

Ball Aerospace Chosen to Compete for Ares I Instrument Avionics Contract

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Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp. has been selected by NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center as one of the final competitors for the Instrument Unit Avionics (IUA) contract for the Ares I Crew Launch Vehicle.

Ball Aerospace was chosen as a finalist from five industry teams that submitted proposals for the IUA contract, and will now enter discussions with NASA regarding proposal implementation. NASA is expected to select a single prime contractor for the Ares I Instrument Unit later this year.

"Ball Aerospace has the proven capabilities and experience to successfully meet NASA's extremely high standards for safety and mission success," said Bill Townsend, Ball Aerospace vice president for Exploration Systems. "We're the right team to interface with Marshall Space Flight Center based on our expertise in the integration of complex space systems, rich history in human spaceflight programs, and the affordability of our innovative and agile approach."

The Ball Aerospace team for the Ares I IUA includes subcontractors Hamilton Sundstrand and Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne, subsidiaries of United Technologies Corp. .

Ares I will replace the Space Shuttle following its 2010 retirement.

Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp. supports critical missions of important 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. Over the past 50 years, Ball Aerospace has been responsible for numerous technological and scientific 'firsts' and acts as a technology innovator for the aerospace market.

Ball Corporation is a supplier of high-quality metal and plastic packaging products for beverage, food and household customers, and of aerospace and other technologies and services, primarily for the U.S. government. Ball Corporation and its subsidiaries employ more than 15,500 people worldwide and reported 2006 sales of \$6.6 billion.

Forward-Looking Statements

This release contains "forward-looking" statements concerning future events and financial performance. Words such as "expects," "anticipates," "estimates" and similar expressions are intended to 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 99.2 in our Form 10-K, which are available at our Web site and at www.sec.gov. Factors that might affect our packaging segments include fluctuation in consumer and customer demand and preferences; availability and cost of raw materials, including recent significant increases in resin, steel, aluminum and energy costs, and the ability to pass such increases on to customers; competitive packaging availability, pricing and substitution; changes in climate and weather; crop yields; industry productive capacity and competitive activity; failure to achieve anticipated productivity improvements or production cost reductions, including those associated with our beverage can end project; the German mandatory deposit or other restrictive packaging laws; changes in major customer or supplier contracts or loss of a major customer or supplier; and changes in foreign exchange rates, tax rates and activities of foreign subsidiaries. Factors that might affect our aerospace segment include: funding, authorization, availability and returns of government and commercial contracts; and delays, extensions and technical uncertainties affecting segment contracts. Factors that might affect the company as a whole include those listed plus: accounting changes; successful or unsuccessful acquisitions, joint ventures or divestitures; integration of recently acquired businesses; regulatory action or laws including tax, environmental and workplace safety; governmental investigations; technological developments and innovations; goodwill impairment; antitrust, patent and other litigation; strikes; labor cost changes; rates of return projected and earned on assets of the company's defined benefit retirement plans; pension changes; reduced cash flow; interest rates affecting our debt; and changes to unaudited results due to statutory audits or other effects.

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