



press release
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NASA selects Saft America to develop next-generation Lithium-ion technology

High-energy technology needed for NASA's future missions

COCKEYSVILLE, Md. (June 15, 2009) — Saft, a world leader in the design and manufacture of high-performance batteries, has been awarded a multi-million dollar contract to develop the next-generation lithium-ion (Li-ion) technology for NASA. After a competitive review, Saft was selected for its expertise in electrochemistry and its ability to take products developed in the research lab to large-scale manufacturing.

In order to launch and operate rovers, landers, astronaut packs, and other space applications on the moon, the new technology must offer very high specific energy. Based on its existing high-energy Li-ion technology know-how, Saft is developing an advanced lithium-ion cell that will enable NASA to significantly reduce the weight of its next-generation missions.

“This contract further solidifies Saft’s reputation as an industry leader with a proven track record of developing and delivering unprecedented technologies for the space market,” said Thomas Alcide, General Manager of Saft’s Specialty Battery Group. *“This Li-ion solution will provide advanced capabilities necessary for NASA to support future missions.”*

In addition to NASA, Saft has a long history of powering space applications such as launchers, satellites and planetary rovers for a number of companies including Boeing, Thales Alenia Space, EADS Astrium, Galileo Industries, MicroSat Systems and Orbital Sciences.

About Saft

Saft (Euronext: Saft) is a world specialist in the design and manufacture of high-tech batteries for industry. Saft batteries are used in high performance applications such as industrial infrastructure and processes, transportation, space and defense. Saft is the world’s leading manufacturer of nickel-cadmium batteries for industrial applications and of primary lithium batteries for a wide range of end markets. The group is also the European leader for specialized advanced technologies for the defense and space industries. With approximately 4,000 employees worldwide, Saft is present in 18 countries. Its 15 manufacturing sites and extensive sales network enable the group to serve its customers worldwide. Saft is listed on the Paris Stock Market. The stock is listed in the SBF 120 index. For more information, visit Saft at www.saftbatteries.com.

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