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The status of laser altimeter (LALT) on board KAGUYA

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The LALT is one of the instruments on board KAGUYA (SELENE) main orbiter, and measures the distance from the main orbiter to the lunar surface. KAGUYA was launched by the H-IIA F13 Launch Vehicle at 10:31:01 a.m. on September 14, 2007 (JST) from the Tanegashima Space Center. After the separation operation of R-star on October 9 and V-star on October 12, the spacecraft arrived at operation orbit (80km x 120km) on October 18.

The LALT measured the altitude on November 25 for the first time after sensitivity adjustment of receiver system. The LALT started nominal observation on December 30, 2007. We will report the performance of the hardware and the status of data acquisition.