



December 19, 2006 (JST)  
Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)

## Orbit Determination Result and the First Apogee Engine Firing Schedule of the Engineering Test Satellite VIII “KIKU No. 8”

The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) confirmed that the “KIKU No. 8” has been injected into the scheduled first transfer orbit as a result of the orbit determination. The following is the result of the orbit determination.

	Determination result	Scheduled value
Apogee Altitude	36,177 Km	36,151 Km
Perigee Altitude	249 Km	249 Km
Inclination	28.5 Degrees	28.5 Degrees
Period	10 hours 39 Minutes	10 hours 39 Minutes

JAXA will fire the apogee engine of the “KIKU No. 8” four times to inject the satellite to the second, third, and fourth transfer orbits, then to the drift orbit. (Please refer to the attachment.) The first apogee engine firing is scheduled to be carried out for about 92 minutes from 7:05 a.m. on December 19, 2006 (Japan Standard Time, JST) to put the “KIKU No. 8” into the second transfer orbit.

The satellite is now in good condition.

(Note)

Transfer orbit: a temporary orbit where a satellite is injected into by a launch vehicle before it moves into its target Geostationary orbit.

Apogee engine: firing at the apogee of a transfer orbit, a satellite increases its perigee altitude to go closer to its target Geostationary orbit.

Drift orbit: a circular orbit at the altitude of about 36,000 km that is the last step before a satellite is injected into its target Geostationary orbit.

Next Update:

The result of the first apogee engine firing will be released at around 12:00 p.m. on Dec. 19 (JST.)

This information is also available on the following website:

<http://www.jaxa.jp/>

### For inquiries:

JAXA Tsukuba Space Center General Administration Office

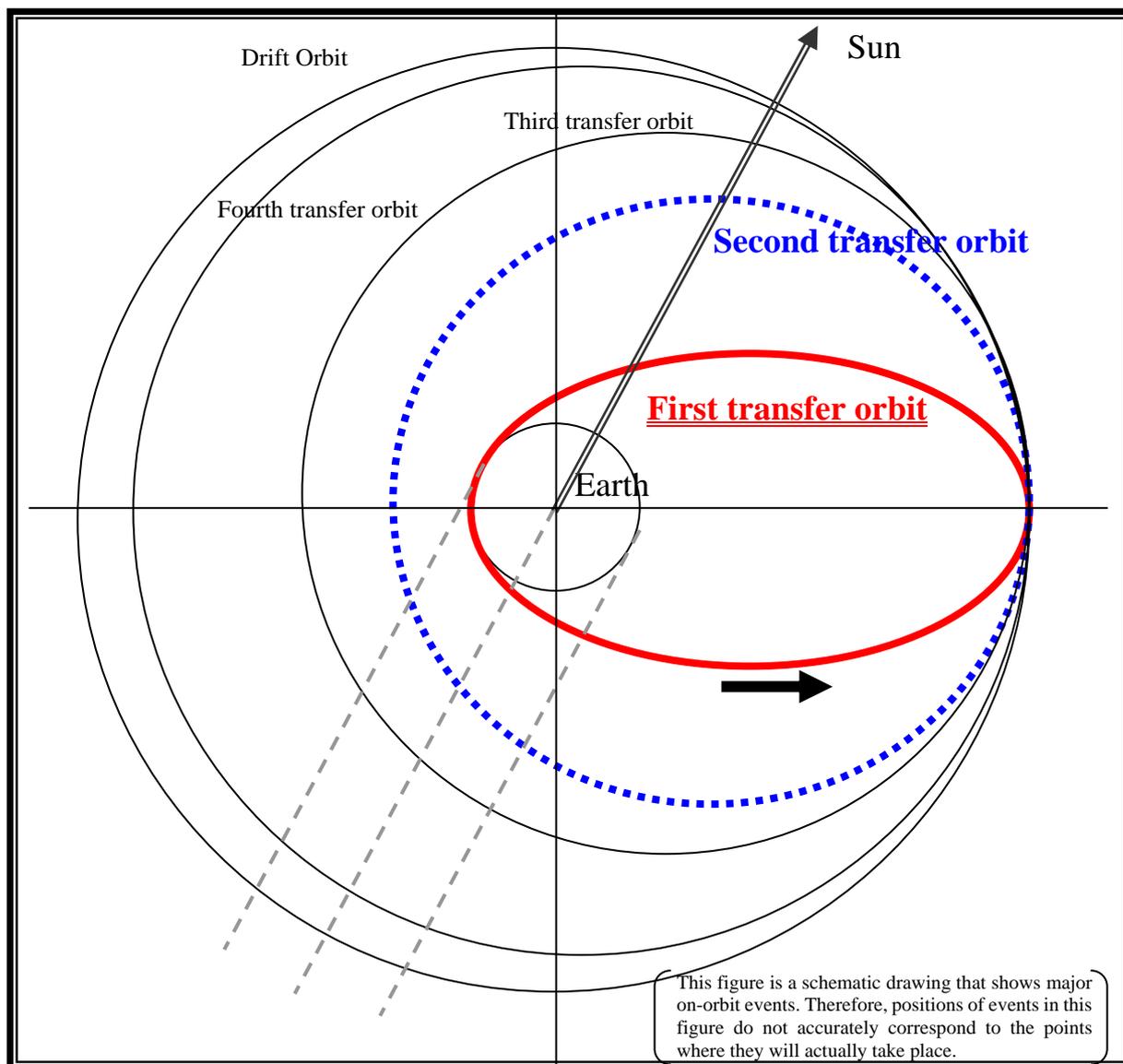
1-1, Sengen 2chome, Tsukuba-city, Ibaraki 305-8505

Tel: +81-29-868-427, 4279, 4280 Fax: +81-29-868-5966

JAXA Public Affairs Department

Marunouchi Kitaguchi Building, 1-6-5 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8260

Tel: +81-3-6266-6413 to 7, Fax: +81-3-6266-6910



Event	Revolution
Second stage/KIKU No. 8 separation	1
Solar array paddle deployment	1
Solar array paddle sun acquisition	1
First apogee engine firing	2
Second apogee engine firing	4
Third apogee engine firing	9
Fourth apogee engine firing	10
Shift to the three axis attitude control	10
Large Deployable Reflectors (LDR) Deployment	11
Shift to the regular control mode	12

**Flight Plan of the “KIKU No. 8”**

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