Ball News Releases

Ball Aerospace Team Shares Prestigious SPIE George W. Goddard Award

BOULDER, Colo., May 5, 2017 — The New Horizons Optical Instrumentation Team (NHOIT), responsible for obtaining the first-ever high-resolution color images and composition data of Pluto and its moons, is the 2017 recipient of the prestigious George W. Goddard Award from SPIE, the International Society for Optics and Photonics. Ball engineers worked with the Southwest Research Institute (SwRI) to design and develop the 'Ralph' instrument that provided color and composition maps on NASA's historic ten-year, three billion-mile mission to Pluto.

The George W. Goddard Award is given annually by SPIE in recognition of exceptional achievement in optical or photonic technology or instrumentation for Earth, planetary, or astronomical science, reconnaissance or surveillance from airborne or space platforms. The Goddard Award is reserved for the invention and development of a new process or technique, technology, instrumentation or system.

"The Goddard Award represents remarkable collaboration and an integrated team effort by the Southwest Research Institute, Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, Ball Aerospace and other industry partners whose dedication and ingenuity provided the scientific returns that have completely altered what we know about the Pluto system," said Rob Strain, president, Ball Aerospace. "We thank SPIE, one of the premier associations in our industry, for this recognition."

Ball built the Ralph instrument, a key instrument of the seven aboard the New Horizons spacecraft, in collaboration with the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) in Greenbelt, Maryland, under contract to SwRI in Boulder, Colorado. Equipped with powerful visible imagers and an infrared spectrometer, Ralph's resolution is almost ten times better than the human eye, and uses less than half the power of a nightlight.

Ralph is paired with the mission's ultraviolet spectrometer called 'Alice' (the two are named for the colorful Kramden characters from the 1950s television show "The Honeymooners") and 'LORRI', the Long Range Reconnaissance Imager. The Alice and LORRI instrument teams, led by SwRI and The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (APL), respectively, also shared the Goddard Award. The overall instrumentation suite was managed by SwRI; APL built and operates the New Horizons spacecraft and built and operates the mission for NASA's Science Mission Directorate.

Ball Aerospace pioneers discoveries that enable our customers to perform beyond expectation and protect what matters most. We create innovative space solutions, enable more accurate weather forecasts, drive insightful observations of our planet, deliver actionable data and intelligence, and ensure those who defend our freedom go forward bravely and return home safely. For more information, visit www.ball.com/aerospace or connect with us on Facebook or Twitter.

Ball Corporation 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 18,450 people worldwide and 2016 net sales were $9.1 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," "believes," "targets," "likely" 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 of 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 demand fluctuations; availability/cost of raw materials; competitive packaging, pricing and substitution; changes in climate and weather; competitive activity; failure to achieve synergies, productivity improvements or cost reductions; mandatory deposit or other restrictive packaging laws; customer and supplier consolidation, power and supply chain influence; changes in major customer or supplier contracts or a loss of a major customer or supplier; political instability and sanctions; currency controls; 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; 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 geopolitical events and governmental policies both in the U.S. and in other countries, including the U.S. government elections, budget, sequestration and debt limit; reduced cash flow; ability to achieve cost-out initiatives and synergies; interest rates affecting our debt; and successful or unsuccessful acquisitions and divestitures, including with respect to the Rexam PLC acquisition and its integration, or the associated divestiture; the effect of the acquisition or the divestiture on our business relationships, operating results and business generally.

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