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DUNMORE Products Protecting Mars Rover as it Explores the Red Planet's Surface

Custom Thin Film Tape Protects NASA Probe's Wiring from Mars' Harsh Environment

Bristol, Pa., Aug. 6, 2012 – As the Mars rover Curiosity begins its journey across the red planet's surface searching for signs of sustained microbial life, DUNMORE Corporation's [high-performance thin films](#) will protect its sensitive wiring from the Martian environment's radiation, harsh temperature swings and electromagnetic interference.

The Curiosity, part of the [Mars Science Laboratory](#) program, touched down on Mars Sunday evening after an eight-and-a-half-month flight from the Cape Canaveral Air Station in Florida. Larger than previous rovers, the compact-car-sized vehicle was lowered to the Martian surface by a sky crane mounted on a delivery vehicle that hovered over the landing site on retro rockets.

NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory used a special reinforced tape DUNMORE created to insulate all of the wiring inside the Mars Rover. The insulating tape ensures the electrical currents from the rover's different systems don't interfere with each other and impede the rover's operation. DUNMORE created the tape by combining DuPont™ Kapton® polyimide film with a 3M adhesive and fiberglass reinforcement layer. The DUNMORE tape is the only [multi-layer insulation \(MLI\)](#) product on the Mars Rover.



“Getting the rover to Mars was an enormous task. Now it's time for the payoff – the exploration and research. Our insulating tapes will help prevent operational failures as the probe travels around Mars and sends new knowledge back to Earth,” said DUNMORE Vice President John Jordan.

DUNMORE tapes and insulation blankets have been used in almost every major space program of the last 20 years, including the Space Shuttle program, Hubble Telescope, International Space Station, and NASA's Juno and Aquarius exploratory probes. With increasing demand from public and private organizations launching satellites into orbit, DUNMORE expects steady growth in space program opportunities, such as supplying MLI to the next-generation GPS III program, which will encompass a minimum of 30 new satellites.

About DUNMORE

DUNMORE Corporation is a global supplier of engineered [coated and laminated films and foils](#). DUNMORE offers film conversion services such as coating, metallizing and laminating along with contract film manufacturing. DUNMORE produces coated film, metallized film and laminating film substrates for the photovoltaic, graphic arts, packaging, aerospace, insulation, surfacing and fashion industries. DUNMORE is privately held, ISO 9001:2008 and OSHA VPP Star certified. For complete information on DUNMORE's products, services and industries served, please visit DUNMORE's website <http://www.dunmore.com/>.

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