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Boeing X-51A WaveRider Powered by Quallion's Lithium-Ion Battery Receives Aviation Week Program Excellence Award

Sylmar, Calif. (November 12, 2010)- Boeing's X-51A WaveRider, which is powered by the fastest lithium-ion battery on earth (designed and produced by Quallion LLC), program received the 2010 Aviation Week Program Excellence Award on Tuesday, November 2nd, adding to its many accolades.

Established in 2004, the award recognizes innovation and leadership in managing the aerospace and defense industry's top programs. According to Aviation Week, the winners were selected based on value, leadership, performance and other criteria. This year, evaluators considered 67 programs and selected three winning programs and four finalists. The X-51A received the top award in the System-Level Research and Development /System Design and Development category.

Joe Vogel, Boeing director of Hypersonics and X-51A program manager, accepted the award. Accompanying Vogel at the event were Charlie Brink, Air Force Research Laboratory customer and George Thum, program manager for Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne, which provides the propulsion system.

"These Program Excellence Award winners are accelerating progress and improving program performance across the aerospace and defense industry," said Greg Hamilton, president of Aviation Week. "Their outstanding leadership and creative innovations have been applied to solving society's toughest problems in the face of shrinking budgets and unknown future geopolitical issues."

The Boeing X-51A Waverider successfully completed the longest supersonic combustion ramjet-powered flight in history, traveling at a top speed of Mach 5 for nearly three-and-a-half minutes. Quallion's lithium-ion cell was designed for high discharge power capabilities with high safety characteristics. The X-51A Waverider ScramJet Demonstrator Program is sponsored by the US Air Force Research Laboratory and built by a consortium of the Boeing Company and Pratt & Whitney. The hypersonic test vehicle is designed to achieve Mach 6+ speeds at an altitude of 100,000 feet.

"We want to congratulate the Boeing X-51A Waverider program for their many accomplishments and their continuous efforts in propelling the advancements of future aerospace and defense projects," says Vincent Visco, vice president of military/aerospace power at Quallion LLC, in Boeing's acceptance of the award. "We are proud to have a successful qualified product used in such an innovating vehicle, and we are willing to work with the effective Boeing X-51A Waverider program on any future flight projects that may arise."

About Quallion LLC

Quallion LLC was founded in 1998 by biotechnology and aerospace entrepreneur Alfred E. Mann and lithium ion battery specialist Dr. Hishashi Tsukamoto. The company designs, fabricates and
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manufactures state-of-the-art lithium ion cells and battery packs, and develops new battery chemistries for the military, aerospace, medical and automotive industries. Building on its legacy leadership position in the medical device industry, the company has developed a range of novel enabling technologies that include the world's smallest implantable secondary battery and the proprietary Zero-Volt™ and SaFE-LYTE™ technologies. Leveraging its core engineering capabilities, Quallion has established itself as a leader in applications where advanced battery technology, safety, reliability and custom engineering are most valued. Visit www.quallion.com for more information.

About Aviation Week

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