

Second Busek Hall Thruster in space



Press Release: Second Busek - and U.S. - Hall Thruster launches on FalconSat-5 spacecraft

Natick, Massachusetts—August 8, 2011—

Busek Co. Inc., a US developer of electric propulsion for space vehicles, announced the successful firing of its second Hall Effect Thruster System in space. AFRL and the USAF Academy integrated Busek's HET system on the FalconSat-5 satellite, which launched aboard DoD Space Test Program's S26 mission on an Orbital Sciences Minotaur-IV rocket from Kodiak Island in November 2010.

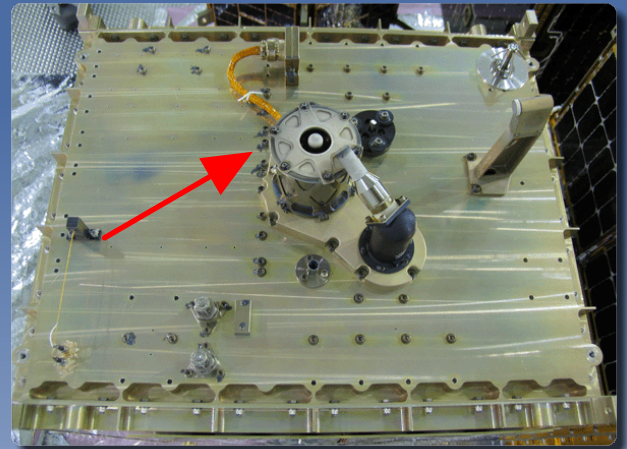
Operation of Busek's electric thruster system follows upon the success of Busek's previous 200W Hall Effect Thruster which flew on the AFRL TacSat-2 spacecraft, and was the first US developed Hall thruster in space.

These two consecutive and successful demonstrations of Busek's technology further validate the viability and practicality of electric propulsion for space vehicles. Electric space propulsion can bring numerous cost and mission-capability enhancements, including the extension of existing satellite's operational lifetime as well as future missions to remove increasingly hazardous space-debris from earth's orbit.

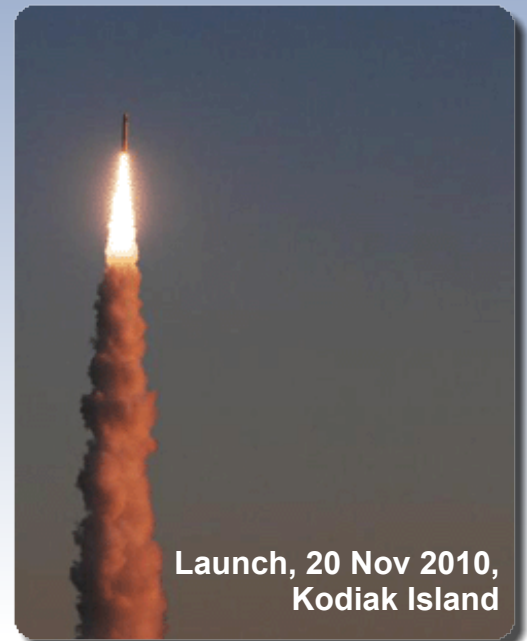
About Busek Co, Inc

Busek Co. Inc. is a privately held advanced space system company located in Natick, Massachusetts. For over 25 years Busek has provided a wide range of thrusters, electronics, space systems, research and complete mission and system engineering support for customers including the major aerospace primes, NASA and the US Air Force. In addition to FalconSat-5, Busek flight heritage includes products for AFRL TacSat-2, USAFA FalconSat-3 and NASA/ESA Lisa Pathfinder. In the late nineties, Busek licensed its Hall thruster technology to Aerojet Corp. that produced the BPT-4000 Hall thruster now flying on the Advanced EHF satellite.

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Busek BHT-200 Hall Effect Thruster System (indicated in arrow) mounted on the USAF Academy Satellite FalconSat-5



Launch, 20 Nov 2010, Kodiak Island