Orbital Technologies Corporation Soars with Prime Contract for the Commercial Space Industry

Orbital Technologies Corporation (ORBITEC) is pleased to announce its selection to supply the Environmental Control and Life Support System (ECLSS) and Thermal Control System (TCS) with support from Hamilton Sundstrand for the Sierra Nevada Space Systems (SNC) Dream Chaser™ vehicle. The Dream Chaser™ is a flagship program for SNC and is being developed and tested to deliver crew to Low Earth Orbit on a commercial basis. ORBITEC leads the life support and thermal control systems for commercial space with with support from Hamilton Sundstrand to provide an array of safe and reliable life support and thermal control systems to the commercial space business. The array of systems, subsystems, and components the ORBITEC team provides is built on a combined 70 years of human spaceflight experience.

Sierra Nevada Corporation won an award under the NASA Commercial Crew Development (CCDev) program to advance the development of its winged, horizontal landing Dream Chaser™ space transportation system. This $80 million contract began in April 2011. The goal of NASA's commercial crew program is to accelerate the next-generation of U.S. capabilities to deliver humans to space by the 2015 timeframe. NASA is depending on commercial space companies such as SNC and ORBITEC to provide these safe and reliable flight capabilities, while increasing the cost effectiveness of such capability. Once developed, crew transportation would become available to NASA as well as other commercial and government customers.

Tom Crabb, President of ORBITEC, commented, "We are extremely humbled and excited to be part of the Dream Chaser team. Our commitment, along with Hamilton Sundstrand's, will assure our customers have the best solutions to provide safe, reliable, and affordable human support space systems for many years to come." The developments for crew transport also make more viable commercially provided destinations like the Bigelow Aerospace inflatable space stations for which ORBITEC has also been providing environmental control, life support, and thermal systems.

Sierra Nevada Dream Chaser Vehicle

SNC and its partners will continue to work in full cooperation with NASA to ensure the highest degree of safety on all aspects of the program and on each mission. Jim Voss, Vice President of SNC Space Exploration Systems, said, "We have assembled a great team of human spaceflight experienced personnel and companies that are enabling rapid, cost effective development of the Dream Chaser system. ORBITEC, along with Hamilton Sundstrand, bring the spirit of commercial space with the highest degree of heritage to the SNC team. Our Nation needs the capability to transport astronaut crews to the International Space Station and the SNC team intends to provide that capability through partnership with NASA. The strength of our team and our ability to work well together is leading the development of the Dream Chaser to fulfill that need, as well as transport humans to orbit for other commercial purposes such as scientific research and tourism." Contributions to the life support and thermal systems will come from Wisconsin, Illinois, Connecticut, and Texas.

ORBITEC and Hamilton Sundstrand will work with SNC to develop and integrate systems for pressure control, oxygen supply, temperature and humidity control, ventilation, thermal transport and rejection, gas contaminant removal, carbon dioxide removal, atmospheric composition monitoring, fire detection and suppression, and of highest importance—restroom facilities.

The space program is emerging into the cross-roads of commercial expansion much as the aircraft industry did more than 50 years ago. ORBITEC's team is proud to be part of this incredible development that will introduce revolutionary and cost effective products to sustain human activity in space for the next 50 years.

About The Dream Chaser

The Dream Chaser is a lifting body spacecraft based on former NASA design, the HL-20 crew vehicle, and carries with it a strong development heritage. It will launch on an existing launch vehicle and will have on-board propulsion utilizing SNC's proprietary hybrid rocket motor technology. The Dream Chaser, which is now under full production, is a piloted or autonomous spacecraft which provides safe, reliable, and cost effective transport of up to seven crew members or a combination of people and cargo to low earth orbit and returning them safely to the Earth without excessive deceleration or landing forces. Risk to deconditioned crew and delicate science experiment return samples is minimized through a low G landing on a runway. The combination of NASA heritage and proven technology will enable SNC's unique space transportation system to effectively and reliably carry crew and cargo to orbital destinations.

About Orbital Technologies Corporation (ORBITEC)

ORBITEC is a leading high technology development and subsystem integration company based in Madison, Wisconsin. ORBITEC offers commercially mature solutions and strong capabilities in five distinct areas: Next Generation Fire Suppression; Propulsion, Propellant, and Power Systems; Life Support and Environment Control; Bio-based products and production systems; and Interactive 3D Simulation Software. ORBITEC has won more than $150 million in contracts to develop state-of-the-art technologies and products from government (NASA, USAF, US Army, US Navy, USDA, FAA/DOT), large and small commercial aerospace, and other commercial industries The company has been able to convert research and development initiatives into leading technologies and mature the technologies to valuable products in their respective markets that provide significant cost advantages, superior functionality, and high reliability. ORBITEC is led by an experienced management team with over one hundred years of industry experience. For more information on ORBITEC, visit www.orbitec.com.

About Sierra Nevada Corporation
SNC is ranked in the top 10 among America's fastest growing private companies based on its significant growth and reputation for rapid, innovative, and agile technology solutions in electronics, aerospace, avionics, space, , aircraft, communications systems and solar energy. Founded in 1963, SNC's seven unique business areas employ over 2100 people in 29 different locations in 15 states—all of which are dedicated to providing leading-edge solutions to SNC's dynamic customer base. The company continues to focus its growth on the commercial sector through internal advancements and outside acquisitions, including the emerging markets of renewable energy, telemedicine, nanotechnology, cyber and net-centric operations. For more information on SNC, visit www.sncorp.com

About Hamilton Sundstrand
Hamilton Sundstrand is headquartered in Windsor Locks, Connecticut. Among the world's largest suppliers of technologically advanced aerospace and industrial products, the company designs, manufactures and services aerospace systems and provides integrated system solutions for commercial, regional, corporate and military aircraft. It also is a major supplier for international space programs. For more information on Hamilton Sundstrand, visit www.hamiltonsundstrand.com.

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