



Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Airborne Systems Selected To Design Parachutes for SpaceX Rocket

Santa Ana, CA (May 23, 2007) Airborne Systems, which has combined the world's leading parachute brands specializing in aerial delivery, rescue and survival equipment, and engineering services announced that its Space and Recovery Systems Engineering team (formerly Irvin Aerospace) has been selected to provide Recovery Systems for Space Exploration Technologies Corp's. (SpaceX) Falcon 9/Dragon system. These systems will support government and commercial launch operations and the NASA Commercial Orbital Transportation Services (COTS) program.

The Airborne Systems team will design and manufacture parachutes and related equipment to recover both the First and Second Stages of the Falcon 9 Rocket and the Dragon Capsule. The capsule will become a transportation vehicle to deliver cargo to and return equipment from NASA's International Space Station (ISS). In addition to carrying cargo, it is also being designed to transport crew members to the ISS in the future.

"Our solution features a main parachute design from our family of large Ringsail products" said Tony Taylor, Technical Director, Space Market. "The Ringsail was designed to handle the rigors of spacecraft recovery. Over the years, its unique design has proven its worth and is currently used on a number of spacecraft recovery programs including the parachute development on NASA's Orion Spacecraft. We are very proud to be selected to work with SpaceX as our entire team has been focused on developing parachute recovery systems for large spacecraft and manned spaceflight for over a decade" said Taylor.

"We worked with Airborne Systems on the Falcon 1 project and we are pleased to have them join the Falcon 9 and Dragon team as well" said Elon Musk, CEO and CTO of SpaceX".

About Airborne Systems

Airborne Systems has combined the core technologies of four of the world's leading parachute brands; Irvin Aerospace, GQ Parachutes, Para-Flite and AML (Aircraft Materials, Ltd). The company is a world leader in the design, development, and manufacture of best-of-class parachutes for military, personnel, and cargo systems, space and air vehicle recovery systems, and deceleration systems for high-performance aircraft. The company also provides ordnance flare chutes, airbags, and weapons delivery systems. Airborne Systems' North American headquarters is located in Pennsauken, NJ and Airborne Systems Europe is headquartered in Llangeinor, Wales in the U.K. Information about the various Airborne Systems products and services can be found on the World Wide Web at www.airborne-sys.com