Rosetta

General
Rosetta is the third cornerstone of ESA’s Space Science Program. The main objective of the mission is a rendezvous with the comet Wirtanen. The fact that there is only a very narrow launching window presents a big challenge to the industrial consortium. Dornier is overall prime contractor. Matra Marconi Space UK is Major Subcontractor, responsible for the platform and customer of Nexans Harnesses.

Role of Nexans Harnesses
Starting from the mechanical model and the interface specifications, Nexans Harnesses performs the development, analysis (FMECA, drop voltage, etc.) and production of all the wiring harnesses. Nexans Harnesses is also responsible for the installation of the harness on the satellite structure at the integration site. This includes gluing of the tie-bases.

Technical Description
- Size: 3 x 2 x 2 m.
- N° of connection points: 12,000
- N° of connectors: 900
- Deliverables:
  - Structural and Thermal Model (1999)
  - Engineering/Qualification Model (1999)
  - Flight Model (2001)
- Two full-size jigs.
- Production in Class 100,000 clean room.
- Fully automated test using a modular test setup, fed by the design database.