

# GREATER GORGE

## Orbital ships UAV engine under agreement with Insitu

Orbital Corporation Ltd. announced has started shipping the second engine model identified under its long-term agreement with Insitu Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Boeing Company.

The engine, an Insitu design, is being assembled and shipped from Orbital UAV's purpose-built production facility in Hood River, which opened in 2018.

"This is another significant milestone for Orbital UAV, both in the delivery of our commitments to Insitu and our long term UAV focused strategy," said Todd Alder, CEO and managing director of Orbital UAV, in a press release. "I am encouraged with our team's progress and the quality of the product we are delivering. With our company now in production of two world class engines from our Australia and USA facilities, our development team now shift their focus to the third engine model under the LTA," he said.

The second engine under the Long Term Agreement will support Insitu's Integrator UAS platform.

The five-year agreement with Insitu was announced in October 2018. The agreement covers the delivery of multi-



Photo courtesy of Insitu

INSITU INTEGRATOR from the Bingen-based company employs an Orbital-built engine. The Australian company opened its Hood River center in 2018.

ple propulsion systems and services, to be applied across the Boeing subsidiary's entire fleet of unmanned aircraft system platforms. Orbital UAV began production of the first engine model under the LTA

in H1 2019. This initial model was the first derivative of Orbital UAV's Modular Propulsion Solution, featuring the Company's patented FlexDI technology and offering in-

dustry leading performance. "The two engine models we have in production is further demonstration of Orbital UAV's growing capabilities and capacity," Alder said. "Whether we are taking our own designs through research

and development and into production or adding insight and rigor to the designs of our customers, Orbital UAV has the know-how and expertise to provide significant value across the advanced manufac-

turing process," he said. Orbital UAV continues to work closely with key customer Insitu in the development of additional engines identified under the LTA, the press release stated.

## The Dalles reaches top 5 in Small Business Revolution tally

The Dalles is one step closer to being the featured town on Season 5 of Small Business Revolution, an online series available on Hulu and Amazon Prime and co-hosted by Ty Pennington of Extreme Makeover: Home Edition and Trading Spaces. The city has made the cut to the "Final 5" and is now competing against four other U.S. towns, Benicia, Calif., Fredonia, N.Y., Livingston, Mont., and Spearfish, S.D.

To win, The Dalles must receive the most votes during the public voting period, open now through Jan. 21. People can cast one vote per unique email per device per day. Thus, if a person has two email accounts and three devices (phone, computer, tablet), that individual can cast six votes per day. To vote, go to [smallbusinessrevolution.org](http://smallbusinessrevolution.org).

The Dalles hopes to garner at least 1 million votes, which is

what the Season 4 town, Searcy, Ark. (population: 22,000), received. The Dalles' population is 15,600.

The show, whose tagline is "on a mission to revitalize small towns, one small business at a time," highlights why small businesses are critical to local economies, according to a website from The Dalles Main Street. The winning city will get help to revitalize their main street with a \$500,000 invest-

ment for six local small businesses and the community.

"This is an incredible opportunity for The Dalles. Our charming, historic downtown area has made huge strides in the past decade with a variety of unique new businesses — from boutiques to breweries — which have joined longtime businesses such as Klindt's Booksellers, the oldest bookstore in the West," said Don Warren, president of The

Dalles Main Street, an organization dedicated to the growth and revitalization of the city's downtown. "We're so proud of our wonderful small business owners, who are the heart of The Dalles, and we would love to have Small Business Revolution help bring our downtown to the next level."

Added Warren, "I hope everyone will show their love for The Dalles and its small businesses by voting for our

town every day. Please go to [LoveTheDalles.com](http://LoveTheDalles.com) for a link to vote."

"Small Business Revolution has recognized both The Dalles' charm and potential, and it's time to get us over the finish line, so let's all get voting!" said Lisa Farquharson, president/CEO of The Dalles Area Chamber of Commerce.

The winning town will be announced on Jan. 28.

## EQIP advanced payment

*USDA reminds historically underserved producers of advance payment option*



efits, such as improved water and air quality, conserved ground and surface water, reduced soil erosion and sedimentation, and improved or created wildlife habitat. In fiscal 2019, NRCS invested \$1.3 billion through EQIP to implement conservation practices on more than 13 million acres.

A historically underserved producer is described as one of the below:

- Beginning Farmer or Rancher: Is new to farming or ranching, or has operated a farm or ranch for less than 10-consecutive years.
- Socially Disadvantaged Farmer or Rancher: Is a mem-

ber of a group whose members have been subjected to racial or ethnic prejudice because of their identity as members of that group without regard to their individual qualities.

- Veteran Farmer or Rancher: Has served in the armed forces and has not operated a farm or ranch for less than 10-consecutive years, or first obtained veteran status during the last 10 years.
- Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher: Has a household income at or below the national poverty level.

Under the advance payment option, such producers may request payments when they have final designs and job sheets and are ready to begin their EQIP practices. Advance payments provide at least 50 percent of the payment rate for each practice. The funds must be spent within 90 days of receipt and practices must be completed as agreed to in an

EQIP plan of operations. Producers also may opt to have NRCS pay the contractors or vendors directly.

EQIP practices include vegetative practices, structural practices, management practices and other improvements that further program goals such as conservation activity plans.

### More Information

For more information, visit the advance payments website [www.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov), where you can download the EQIP Advance Payment Fact Sheet and read the blog #FridaysOnTheFarm: Advance Payment Helps Extend the Season blog.

For more information on NRCS Farm Bill programs, visit [nrcs.usda.gov/farmland](http://nrcs.usda.gov/farmland) or contact your local NRCS field office.

## Ratification talk starts history series

With "From Radical Idea to Ratification: Women's Voting Rights," the Old Courthouse Regional History Forum Series for 2020 starts Feb. 1 at the 1859 Courthouse Building, 410 West 2nd Place, The Dalles. Programs begin at 1:30 p.m. in the upstairs courtroom. The old courthouse is behind the Chamber of Commerce and Visitors' Center at the west side of

downtown.

Speaker Janice Dilg is principal of a historical consulting firm. She is state coordinator for an online resource for the 2020 centennial of the 19th Amendment that extended voting rights to women. She will tell the story of Sylvia Thompson (D-The Dalles) who introduced the bill ratifying the amendment in the 1920 special session.

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**SUDOKU** 数独

This week's Sudoku is presented by: **BRIEN D. GIBSON** CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

	1			2				
3		4	1	5				2
6				7	8			3
7				1	3			9
	5							4
2				5	4			8
	8			6	5			3
9				2		4	5	7
				3				6

Fill in all 81 squares on the puzzle with numbers 1 to 9. You can use each number 1-9 only once in each nine square section, in each horizontal line of nine squares, and in each vertical column of nine squares. The puzzle is completed when you correctly fill every square.

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