EARQUIMEA CLEANSPACE

SMA Valve for Passivation



ARQUIMEA Aerospace & Defence

Engineering company specialized in parts and systems for Space, Aeronautics, Defence, Hi-Rel Industrial and Science

Suppliers of electronics, microelectronics, mechanisms, software, robotics and drones

End-to-end engineering capabilities. In-house mechanisms workshop, labs and clean room facilities

Strong **R&D** activity and **product-oriented** strategy

Commercial offices in Germany, USA and Malaysia

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80 employees

HQ in Madrid (Spain)



22M€ revenues in FY20



Mechanisms

One-stop-shop for space-qualified mechanisms and ground support equipment

SHAPE MEMORY ALLOYS

Own-proprietary high-temperature shape memory material → SMARQ

SMAs are **artificial muscles** commonly used as force, linear and rotary actuators, springs and valves

Lightweight, solid-state alternative to pyro-actuators, hydraulic and pneumatic systems

Typically used in automotive, industrial, healthcare, aeronautics...

Stable operation in harsh thermal environments from - 40 to +150°C



OFF-THE-SHELF ACTUATORS

HDRMs, Valves & Pin Pullers

Hold-down and release of solar arrays, antennas, cover doors, booms, heat shields, scientific instruments, etc. in spacecraft

Low-shock, non-explosive, resettable

Extended operation temperature range

Solar Array Deployment Mechanisms

HDRM + deployment mechanism for small satellite platforms



MECHANISMS MAIT

Full manufacturing capabilities: precision machining, mechano-welding, milling, lathes, EDM, robotic cell

90sqm clean room with thermal vacuum chamber (under construction)

Turnkey solutions. Custom design of equipment, tools and GSE

60+ years' experience in aerospace. Over 30,000 devices supplied.



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Development of a SMA valve for passivation of propulsion system at the end of missions.

The valve will also be suitable for isolation applications at the beginning of life.

TARGET SPECIFICATIONS

- · Normally closed valve, commanded by Shape Memory Alloy
- Suitable for Propellants (N₂H₄, MON, MMH, LPM-103s), Inert gases (Kr, Xe, He, Ar) and all propellant vapors
 - Long-term compatibility with propellants such as N_2H_4 is critical
- Environmental operating temp.: -30 to +60°C (gas application), 0°C to +60°C (liquid storable propellant application)
- Environmental nonoperating temp.: -50°C to +90°C (gas application), -2°C to +90°C (liquid storable propellant application)
- Inlet operating pressure: MEOP = 310 bar
- External leak: < 1x10⁻⁶ scc/sec GHe at worst-case conditions (during min and max non-op temperature)
- Mass < Pyrovalve (410g not including harness)
- Lifetime on ground + on orbit = 25years.

Development and Qualification of a Shape Memory Alloy Valve for Propulsion Passivation (ESA Contract No. 4000126106/18/NL/LvH)



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- Design based on the complete isolation of the SMA actuator from the propellant flow.
 - · All-Ti design for wetted parts
 - · Isolation of active elements ensured by welding
 - Ensures long-term compatibility with propellants during the whole life (25 years)



- Frangible design
 - SMA actuation produces the fracture of a blind pipe, which once broken allows the propellant flow to the outlet.

Parameter	Value	Compliance
Mass	337 gr	С
Envelope	Body: 147mm length, 31x31mm section	С
Op. Temperature	-30 to 60°C (gas) 0°C to 60°C (liquid)	С
Op. Pressure	310 bar	С
Power	<20W at 24V	С
Pressure drop	100mbar at 100g/s H2O	С
Actuation times	Min: 40s @65ºC @32V Max: 340s @-30ºC @24V	С
Leakage	< 1 x 10-6 scc/sec GHe	С



CURRENT STATUS & ROADMAP

- PDR completed
- Design Models tests completed
 - Validation of frangible elements
 - Key design elements validated
 - Elastic tests
 - Welded parts tested: leakage tightness
 - SMA characterization
- Critical processes validation on going
- EM manufacturing being completed
- EM tests planned in Q4 2021
- > CDR foreseen in Q1 2022
- Qualification campaign start foreseen on Q3 2022



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OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS TO CLEANSPACE



Other contributions to CleanSpace

REACT HDRM for the release of a drag sail

ADEO – Passive Deorbit Subsystem. Deployable Drag Sail

- Drag sail subsystem constituted by a boom and a membrane for passive deorbiting of satellites. It recognizes when the satellite has come to the end of its mission or has failed and then slowly unfurls a large aluminum-coated polyamide membrane, attached to four carbon-fibre reinforced booms.
- The membrane acts as a sail, to create a drag effect causing the spacecraft to decrease its orbit much faster, catching at the atmosphere to slow the worn-out spacecraft enough that it will burn up entirely.
- ARQUIMEA is supplier of the HDRM release nuts for the demonstration model.





Other contributions to CleanSpace

REACT HDRM for the release of booms for the removal of space debris

ClearSpace – Space Debris removal

- In 2025, ESA's ClearSpace-1 demonstration space mission will be launched to validate the technologies needed for the future removal of space debris. This programme aims to build a sustainable commercial service that will enable satellite operators to maintain orbital slots reliably and securely.
- The mission will rely on a system with large booms to retrieve elements abandoned in space.
- ARQUIMEA is supplier of the HDRM release nuts for the deployment of the booms of ClearSpace-1 demonstration mission.



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