World Headquarters
1809 Century Avenue SW
Grand Rapids, MI 49503-1530
Phone: 616 241 1611 • Fax: 616 241 3752

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 10, 2007

CONTACT: Bill Erwin, Director, Military/Marine Group
erwin@blackmer.com
(616) 581-9136

BLACKMER AWARDED CONTRACT FOR GERALD R. FORD CLASS OF U.S. NAVY AIRCRAFT CARRIERS

Grand Rapids, MI – The Military/Marine Products Group within Blackmer, a Dover Company, and global leader in the design and manufacture of positive displacement rotary vane, centrifugal pump and compressor technologies, has won three contracts for the next United States Navy Aircraft Carrier (CVN 78). The carrier will display the name of the late former President of the United States, Gerald R. Ford. This ship, which will be the first in its class, will be built in Newport News, VA, by Northrop Grumman/Newport News Shipyard with delivery to the Navy slated for 2015.

Blackmer has been working with Northrop Grumman/Newport News Shipyard on these contracts for more than two years in various stages of bid proposals, engineering design and contract negotiations. Pumping applications for the Ford will include jet fuel and fire-fighting foam (AFFF). The lead pumping units — which are positive displacement rotary vane pumps, specially designed for the demanding services found on naval combat ships — will have to undergo shock and noise qualifications, along with both shipyard and Navy approval. This process will take more than one-and-a-half years to complete before the production units will be approved for delivery.

“From design to completion, we carefully control every aspect of the product quality,” said Steve Brown, Manager, Military/Marine Products Group. “I know it’s an overused term in the business world today, but the No. 1 reason Blackmer products are so durable and reliable is due to their quality.”

The awards continue a long history of Blackmer supplying pumping units to every combat vessel in the United States Navy. Since 1914, Blackmer has been a proud supplier to the U.S. Military and for the past 50-plus years has provided mission-critical flow solutions for the U.S. Navy. Recognized as one of the true industry specialists, today Blackmer is the standard for ship service worldwide, and is a key strategic supplier not only to the U.S. Military but also to NATO Services and the French Military/Marine Services for vane and centrifugal pumps.

“We are honored to receive this contract for the USS Gerald R. Ford, especially since President Ford grew up in Grand Rapids, MI,” said Bill Erwin, Director, Military/Marine Products Group. “Since Blackmer is headquartered in Grand Rapids, everyone involved in this project is more than aware of the important role that President Ford played in our American history.”

(more)

World Headquarters
1809 Century Avenue SW
Grand Rapids, MI 49503-1530
Phone: 616 241 1611 • Fax: 616 241 3752

USS Gerald R. Ford will be the premier forward asset for crisis response and early decisive striking power in a major combat operation. The carrier and associated strike group will provide forward presence, rapid response, endurance on station and multi-mission capability, according to the Department of Defense. Gerald R. Ford and subsequent Ford-class carriers will provide improved fighting capability, quality of life improvements for sailors, and reduced acquisition and life cycle costs.

For more information about Blackmer pumps, please contact Bill Erwin at (616) 581-9136 or erwin@blackmer.com.

Blackmer is a global leader in the design and manufacture of high quality flow technologies, including peristaltic hose, eccentric disc and rotary vane positive displacement pumps, centrifugal pumps, screw compressors, air elimination systems and sliding vane and reciprocating compressors for the transfer of liquid and gas products. Blackmer pumps and compressors are used worldwide in a variety of industries including Soap & Detergents, LPG, Chemical & Industrial Processing, Energy, Food & Sanitary, Military/Marine and Mobile Transport industries. Blackmer is part of Dover Corporation.

####