

PRESSEMITTEILUNG

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VPT to Design Revolutionary Power Supply for US Air Force Satellite Program

Pioneering a new standard in affordable satellite power supply design, VPT will incorporate its off-the-shelf space-quality DC-DC converters and other components.

BLACKSBURG, VA, June 24, 2002 - VPT Inc., the innovative leader in providing power conversion products for military, aerospace, space and other high reliability markets, announced that the United States Air Force has awarded VPT a contract to develop a modular, high-efficiency series-connected boost regulator (SCBR) solar array peak-power tracker (PPT) for satellite systems. As a result of this contract, VPT will make satellite affordability a reality by designing a small, efficient power system that incorporates the use of standard, off-the-shelf DC-DC power converters rather than expensive custom converters.

Initially for use in defense systems, the new power supply designs will be applicable for a number of commercial satellite platforms in the future. Small and medium-sized commercial satellites will be able to take advantage of this technology and incorporate smaller, more reliable, more efficient power supplies for an overall reduced total cost of ownership (TCO).

According to Dr. Dan Sable, VPT President, "There is a revolution occurring in satellite systems. The satellite of the future will be much smaller, lower cost, and more reliable than present day satellites. The power systems of these satellites must be efficient, expandable, and low cost. This will require new concepts in satellite power system design and VPT will continue to be a leader in this area."

About the Air Force SCBR PPT Program

The new class of SCBR PPTs will optimize the use of energy from the satellite solar arrays, enabling smaller batteries and a smaller overall satellite size that is lower in cost to produce, and more efficient to operate.

The backbone of the modular SCBR PPT will be VPT's line of radiation tolerant, affordable, off-the-shelf DC-DC converters that feature a series of innovative technologies and features, including:

- } VPTs patented magnetic feedback control (without optocouplers) that allows operation down to the zero volt output necessary for SCBR operation

- } Standard radiation tolerances of more than 100Krad of total dose radiation and 60MeV of single-dose radiation
- } Fault-tolerant parallel operation
- } Proprietary current sharing method that provides for fault tolerance with a single current share bus and no master-slave operation
- } Thick-film hybrid technology for reliable operation

For companies that wish to incorporate this new power supply system in future satellites, VPT will offer additional space-level screening for product performance. The technology now in development is expected to be commercially available in approximately 12 months from VPT.

Weitere Informationen erhalten Sie bei:

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