

Ball Aerospace Wins Air Force Contract for Ion Velocity Meter

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BOULDER, Colo., Feb. 12, 2014 /PRNewswire/ -- Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp. has been awarded a \$5.8 million contract from the Defense Weather System Directorate at the Space and Missile Systems Center in Los Angeles, Calif., for the production of the Ion Velocity Meter (IVM) under the U.S. Air Force Space Situational Awareness Environmental Monitoring program to fly aboard COSMIC-2, the Constellation Observing System for Meteorology, Ionosphere and Climate-2.

(Logo: <http://photos.prnewswire.com/prnh/20130108/LA39163LOGO>)

The IVM instrument was originally designed by the University of Texas at Dallas (UTD). Ball Aerospace is under contract to build five replicas of the instrument under a firm fixed-priced contract. In addition to other operational space sensor programs, Ball Aerospace employs a disciplined technology transfer process to IVM based on prior collaboration with UTD on the National Polar-orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite System.

"The improved sensing capability afforded by the IVM aboard the next-generation COSMIC-2 will contribute to critical long-term data continuity characterizing space plasma," said Dave Kaufman, vice president and general manager for Ball Aerospace's National Defense business unit. "IVM measurements are important for assessing the effects of space weather on spacecraft and communications."

COSMIC-2 is a joint follow-on mission between Taiwan and U.S. agencies to launch a constellation of six satellites into low-inclination orbits in late 2015. The COSMIC-2 mission will provide a revolutionary increase in the number of atmospheric and ionospheric observations. Ionospheric characterization is critical because it influences radio propagation to distant places on the Earth. Data from the IVM instruments will be used to characterize the ionosphere, providing information related to applications involving radio wave propagation.

U.S. agencies led by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) are now actively partnering with Taiwan's National Space Organization to execute the COSMIC-2 program. The U.S. Air Force will provide three space weather payloads that will fly on the first six satellites, including the IVM instruments and RF Beacon transmitters. The U.S. Air Force is also providing the primary payload, the U.S. Global Navigation Satellite System Radio-Occultation instrument under development by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory for atmospheric characterization.

Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp. supports critical missions for national agencies such as the Department of Defense, NASA, NOAA and other U.S. government and commercial entities. Ball Aerospace develops and manufactures spacecraft, advanced instruments and sensors, components, data exploitation systems and RF solutions for strategic, tactical and scientific applications. For more information, visit www.ballaerospace.com.

Ball Corporation (NYSE: BLL) supplies innovative, sustainable packaging solutions for beverage, food and household products customers, as well as aerospace and other technologies and services primarily for the U.S. government. Ball Corporation and its subsidiaries employ 14,500 people worldwide and reported 2013 sales of \$8.5 billion. For more information, visit www.ball.com, or connect with us on Facebook or Twitter.

Forward-Looking Statements

This release contains "forward-looking" statements concerning future events and financial performance. Words such as "expects," "anticipates," "estimates" and similar expressions identify forward-looking statements. Such statements are subject to risks and uncertainties, which could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied. The company undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Key risks and uncertainties are summarized in filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including Exhibit 99 in our Form 10-K, which are available on our website and at www.sec.gov. Factors that might affect: a) our packaging segments include product demand fluctuations; availability/cost of raw materials; competitive packaging, pricing and substitution; changes in climate and weather; crop yields; competitive activity; failure to achieve productivity improvements or cost reductions; mandatory deposit or other restrictive packaging laws; changes in major customer or supplier contracts or loss of a major customer or supplier; political instability and sanctions; and changes in foreign exchange or tax rates; b) our aerospace segment include funding, authorization, availability and returns of government and commercial contracts; and delays, extensions and technical uncertainties affecting segment contracts; c) the company as a whole include those listed plus: changes in senior management; successful or unsuccessful acquisitions and divestitures; regulatory action or issues including tax, environmental, health and workplace safety, including U.S. FDA and other actions or public concerns affecting products filled in our containers, or chemicals or substances used in raw materials or in the manufacturing process; technological developments and innovations; litigation; strikes; labor cost changes; rates of return on assets of the company's defined benefit retirement plans; pension changes; uncertainties surrounding the U.S. government budget, sequestration and debt limit; reduced cash flow; ability to achieve cost-out initiatives; interest rates affecting our debt.

SOURCE Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp.

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