



# communiqué de presse **press** release

N° 32-10

## **Latest Ariane 5 ECA launch marks 50<sup>th</sup> satellite to use Saft Li-ion technology**

*Saft Li-ion technology powers newly-launched Arabsat 5A and COMS satellites*

**Paris, 29 July, 2010** – Saft, the world leader in the design and manufacture of high-technology industrial batteries, has supplied its advanced lithium-ion (Li-ion) battery modules to power the latest satellites to be successfully launched into space – Arabsat 5A, which will provide a broad range of satellite communication services to the Middle East and Africa, and COMS (Communications, Oceanography and Meteorology Satellite), a South Korean multi-mission satellite.

The two satellites, both of the EADS Astrium GEO satcom platform, were launched by Flight 195 of the Ariane 5 launcher on 26 June 2010 from French Guyana. The launch marks the 50<sup>th</sup> satellite to enter service with Saft Li-ion technology on board. Saft's latest VES Li-ion batteries offer the highest specific energy (Wh/kg) of any battery chemistry currently available, which enables satellite designers to save weight on the battery so that more of the payload can be utilized for revenue-earning equipment.

Saft is the preferred supplier of Li-ion battery modules to EADS Astrium for its Eurostar E3000 satellite platform (in the frame of a LTA contract). Saft battery systems also powers key elements including: main cryogenic stage (EPC), boosters (EAP), Vehicle Equipment Bay (VEB).of the Ariane 5 launcher.

### **About Saft**

*Saft (Euronext: Saft) is a world specialist in the design and manufacture of high-tech batteries for industry. Saft batteries are used in high performance applications, such as industrial infrastructure and processes, transportation, space and defence. Saft is the world's leading manufacturer of nickel batteries for industrial applications and of primary lithium batteries for a wide range of end markets. The group is also the European leader for specialised advanced technologies for the defence and space industries and world leader in lithium-ion satellite batteries. Saft is also delivering its lithium-ion technology to new applications in clean vehicles and renewable energy storage. With approximately 4,000 employees worldwide, Saft is present in 18 countries. Its 15 manufacturing sites and extensive sales network enable the group to serve its customers worldwide. Saft is listed in the SBF 120 index on the Paris Stock Market.*

For more information, visit Saft at [www.saftbatteries.com](http://www.saftbatteries.com)

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