

Design and Qualification of Family of Space COTS Batteries

Rob Gitzendanner, Richard Coffin, Michel Lannes



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EaglePicher at a Glance



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EaglePicher in Space



MARKETS PRODUCTS TECHNOLOGY ABOUT US RESOURCES CONTACT US

A SUPERPOWER IN

BATTERY TECHNOLOGY

IUR PRODUCTS

POWERING MISSION SUCCESS

2 9 6 5 8 1 2 3 9 6

Hours in space without a single failure. Mission accomplished! 'Approximate cell hours.

POWERING SOLUTIONS

DIVERSE MARKETS

Lithium-ion Space Heritage



Custom Cells and Batteries









EAGLEPICHER⁺



COTS Cell Battery Designs

NASA Orion – Crew Module Battery



EAGLEPICHER TECHNOLOGIES

- + Nominal 120V, 30Ah (14p32s)
- + Baseline NASA JSC Design
 - + EP completing design to meet environmental requirements
- Thermal Runaway safety demonstrated no propagation in testing

Modular Design

+

- + Cells arranged into 14p sub-bricks
- + 8s sub-bricks arranged on a thermal wall super-brick
 - 4s super-bricks arranged in sealed aluminum structure



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Modular Battery Development

- Several (non-space) applications developed with COTS cells, following similar design pathways
- Performance-based cell selection, driven by application needs
- + Module Designs for Scalability
- + BMS architecture design to support large systems/arrays
- Design in safety through best practices and demonstrated testing







Flexibility and Safety Foundation of Solutions

1. Cell Selection

- Performance characterization, validation, tracking

2. Design Modularity

- Flexible designs for rapid integration and scalability

3. Battery Management System

- Proven designs for performance and safety

4. Safety/Anti-Propagation

- demonstrated design safety and thermal management



Right Cell for Right Application

- + LEO missions favor cells that have the following characteristics:
 - + Capable of high charge and discharge rates
 - + Capable of high cycle count
 - + Stable voltage performance under load
- + GEO missions favor cells that have the following characteristics:
 - + High cell specific energy
 - + Leading to high battery mass efficiency by using less cells
 - + Low capacity degradation
 - + Under cycling and storage conditions (Time at SOC and temperature)
 - + Cells spend a large fraction of their time in orbit not being cycled
- + Always have to beware of Counterfeit Cells...



Characterization Testing

- Cell robustness established through 100% DOD testing
 - + Eliminate cells that are designed to *optimize* \$/kWh rather than cycle life
 - + Cells that behave well in that test will perform well under high cycle count at low DOD
- Type 2 cells are attractive for LEO missions
- Type 6 cells good candidate for GEO missions





LEO Mission Life Testing

- Up to 10,000 cycles accumulated on multiple cell types at 30%, 40%, and 50% DOD
- Selection of cells through 100% DOD testing is confirmed by LEO test data





Life Characterization and Modeling

- Models necessary to establish cell performance trend early
 - A mission test often takes time and cannot be completed before launch
- Life test data used to derive semi-empirical models
- + The combination of sufficient mission testing and high DOD testing provides confidence cells will meet mission requirements
 - + Life tests continue in parallel to flight to confirm long term performance





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Family of Space COTS Batteries

Space COTS Battery Line

- + EaglePicher defined a "Family" of Space COTS batteries
- + All 28V Nominal 8s Li-ion 18650 Cells

+ Nominal 1kWh Size – 8p, 10p or 12p



+ Nominal 6kWh Size – 63p





Internally Derived Specification

- + 'Envelope' experience from previous missions
- + Support LEO and GEO Missions

Spacecraft Battery		
Technical Specification		
EaglePicher Technologies 1215 W. C Street, Joplin, MO 64802 <u>www.eaglepicher.com</u> DUNS # 78-810-4334 Cage Code: 81855		
Document Date: May 5, 2021 Revision 1		
Business Development Point of Contact: Rick Meehan 401-234-6961 rick meehan@eadepicher.com	Technical Point of Contact: Richard Coffin 417-623-8000 richard.coffin@eaglepicher.com	Contract Point of Contact: Carol Baker 417- 208-1578 carol baker@exglepicher.com



Modular (Pack) construction







Battery Configuration Options

Increase Voltage





COTS-based BMS

- + Resistive Cell Balancing
- + Current, Voltage and Temperature Monitor and Reporting
- + Heater Control
- + Battery Isolation (optional)





Qualification Test Plan

- + Ground bonding
- + Isolation
- + Capacity
- + Electrical Performance
- + Impedance DC/AC
- + Temperature/TVAC
- + Shock and Vibe
- + EMI/EMC
- + Shipping UN/DOT 38.3



Baseline Schedule

- + Engineering Development Units complete Delivering to customers
- + Critical Design Review (internal) Q2 2022
- + Qualification Complete early Q3 2022
- + Flight Units Delivered Q3/Q4 2022



Conclusion/Summary

- + EaglePicher has an extensive heritage in space applications
 - + Over 2 Billion Cell-hours operating in space, Over 14 years operational on Mars
 - + Deep knowledge-base on how to design for long endurance, high reliability missions
- + Developed internally designed Family of Space Batteries with COTS cells
 - + Low cost, configurable solutions
 - + Can be stocked for quick delivery
- + Flexible assembly line processing to reduce processing time and increase reliability and repeatability
- + Fully Qualified in Q3 2022









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