

NEWS RELEASE

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MICROCOSM-LED TEAM AWARDED CONTRACT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF PRECISION NAVIGATION SYSTEM

For Immediate Release

EL SEGUNDO, CA, February 3, 2006 – Microcosm, Inc., an aerospace engineering firm in El Segundo, California, today announced the award of a Phase II Small Business Innovative Research contract for the development of a prototype Precision Navigation and Integrated Attitude Determination (PNIAD) system, consisting of a MEMS inertial measurement unit, a GPS receiver, and a star camera. The work will be done in conjunction with teammates NAVSYS of Colorado Springs, Colorado, and Michigan Aerospace Corp. of Ann Arbor, Michigan. The work is funded by the Missile Defense Agency.

According to Microcosm Director of Technology Development, Paul Graven, “PNIAD is intended to bring to small satellites a range of capabilities previously available only on much larger and more expensive satellites. These include precise station-keeping, precision orbit transfer, and rendezvous with other satellites.” Graven further explained, “A small spacecraft responds much more quickly to environmental disturbances than does a large spacecraft and, therefore, requires a much quicker response from its attitude control system. PNIAD is intended to meet that need for both much smaller and much more responsive attitude control.”

About Microcosm, Inc.

Microcosm is a small business specializing in space mission engineering and the development of technologies and methods to facilitate more responsive space missions at substantially reduced costs. Microcosm's three primary business areas include the Scorpius[®] family of Responsive, Low-Cost Expendable Launch Vehicles; Autonomous Guidance, Navigation and Control Systems; and Space Mission Engineering and Architecting.

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