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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STUDY OF EARTH'S MOON TO BE POWERED BY YARDNEY BATTERIES

On September 10th two Gravity Recovery and Interior Laboratory (GRAIL) spacecraft were launched into space. Lithium-Ion batteries manufactured in Pawcatuck, CT at Yardney Technical Products are a critical part of both these spacecraft. The mission will fly twin spacecraft in tandem orbits around Earth's moon. For this mission, Yardney again teamed with Lockheed Martin Space Systems based in Denver, Colorado and NASA Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL).

The GRAIL spacecraft were launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida on a Delta II rocket. In addition to the GRAIL batteries, Yardney also manufactured 2 Silver-Zinc batteries for this Delta rocket. These batteries are used to power the flight termination system. That is a total of 4 Yardney batteries on 1 mission.

The launch begins GRAIL's 3.5 month low-energy cruise phase where the craft will journey to the moon and insert themselves into orbit. Over a two month period the spacecraft will be maneuvered into their formation-flying science orbits and then the 82-day science phase will begin. During this phase, the spacecraft will make precise measurements of the moon's gravitational field. Scientists will use this information to gain insight into the internal structure of the moon and its thermal history. This information will be used to better understand how the Earth and other rocky planets in the solar system were formed.

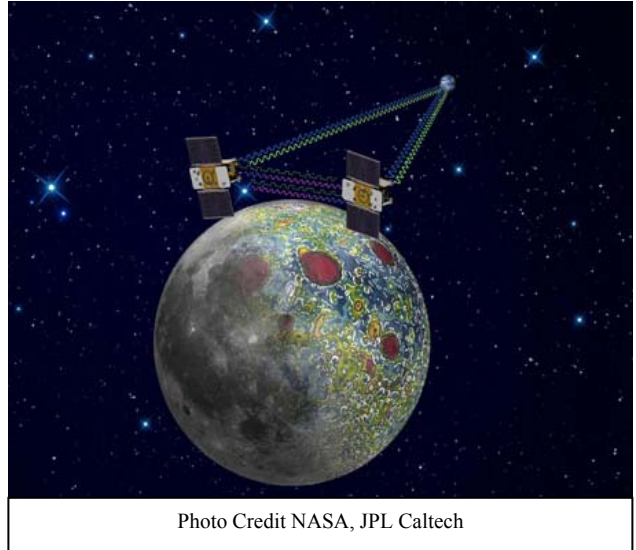


Photo Credit NASA, JPL Caltech



Photo Credit NASA JPL

Both satellites will be powered by a combination of solar arrays and an advanced, space qualified Yardney Lithium-ion battery. The battery is a 28 volt, 30 amp hour system that leverages Yardney's highly successful Mars Rover and Phoenix Mars Lander battery designs.

"We are very proud to be on another NASA mission. Juno is on its way to Jupiter and Curiosity will be on its way to Mars by the end of the year. Yardney is an important part of several current and exciting missions." stated President and COO, Vincent A. Yevoli, Jr.

For over 67 years, Yardney has manufactured batteries for demanding space and military applications. The primary chemistries manufactured here today are Lithium-ion and Silver-Zinc. Some other applications that have energy supplied by Yardney batteries are the B2 Stealth bomber, the Global Hawk Unmanned Aerial Vehicle and the Atlas V and Delta IV rockets.

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