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Scientific Products

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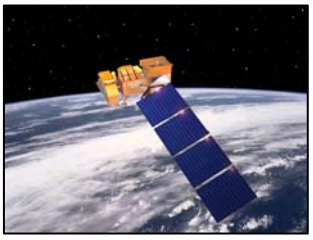
Barr Associates, Inc. is Selected to Build Filter Assemblies for the Landsat Data Continuity Mission (LDCM).

Ball Aerospace and Technologies Corp of Boulder, Colorado recently selected Barr to develop, manufacture and test multi-spectral filters for the Operational Land Imager (OLI) they are building for NASA / USGS. These filters are very high performance versions of a filter array technology developed and refined over several years by Barr. Each filter assembly consists of nine individual spectral bands, thus the "multi-spectral" designation. A full instrument compliment consists of 14, closely matched filter assemblies.

This is the latest of a long series of Barr – Ball collaborations extending back to a 1979 project called SAGE II. Sage II measured atmospheric gas concentrations. In the intervening years Barr has provided filters to Ball projects including high profile examples like the Hubble Advanced Camera for Surveys (ACS) and those less well known such as the Deep Impact cometary mission http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/deepimpact/main/index.html and New Horizons http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/newhorizons/main/index.html.The New Horizons spacecraft with its Ralph instrument was launched two years ago and is presently cruising toward Pluto with a planned rendezvous in 2015. It is carrying a Barr multi-spectral filter similar to the OLI filters.



"Landsat imagery courtesy of NASA Goddard Space Flight Center and U.S. Geological Survey"

LDCM is the first of a new generation of the thirty five year old Landsat series of Earth observing satellites. NASA is responsible for building and launching the satellite which will be operated by the USGS. Barr filters are flying on the last of the old generation spacecraft (Landsat 7 / ETM+ imager). A technology demonstration mission named EO-1, developed by MIT Lincoln Laboratory is a precursor to LDCM. Barr provided the multi-spectral filters for EO-1. Other US civil Earth observing missions carrying Barr multi-spectral filters include MISR, MODIS, OrbView, WorldView (used by Google Earth) and NextView. For information regarding LDCM / OLI filters, contact Tom Mooney, OLI Project Manager at Barr Associates, Inc. NASA LDCM site: http://ldcm.nasa.gov/about.html.

Barr Associates, Inc., founded in 1971, is the largest independent designer and manufacturer of precision thin film coatings and optical filters. Based in Westford, Massachusetts, Barr deploys coating technologies from below 200nm to over 50 microns and manufacturing capacities from small prototype jobs to large-volume production to service leading companies and innovators across diverse markets. Contact Barr at (978) 692-7513, email: barr@barrassociates.com or visit our website at www.barrassociates.com.