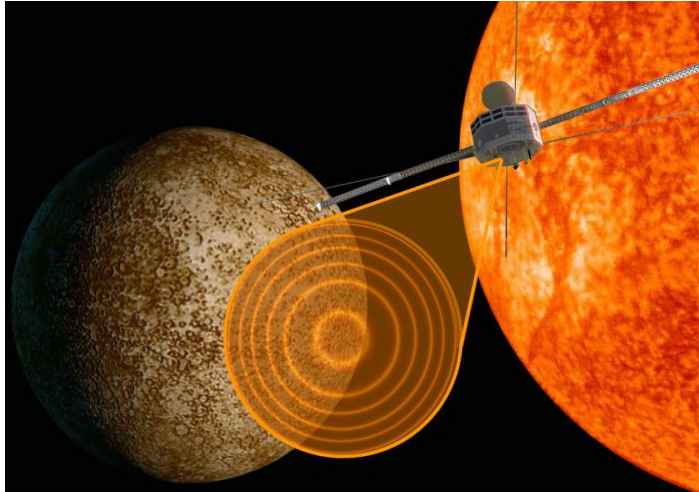


NEWS – 14.07.2011

We would like to announce that ECM Engineered Ceramic Materials GmbH has delivered successfully the Etalon Cage structures (FM and FM Spare) out of HB-Cesic to Hovemere Ltd., UK.

This etalon will be integrated in the MSASI instrument flying on the BepiColombo MMO spacecraft.



The Mercury's sodium atmosphere spectral imager (MSASI) on BepiColombo will address a range of fundamental scientific questions pertaining to Mercury's exosphere. The measurements will provide new information on regolith exosphere magnetosphere coupling as well as new understanding of the dynamics governing the exosphere bounded by the planetary surface, the solar wind and interplanetary space. MSASI is a high-dispersion visible spectrometer working in the spectral range around sodium D2 emission (589 nm). A tandem Fabry Perot etalon is used to achieve a compact design.

ECM delivered the HB-Cesic Etalon Cage Flight Model and Spare including screws and nuts and mounting pad for the etalon optic. The following pictures show these components.



Etalon cage with M3 screws to fix the optic



M3 screws to fix the etalon optic