Ball News Releases

Ball Aerospace Ships Ozone Mapping Instrument for Weather Satellite
The Ball-built instrument will be integrated onto NOAA's Joint Polar Satellite System-2 weather satellite


"Ball has been a part of ozone measurements from space for more than 40 years, and we are excited now to ship the OMPS instrument for integration onto NOAA's next polar-orbiting operational weather satellite," said Dr. Makenzie Lystrup, vice president and general manager, Civil Space, Ball Aerospace. "This is the third OMPS instrument Ball has delivered, with two currently in orbit providing critical ozone data. These measurements are used by forecasters at the National Weather Service to produce ultraviolet (UV) radiation forecasts, by researchers to track the health of the ozone layer and by policy makers to help improve life on Earth."

The OMPS instrument observes stratospheric ozone and measures its concentration as it varies with altitude. It is a three-part hyperspectral instrument, which includes a Nadir Mapper that will map global ozone with about 50-km ground resolution, a Nadir Profiler that will measure the vertical distribution of ozone in the stratosphere and the NASA-provided Limb Profiler that measures ozone in the lower stratosphere and troposphere with high vertical resolution.

The JPSS series of polar-orbiting weather satellites are funded by NOAA to provide global environmental data in low-Earth polar orbit. NASA is the acquisition agent for the flight systems, launch services and components of the ground segment.

Since the 1970's, Ball has designed and manufactured nearly 20 instruments to map and monitor stratospheric ozone, including a series of Stratospheric Aerosol and Gas Experiment (SAGE) instruments for NASA and nine Solar Backscatter Ultraviolet Radiometer (SBUV/2) instruments that have flown on an earlier generation NOAA polar-orbiting satellites. Ball also has played key roles on numerous operational environmental satellite programs, such as the Ball-built Suomi National Polar-orbiting Partnership (Suomi NPP) satellite, which launched in 2011, and the JPSS-1 satellite, now NOAA-20, which launched in 2017. Both Suomi NPP and NOAA-20 are flying OMPS instruments built by Ball. In addition, Ball is currently building the Weather System Follow-on – Microwave (WSF-M) satellite for the U.S. Space Force, a system that will make critical measurements of the ocean surface and atmosphere to meet specific DOD space based environmental monitoring requirements.

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Forward-Looking Statements

This release contains "forward-looking" statements concerning future events and financial performance. Words such as "expects," "anticipates," "estimates," "believes," "targets," "likely," "positions" and similar expressions typically identify forward-looking statements, which are generally any statements other than statements of historical fact. Such statements are based on current expectations or views of the future and are subject to risks and uncertainties, which could cause actual results or events to differ materially from those expressed or implied. You should therefore not place undue reliance upon any forward-looking statements and any such statements should be read in conjunction with, and, qualified in their entirety by, the cautionary statements referenced below. 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 factors, risks and uncertainties that could cause actual outcomes and results to be different 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. Additional factors that might affect: a) our packaging segments include product capacity, supply, and demand constraints and fluctuations, including due to virus and disease outbreaks and responses thereto; availability/cost of raw materials, equipment, and logistics; competitive packaging, pricing and substitution; changes in climate and weather; footprint adjustments and other manufacturing changes, including the startup of new facilities and lines; failure to achieve synergies, productivity improvements or cost reductions; mandatory deposit or other restrictive packaging laws; customer and supplier consolidation; power and supply chain interruptions; potential delays and tariffs related to the U.K's departure from the EU; changes in major customer or supplier contracts or a loss of a major customer or supplier; political instability and sanctions; currency controls; changes in foreign exchange or tax rates; and tariffs, trade actions, or other governmental actions, including business restrictions and shelter-in-place orders in any country or jurisdiction affecting goods produced by us or in our supply chain, including imported raw materials, such as those related to COVID-19 and those pursuant to Section 232 of the U.S. Trade Expansion Act of 1962 or Section 301 of Trade Act of 1974; 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: the extent to which sustainability-related opportunities arise and can be capitalized upon; changes in senior management, succession, and the ability to attract and retain skilled labor; 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; the ability to manage cyber threats and the success of information technology initiatives; litigation; strikes; disease; pandemic; labor cost changes; rates of return on assets of the Company's defined benefit retirement plans; pension changes; uncertainties surrounding geopolitical events and governmental policies both in the U.S. and in other countries, including policies, orders and actions related to COVID-19, the U.S. government elections, stimulus package(s), budget, sequestration and debt limit; reduced cash flow; interest rates affecting our debt; and successful or unsuccessful joint ventures, acquisitions and divestitures, and their effects on our operating results and business generally.
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