example, within a few seconds you can connect all the phones in the group, and if someone gets separated, a simple push of a button will display their location on a map and provide the ability for you to navigate to them.

The real power of AirFlare though is in the event you become the subject of a rescue by a search team. AirFlare's search technology was adopted by several mountain resorts last year, providing ski patrol a suite of powerful search tools to add to their toolbox. At Jay Peak, Vermont, for example: "Ski Patrol concluded another successful search yesterday. Three young customers ventured beyond the resort boundary. AirFlare was used successfully to determine their location, and with some coaching by phone, the group was able to struggle back to the base area under their own power."

At Powder Mountain, Utah, a call came in coincidentally during AirFlare onboarding training. The injured skier, with a suspected broken jaw, was confused about their location.

Dispatch sent a Location Request to the skier, and their coordinates were successfully returned. It was revealed that the skier was a mile from their originally reported location. After receiving accurate coordinates using AirFlare, patrol was able to be deployed to the injured skier's exact location.

AirFlare's flagship feature, though, is the ability to discover an AirFlare enabled phone outside of cell service. "That's really important to us," Lee said. "While most emergencies happen inside cell service, there's a lot that happens where cell service isn't available. Our vision was to develop a well-rounded suite of tools that can locate lost adventurers in either environment."

So, what are the next steps for AirFlare? According to Lee, AirFlare was designed from the beginning to be broadly applicable to outdoor enthusiasts across multiple outdoor disciplines, but the immediate predominant focus is the mountain resort community. "It's just a really powerful set of tools that serve that community quite well. We're excited to be in partnership with Bern Helmets this year and excited to see early interest from several mountain resorts so far this winter. We're going to make inroads into the snowmobiling community this season, we're looking at opportunities in the mountain biking space in the spring, and we're even exploring possibilities to add value in the Alzheimer's, Dementia and Autism community. This winter our main focus is to get our technology out to the skier and boarder community and to ski patrol teams to help keep people safe and help get them found if they get into trouble."

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For more information, visit AirFlare at airflare.com, or on the App Store or Google Play.

Please see their ad on the back of the cover page.

New Lifts for This Ski Season at Loon Mountain, NH; Sundance Mountain UT and Big Sky, MT THE FASTEST SIX-PERSON CHAIRLIFT in NORTH AMERICA, BIG SKY UPGRADES with the NEW SWIFT CURRENT 6 for 2021-22

Pub. Note: There was no shortage of development at ski resorts in past summers. Then COVID-19 halted many projects in 2020. Most of them were able to get back on track for completion during the summer of 2021.

Among them are an amazing heated, high speed, bubble, eight person lift at Loon Mountain in Lincoln, N. H. Sundance Mountain Resort in Sundance, Utah, installed a high-speed quad, the first high-speed lift at the mountain resort and the beginning of transforming the ski resort.

BIG SKY, MT – Big Sky Resort has completed the installation of a major new chairlift, Swift Current 6. It will be a new six-person, high-speed chair with a signature Big Sky Blue Bubble, ultra wide heated seats, and will also become the fastest six-person chairlift in North America. Swift Current 6 is the resort's next step in creating the most technologically-advanced lift network in North America, a key pillar of the Big Sky 2025 vision.

"Swift Current 6 replaced the four-person chairlift with state-of-the-art, energy-efficient Doppelmayr D-Line technology," explains Stephen Kircher, CEO and president of Boyne Resorts, parent company of Big Sky Resort. "This technology offers guests reliability and a staggeringly fast, warm, and comfortable ride leading up to the iconic Lone Peak. There will be no faster, safer or more comfortable chairlift in North America." He adds, "The safety-bars auto-lock, the adjustable ramp makes loading seamless, and with wide, heated seats and a weatherproof bubble, the short seven-minute ride will feature extraordinary comfort and reliability."

Swift Current 6 marks the fifth major Doppelmayr lift infrastructure project at Big Sky in the past five years. Each improvement offers innovations that are essential to deliver

on the Big Sky 2025 vision of creating America's Alp.

Consistent lift improvements are an essential part of Big Sky's 2025 vision, says Big Sky President and COO Taylor Middleton. "We know efficiently dispersing skiers across our almost 6,000 acres of skiing is essential to our guests. Swift Current will dramatically modernize and improve the flow of skiers in the Mountain Village base area thanks to a nearly 50 percent increase in uphill capacity and a noticeably faster ride."

About Swift Current 6

Swift Current 6, a new six-person Doppelmayr D-Line chairlift, is the fastest six-person chairlift in North America. It replaced the previous four-person chairlift with state-of-the-art, energy-efficient Doppelmayr D-Line technology. "This technology offers guests reliability and a staggeringly fast, warm, and comfortable ride up to the iconic Lone Peak, America's Matterhorn.

The lift will have 24 conical towers, 126 chairs, a speed of 1,200 feet per minute, consistently transporting 3,000 skiers per hour. In addition, each chair boasts ergonomically designed heated seats, individual headrests and footrests, and a weatherproof Big Sky Blue Bubble.

Swift Current 6 is the first six-seat, Doppelmayr D-Line chairlift in North America. Its Doppelmayr Direct Drive, an energy-efficient and environmentally friendly gearless drive, makes for whisper-quiet operations and low maintenance. This Direct Drive technology significantly improves energy efficiency and reduces the use of fossil fuel derivatives. By eliminating a traditional gearbox, the chairlift is more reliable and requires less maintenance time. The D-Line series of chairlifts also includes individual tensioning belts between each set of accelerator tires, designed to

increase operational reliability over other technologies.

It features an adjustable loading carpet so that once guests reach the loading point, lift attendants can manually raise and lower the loading carpet height to more easily and safely load children on the lift.

When lowered, Swift Current 6's safety bar will lock and automatically unlock in the top terminal, offering the highest level of safety, especially for children.

Chairlift towers are fitted with a speaker, allowing for updates in the event of a lift stoppage or other communications from lift operations personnel. The new bubble system 6 is highly wind-resistant, allowing it to run reliably in high-wind events. Reducing wind-related stops will further decrease average ride times and increase uphill capacity.

Swift Current 6 radically improves the off loading experience by exiting skiers toward the bowl on the Jay Walk trail. The entire top location will be shifted to greatly enhance the flow of traffic from the Shedhorn area and skiers exiting from Swift Current 6. This will reduce the number of historical stops occurring at the off loading ramp.

With the press of a button, chairs are stored in a chair barn, located near the top terminal of Swift Current 6. The storage system protects the chairs from collecting snow and ice at night.

Bike Haul Capacity

In Summer 2022, Swift Current 6's chairs will be configured to transport bikes, as well as foot traffic.

For more info, check out www.bigskyresort.com

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SPEND ALL WINTER at YOUR FAVORITE MOUNTAIN RESORT

WEST TRENTON, NJ - Make this your year to work at a ski resort in the great ski town of your choosing. Every resort, every lodging property, every restaurant in every ski town from Maine to California is hiring. Pick your favorite mountain to ski, or one that you always dreamed of skiing and log on to their website to find out more.

They are all hiring, from lift operators, to day lodge cashiers or kitchen staff, you will be paid to be at your favorite resort and you will ski for free if you work at the ski area. Do not delay, log on to your "wish list" of resorts and make plans to become part of the fun, and sometimes hard work, on the slopes all winter long. Go for it, they need you.

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