

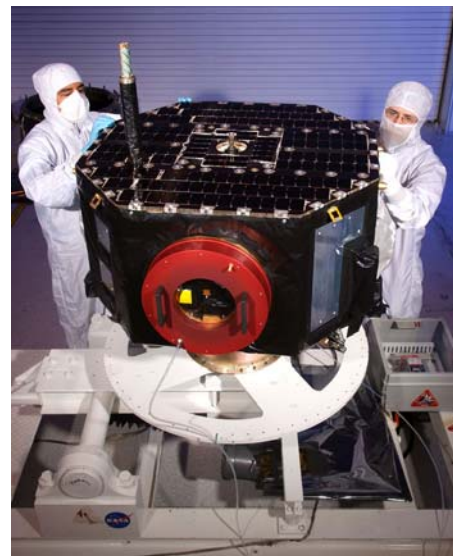


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Yardney Technical Products Lithium-ion Battery Powers Up IBEX in Space.

Pawcatuck, CT USA—Yet another Lithium-ion (Li-ion) battery manufactured at Yardney Technical Products (YTP) in Pawcatuck, CT is in space and in the early stages of powering up the IBEX (Interstellar Boundary Explorer) satellite. The satellite, which incorporated the Yardney Li-ion battery, was built by Orbital Sciences Corporation (NYSE: ORB) and also launched aboard one of their air-launched Pegasus rockets in a mission that originated from Kwajalein Atoll in the Pacific Ocean at 1:47 p.m. EDT on 10/19/08.

The IBEX satellite's mission will take it to a highly elliptical orbit (HEO) outside the Earth's magnetosphere. This orbit was achieved by the IBEX project flying their own solid rocket motor and hydrazine propulsion system on top of a Pegasus; the orbit will reach over 80% of the distance to the moon. There, it will be the first satellite to study the dynamic interactions that occur in the outer solar system. It will do this by analyzing the impacts of tiny, high speed particles called energetic neutral atoms. This program, funded by NASA, was led by Southwest Research Institute (SwRI) of San Antonio, TX with a team of partners that include YTP. The importance of this region is that it is believed to shield our planet from dangerous cosmic rays. The IBEX mission is the latest mission in NASA's Small Explorer (SMEX) program.



Technicians working on the IBEX Satellite.
Photo courtesy of Orbital Sciences Co.

The battery designed for use in the IBEX satellite utilizes the same Li-ion cells that are in the Mars Exploration Rovers, Spirit and Opportunity. These cells have successfully operated on the surface of Mars for almost five years. The 10.5 Ah cells on IBEX are arranged in a 2 Parallel/4 series configuration to supply 14.4 VDC nominal with 21 Ah of capacity. The battery also leveraged design concepts from the highly successful Air Force Research Laboratory/Lockheed Martin XSS-11 program, which was completed in 2005.

“We are excited and pleased to be part of another extremely important and demanding space application.” Vince Yevoli, President and Chief Operating Officer stated. “In this industry, exceeding our customers' requirements is our number one goal, and we are proving over and over that we have the skills, the technology and the discipline required to assist our customers in achieving complete mission success.”

IBEX is the latest in NASA's series of low-cost, rapidly developed Small Explorers spacecraft. SwRI developed the IBEX mission with a team of national and international partners. Goddard Space Flight Center manages the Explorers Program for the Science Mission Directorate in Washington.

Contact:

Kris Johannessen, Director, Business Development

Yardney Technical Products

(860) 599-1100, Ext. 472

kjohannessen@lithion.com

www.yardney.com