

## **Ball Aerospace Kepler Satellite Marks Five Years of Planet Hunting**

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BOULDER, Colo., March 6, 2014 /PRNewswire/ -- The Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp. planet hunting Kepler Mission completed five years of operations today since its launch from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Florida on March 6, 2009.

Kepler is the first NASA mission to find Earth-size planets in or near the habitable zone, the region in a planetary system where liquid water can exist on the surface of an orbiting planet. In February, scientists announced that Kepler had discovered 715 new planets orbiting 305 stars, revealing multiple-planet systems much like our own solar system. Already Kepler discoveries include more than 3,600 planet candidates, 961 which have been verified as bona-fide worlds. The Kepler team continues to analyze four years of collected data anticipating still more discoveries contained within the data.

Ball Aerospace is currently teamed with the NASA Ames Research Center on a new mission concept, K2, that would continue Kepler's search for other worlds, and introduce new opportunities to observe star clusters, young and old stars, active galaxies and supernovae. K2 would search for new planets around bright stars and habitable worlds around M class stars, stars in the ecliptic roughly half the mass of our sun, to help pave the way for future missions like the James Webb Space Telescope, for which Ball is the principal optical subcontractor.

On March 7, the Kepler team will receive the preeminent Dr. Robert H. Goddard Memorial Trophy from the National Space Club at the annual Goddard dinner. The award acknowledges the Kepler team for significant contribution to U.S. leadership in the field of rocketry and astronautics. Kepler is a joint mission between Ball Aerospace, NASA Ames Research Center and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

Ball Aerospace is the Kepler mission prime contractor, which includes responsibility for the photometer, spacecraft, system integration and testing, and operation of the spacecraft on orbit.

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. The company 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](http://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](http://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](http://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.

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