

## **TRW Moves Ahead on EOS-PM Assembly, Integration and Test**

REDONDO BEACH, Calif., Oct. 11 /PRNewswire/ -- TRW Inc. (NYSE: **TRW**) is moving ahead with the assembly, integration and test phase of construction on NASA's Earth Observing System-PM (EOS-PM) satellite.

Acoustic, vibration and other tests on the spacecraft structure were recently successfully completed, and TRW has started integration of avionics and electrical subsystems. EOS-PM's six science payload instruments will be integrated into the spacecraft in the coming months.

"The build-up of the spacecraft is proceeding well," said Brooks Vogt, TRW's EOS program manager. "We have demonstrated the capability of the spacecraft bus to serve as an optical bench, to satisfy the alignment requirements of the multiple mission instruments."

EOS-PM will focus on climate-related measurements of the Earth's atmosphere, cloud cover, precipitation, terrestrial snow cover and sea ice during its six-year mission following its launch in late 2000. Data from the scientific instruments will allow scientists to begin to piece together answers to some fundamental questions: What natural and human forces are at work? How do they interact? What can we predict? How can we prepare?

TRW is building two low-Earth orbiting satellites and integrating four to six NASA-provided instruments onto each satellite under the EOS Common Spacecraft program. The satellites are based on a common, or standardized, bus design that can accommodate the various instruments needed to perform the different EOS missions all with a common interface.

Flight hardware for the second EOS spacecraft, Chemistry, is currently being built in parallel. EOS Chemistry recently completed its systems requirements review, a major

program milestone. Scheduled for launch in December 2002, Chemistry will measure the creation and decay of trace chemical compounds in the Earth's atmosphere during its six-year mission.

Both EOS satellites will be placed into a polar, sun-synchronous orbit. Sun synchronous means that a satellite passes over any point on Earth at the same local time. This allows scientists to observe and collect data on environmental phenomena with the same relative conditions of daylight.

EOS is the centerpiece of NASA's Earth Science Enterprise, a long-term coordinated program to study the Earth as a single, global environment. Earth science data is already being used to study the connections among the Earth's air, water, land and life. EOS will greatly expand its scope, with benefits ranging from improved long-term weather forecasting to improved management of agricultural resources.

TRW Space & Electronics Group builds communications, scientific and defense spacecraft for military, civil and commercial customers; produces, integrates and tests payloads; develops advanced space instruments; and integrates experiments into spacecraft. It is an operating unit of TRW Inc., which provides advanced technology products and services for the global automotive, aerospace and information systems markets. TRW's Web site is at: <http://www.trw.com> .

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