



News Release

For Immediate Release

SPACEQUEST TO DEVELOP BUS FOR US AIR FORCE ACADEMY'S FALCONSAT-3 MISSION

Fairfax, Virginia , August 15, 2003 – The US Air Force Academy has selected SpaceQuest, Ltd. of Fairfax, Virginia to develop and construct a spacecraft bus for its FalconSAT-3 mission. SpaceQuest will develop a microsatellite bus concept that can accommodate the USAFA's anticipated science and technology demonstration payloads. The FalconSAT program is managed by the Air Force Academy's Small Satellite Research Center, under the direction of Lt. Col. Jerry Sellers, with interactive participation by cadets, faculty and selected contractors.

SpaceQuest's core technical team of experienced experts with broad microsatellite development experience, will be involved in the concept development, definition of requirements, functional flow down, component development, assembly, integration and test of the FalconSAT bus. Many of the spacecraft subsystems will be designed and built by this core team. The bus design will define the spacecraft's configuration, size, mass and power generation capability.

The assembly, integration and test strategy for the satellite is driven by its highly effective modular design. Each of seven modules will be assembled separately. Once assembled and tested individually, the modules will be integrated into a complete avionics package. Four fixed solar panels will be mounted on the spacecraft structure, each providing 20-watts of solar power for the internal components.

“We are very excited about this project and confident that with our prior experience and success in microsatellite design and development, our baseline design will meet or exceed the target performance requirements for the Air Force Academy,” said Dr. Dino Lorenzini, President of

SpaceQuest. “We intend to develop a modular spacecraft platform that will provide high performance at low cost, and will allow rapid and flexible integration of a variety of science and advanced technology payloads.”

The FalconSAT spacecraft is scheduled for launch in 2006 on an Atlas IV rocket.

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About SpaceQuest

SpaceQuest has been a developer of advanced satellite technology for government, university and commercial use for the past fifteen years, specializing in the design, development, testing and manufacture of spacecraft as well as space and ground components for operation with low-Earth orbiting satellites. Some projects that SpaceQuest personnel have led, managed or had major involvement in include (i) a Microsat Feasibility Study for the Canadian Space Agency, (ii) the MOST satellite, (iii) the design and development of AMSAT satellites AO-27, AO-40 and AMSAT-Echo to be launched in the 2nd quarter of 2004, (iv) the design development, integration, test and launch of the two Saudi microsatellites, (v) the Aprize Satellite system design, development, construction, integration and test, (vi) the design, construction and test of the attitude control subsystem for the NASA CHIPSAT and the Australian FEDSAT satellites, and (vii) the design and test of the power subsystem and momentum wheel for the SNAP-1 nano-satellite.

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