National Aeronautics and Space Administration







EVI-5 Pre-Proposal Web Conference CubeSats – The Basics Dr. Charles D. Norton

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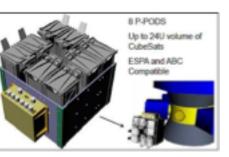


### **CubeSat Basics**

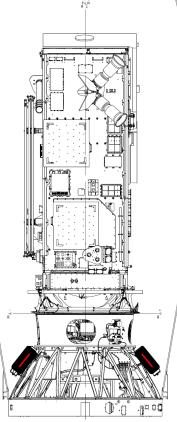
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- Satellites in 10x10x10 cm units called "U"s
- Satellites are integrated into a containerized carrier such as the Poly Picosatellite Orbital Dispenser (P-POD) or into larger systems such as the Naval Post-Graduate School CubeSat Launcher (NPSCuL)
- CubeSats can be deployed as a secondary rideshare payload, from a dedicated launch vehicle, or the ISS





3U CubeSat Dispenser Integration





NPP Satellite and P-PODS (in red) on the Struts

NPP Satellite full fairing (with Dispensers)



## Recent CubeSat Deployments

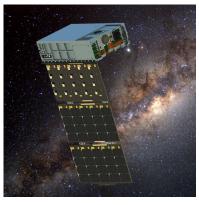
Earth Venture Instrument-5 Pre-Proposal Teleconference/WebEx

### SMD Payloads Launched on May 21, 2018 and Deployed from ISS on July 13, 2018



**TEMPEST-D** Radiometer technology for future constellation of SmallSats for temporal observations of cloud and precipitation processes

Venture-Tech



HaloSat Measuring soft X-Ray emissions from the halo of the Milky Way galaxy to find one-third of the missing matter in the universe

APRA



CubeRRT Microwave radiometer processing technology to observe, detect, and mitigate radio frequency interference (RFI) ESTO InVEST



RainCube Ka-Band active sensing compact radar technology for future SmallSat constellation precipitation measurements ESTO InVEST

Enabled via the CSLI/ELaNa program with industry partners



### Access to Space

#### Earth Venture Instrument-5 Pre-Proposal Teleconference/WebEx

- CSLI solicitation is released annually in August
- Multiple launch options supported
  - ISS deployment via CRS missions
  - Rideshare as secondary payload via an EELV
  - Dedicated launch via NASA VCLS program
- Requirements for payload integration may vary based on launch option selected
- Commercial launch brokers also exist

#### NASA'S CUBESAT LAUNCH INITIATIVE (CSLI)



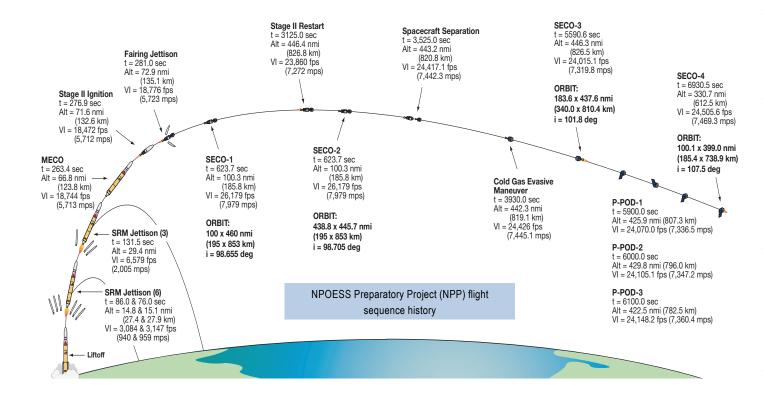
A: NASA: B: National Reconnaissance Office: C: United States Air Force: D: Commercial Expendable Lounch Yehicle E: Commercial from International Space Station: F: Venture Class Launch Services O'vefle Space Systems, Rocket Lab VSA, Vegin Galactiv

go.nasa.gov/cobesat\_initiative



# Sample Flight and Deployment Profile

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- Satellites are "powered off" on vehicle ascent (per requirements)
- After primary spacecraft deployment, and vehicle orbital plane change, P-PODS release satellites in sequence
- Satellites "activate" after release then transmit telemetry 30-45 minutes later
- Tracking via GPS, or JSpOC provided TLEs

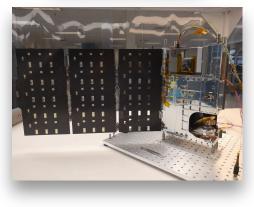


# Some Flight Delivery "Got-Cha's"

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- 80 WHr limit for CubeSats battery packs on the ISS
- Failing to carry a backup radio
- Using parts (i.e. Titanium) where the 15J re-entry energy requirement is exceeded
- Selecting components that may be susceptible to Helium
- Insufficient planning for component infant mortality or susceptibility to radiation (i.e. SD-Cards, GPS, ...)
  Moral: Seek out lessons learned as much as possible







## **CubeSat Information Resources**

Earth Venture Instrument-5 Pre-Proposal Teleconference/WebEx

- NASA CubeSat 101 Document
  - Introduction: CubeSat dispenser and launch vehicles
  - **Development process overview:** Concept development timelines through operations
  - **Mission models:** NASA/NRO/ORS and APIC mission delivery methods
  - Requirement sources for launch: NASA LSP, ICDs, CubeSat Design Specifications, safety, ...
  - Licensing procedures: RF and remote sensing licensing
  - Flight certification documentation: ODAR, venting, ...
- Small Spacecraft Systems Virtual Institute
  - On-line resources includes technology state of the art report, on-orbit parts database, development tools and more

