



NEWS RELEASE

# York Space Systems Completes Initial Commissioning of PExT Payload on BARD Mission

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York Space Systems announces the successful initial commissioning of the Polylingual Experimental Terminal (PExT) payload aboard the BARD mission.

**DENVER--(BUSINESS WIRE)--York Space Systems** (York), a modern defense prime built for speed and scale, today announced the successful initial commissioning of the **Polylingual Experimental Terminal (PExT)** payload aboard the BARD mission, marking a significant step forward in validating the mission's concept of operations (ConOps) and advancing next-generation wideband space communications capabilities for NASA.

During a precisely scheduled continuous wave pass, York's mission operations team achieved first-contact telemetry download with outstanding results. Data returned with no anomalies, the Tracking and Data Relay Satellite (TDRS) confirmed real-time acquisition of signal with an exceptionally strong carrier-to-noise ratio, and a clean loss of signal was observed at the conclusion of the pass—together confirming seamless end-to-end performance.

"This milestone demonstrates not only the robustness of our integrated systems, but also the precision and expertise of our operations team," said Michael Lajczok, CTO at York. "From spacecraft maneuvering to payload execution, every component of the mission is performing exactly as designed. It's a strong validation of our ability to deliver on complex, high-performance communications missions for government and commercial customers."

Telemetry highlights confirmed that every system performed exactly as designed. Signal strength matched

predictions, planned operations ran without error, and the amplifier, synchronization, and Doppler correction all worked seamlessly. Temperatures and power levels stayed well within safe limits, and no commands were rejected or fault flagged. Together, these results confirm the spacecraft's health and validate the mission's meticulous planning and execution.

This achievement validates the full ConOps and establishes a strong operational foundation for the mission's next phase. York will now move into rigorous verification of pointing performance to enable high-fidelity data transfers with government and commercial networks in geostationary orbit, beginning with TDRS.

Launched in July 2025, BARD was procured as a commercial mission from York and developed in collaboration with NASA's **Space Communications and Navigation (SCaN) Program** and Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory (APL). The mission will provide a flight demonstration of the APL-designed and built PExT payload, an advanced communications payload designed to enable real-time interoperability between government and commercial satellite relay networks – a first-of-its-kind capability supporting NASA's shift toward a commercial communications architecture.

#### About York Space Systems

York Space Systems is a modern defense prime built for speed and scale. As the leading provider of proliferated warfighter space solutions, York routinely delivers fully integrated, mission-ready systems, combining high-performance spacecraft, software-defined operations, and ground-based autonomy, at unmatched speed and value.

With a foundation in high-rate manufacturing and systems-level integration, York is driving the convergence of hardware, software, and mission autonomy to redefine how the U.S. executes national defense from space. By enabling real-time intelligence and resilient, scalable infrastructure, York empowers a smarter, faster, and more adaptive defense posture. Learn more at <http://www.YorkSpaceSystems.com>.

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