



December 24, 2006 (JST)
Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)

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

JAXA would like to announce the orbit determination result of the “KIKU No. 8” after its third apogee engine firing.

We have confirmed that the KIKU No. 8 has been injected into the scheduled fourth transfer orbit as a result of the orbit determination.

	Determination result	Scheduled value
Apogee Altitude	35,976 Km	35,980 Km
Perigee Altitude	31,561 Km	31,505 Km
Inclination	0.7 degrees	0.8 degrees
Period	22 hours 14 minutes	22 hours 12 minutes

JAXA will perform the fourth apogee engine firing for about 10 minutes at 06:53 a.m. on December 24, 2006 (Japan Standard Time, JST) to inject the satellite into the drift orbit.

The satellite is in good condition.

(Note) 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 fourth apogee engine firing will be released at around 10:30 a.m. on Dec. 24 (JST.)

This information is also available on the following website:

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

For inquiries:

JAXA Tsukuba Space Center General Administration Office

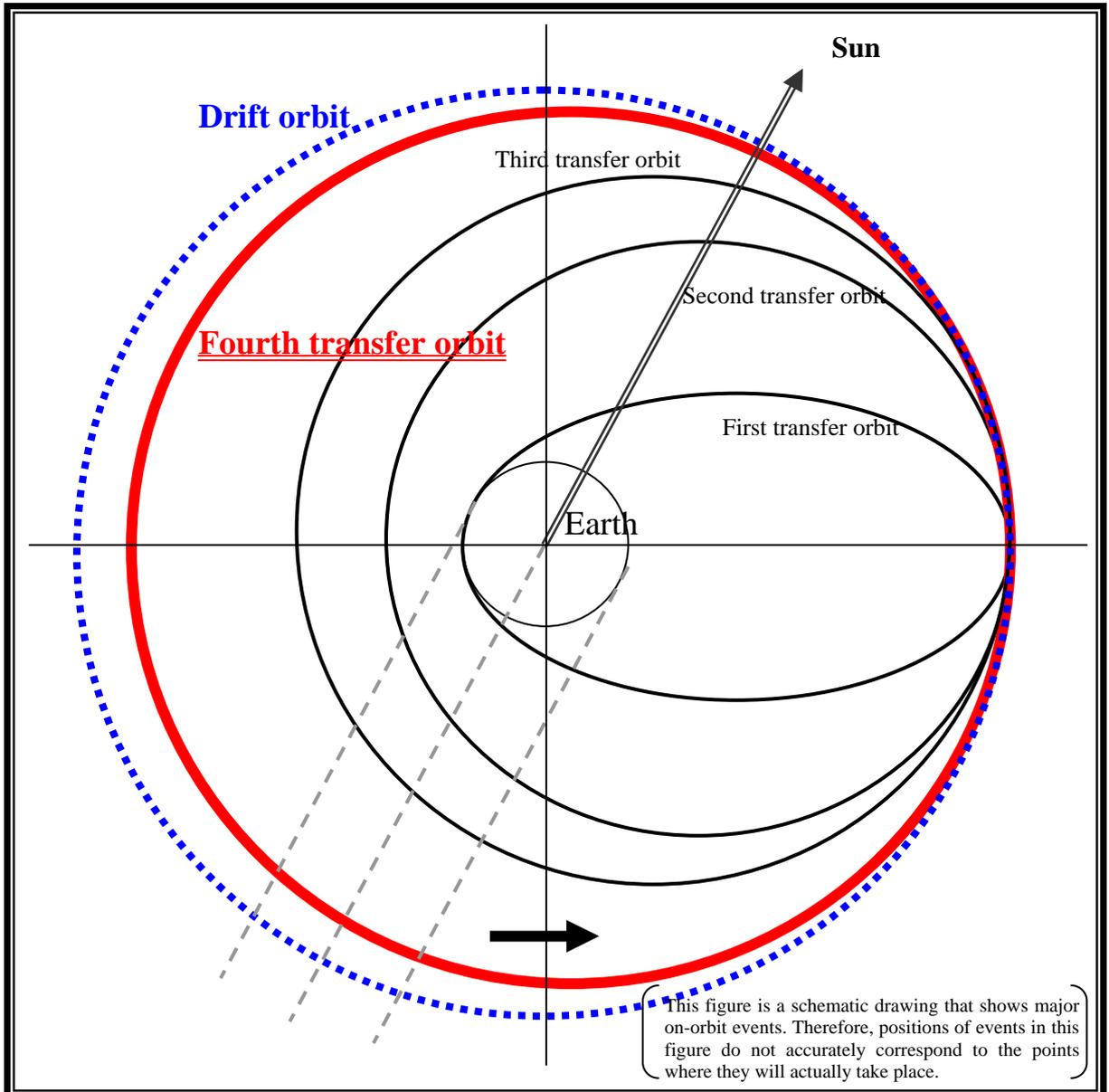
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Event	Revolution
Second stage/KIKU No. 8 separation	1
Solar array paddle deployment	1
Solar array paddle sun acquisition	1
First apogee engine firing	2
Second apogee engine firing	4
<u>Third apogee engine firing</u>	9
Fourth apogee engine firing	10
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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