# NEWS RELEASE

RCV Engines Limited

**6 May 2008**

# RCV lands new advanced engine contract for Honeywell Micro Air Vehicle

## RCV Engines Ltd has won a second major contract from leading American defence and aerospace manufacturer, Honeywell, to produce a rotating cylinder valve engine for its backpack-sized Micro Air Vehicle (MAV). This follows on from a successful development and testing programme begun in December 2006, using the highly innovative rotating cylinder valve engine technology developed and patented by the company at its base in Wimborne, Dorset, UK.

The MAV is being developed by Honeywell as part of an advanced technology programme promoted by the US Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), with whom RCV has worked since 1999. Military uses of the MAV include the clearance of mines and other munitions, as well as general surveillance and reconnaissance work. In addition to its intended military roles, the MAV also has numerous potential civilian applications, including border monitoring, fighting forest fires, geological surveying and even filming sporting events. A crucial advantage of RCV engine technology for application in the MAV is its inherent capability to operate on standard military grade JP8 fuel, avoiding the need for troops to carry additional and potentially more dangerous gasoline fuel supplies. Indeed, as the Single Fuel Concept (SFC) applied by the US Department of Defense requires that US forces use solely JP8 fuel while on deployment, RCV engine technology is also an ideal candidate for many other small military engine requirements such as mobile generator sets.

The 60 cc RCV engine – as shown at last August's AUVSI Unmanned Systems North America exhibition in Washington – has been successfully completed. For the next stage of development of the MAV application, the engine will be upgraded to a 70cc unit, developing 4.9 hp running at 8000 rpm (compared with 4.3 hp at 8200 rpm for the previous version). Among the projected changes are the use of new materials technology and research into a new electronic control system for more precise control of fuelling. A key objective is to achieve a weight-neutral design change in upgrading the engine: it is anticipated that – as with other key project objectives hitherto – client expectations can be exceeded in this area. Delivery of a demonstration engine is expected in five months.

RCV managing director Eric Hill explains:

> *"The RCV engine is robust and reliable, has comparatively few moving parts, and an impressive weight-to-power ratio, all of which makes it an ideal power unit for micro unmanned aerial vehicle applications such as Honeywell's MAV. It is also almost unique among comparable units in that it runs well on JP8, the heavy, kerosene-based fuel preferred by the US military. We are delighted to have won of this further significant contract from Honeywell and believe we are in a prime position to become a leading engine supplier for unmanned aerial vehicles, an expanding global market."*


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## NOTES TO EDITORS:

**RCV Engines Ltd** has developed its patented Rotating Cylinder Valve (RCV) internal combustion engine technology since its formation in 1997. This revolutionary technology provides distinct potential benefits over conventional two- and four-stroke engines in terms of increased performance, reduced emissions and improved fuel consumption. RCV technology is particularly well suited to small engine applications including motorcycle, forest and garden, and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs). The company has exported engines to over 50 countries and has a customer list that includes many prestigious clients. It has also engaged in development programmes with a wide range of customers who wish to incorporate the benefits of RCV technology on a licensed basis in their own products. RCV Engines Ltd is a well resourced technology-focused company which boasts a team of highly qualified automotive design and production engineers, as well as advanced manufacturing and engine development facilities at its south of England location at Wimborne, Dorset. The company currently manufactures a range of 5 model aircraft engines from 9.5cc to 20cc with over 11,000 operating worldwide. RCV Engines Ltd is privately held and is fully independent.

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**Images:** High resolution images of the 60cc RCV twin-cylinder engine recently delivered to Honeywell may be obtained from the media office.

The 60cc twin-cylinder 'boxer' RCV engine delivering 4.6 horsepower at 8400 rev/min, recently delivered to Honeywell for MAV use. Work will now progress on a new 70cc unit.

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