



Use of ThinGap motor kits in commercial, scientific, and military Space-grade systems. Logo is property of NASA.

Press Release

ThinGap Completes Delivery of Flight-Grade Motor Kits to NASA

A relied-on source for USA-designed and made high performance BLDC solutions.

Camarillo, CA (June 7, 2021) – ThinGap has announced the final delivery of flight-grade motor kits to NASA in support of their PACE Program's Ocean Color Instrument (OCI). ThinGap's motor technology has been used in commercial, scientific, and military Space-grade systems that are now in orbit.

"PACE" is NASA's Plankton, Aerosol, Cloud, ocean Ecosystem satellite mission to observe global ocean biology, aerosols, and clouds. It is scheduled to launch in 2022. "OCI" is the satellite's primary sensor, specifically a spectrometer used to measure intensity of light over portions of the electromagnetic spectrum. As a high-precision optical platform, OCI will enable continuous measurement of light at finer wavelength resolution than previous NASA ocean color sensors.

The LSI 140-35 model delivered are based on ThinGap's LS Series of slotless motors with added program requirements typical of a Space application. Like all ThinGap motor kits, LS torque motors offer zero cogging, high efficiency, a large aperture, and an overall lightweight architecture that is ideal for optical applications.

High performance motor kits used in Space has become ThinGap's largest end-market in recent years. Reaction Wheel Assemblies (RWAs) used in Low-Earth Orbit (LEO) micro-satellites is one of the largest applications for the Company's high-speed TG Series. The LS Series, like the model used in the OCI, is commonly used in advanced gimbal systems that require high amounts of torque, in some cases, to quickly and precisely move in both azimuth and elevation, and in other cases, to quickly compensate for external "tumbling" disturbances common in orbit.

Government customers represent a small, but important, aspect of ThinGap's motor development and production business targeted at aerospace, industrial, and medical applications. The delivery of motor kits to NASA adds to ThinGap's long list of Government customers, including DARPA, US DOE, US Navy, US Air Force, and JPL.

"ThinGap considers it an honor to support NASA projects, both past and present. Our emphasis on engineered-solutions, performance and as a USA-source make us a perfect fit for important Government programs," said John Baumann, ThinGap's CEO.

About ThinGap

For two decades, ThinGap has been a leader in the design and manufacturing of USA-made, high performance electric motor and generator kits. ThinGap's patented ultra-thin coil stator and optimize permanent magnet design rotors results in a step increase in performance relative to conventional slotted technologies and other available slotless motors.