Orbital Debris Assessment Report

GEARRS-3

per NASA-STD 8719.14A

Signature Page

Date 7.17.2019

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- A. NASA Procedural Requirements for Limiting Orbital Debris Generation, NPR 8715.6A, 5 February 2008
- B. Process for Limiting Orbital Debris, NAS A-STD-8719.14A, 25 May 2012
- C. International Space Station Reference Trajectory, delivered May 2017
- D. McKissock, Barbara, Patricia Loyselle, and Elisa Vogel. *Guidelines on Lithiumion Battery Use in Space Applications*. Tech. no. RP-08-75. NASA Glenn Research Center Cleveland, Ohio
- E. *UL Standard for Safety.for Lithium Batteries, UL 1642.* 1JL Standard. 4th ed. Northbrook, IL, Underwriters Laboratories, 2007
- F. Kwas, Robert. Thermal Analysis of ELaNa-4 CubeSat Batteries, ELVL-2012-0043254; Nov 2012
- G. Range Safety User Requirements Manual Volume 3- Launch Vehicles, Payloads, and Ground Support Systems Requirements, AFSCM 91-710 V3.
- H. HQ OSMA Policy Memo/Email to 8719.14: CubeSat Battery Non-Passivation, Suzanne Aleman to Justin Treptow, 10, March 2014
- I. HQ OSMA Email:6U CubcSat Battery Non Passivation Suzanne Aleman to Justin Treptow, 8 August 2017

This report is intended to satisfy the orbital debris requirements listed in *NASA Procedural Requirements for Limiting Orbital Debris Generation*, NPR 8715.6A, 5 February 2008, for the GEARRS-3 mission.

Sections 1 through 8 of *Process for Limiting Orbital Debris*, NAS A-STD-8719.14A, 25 May 2012, are addressed in this document; sections 9 through 14 are in the domain of the launch provider and are addressed by others.

RECORD OF REVISIONS			
REV	DESCRIPTION	DATE	
0	Original submission	July 2019	

The following table summarizes the compliance status of the spacecraft. They all are fully compliant with all applicable requirements.

Requirements	Compliance Assessment	Comments
4.3-1a	Not Applicable	No planned debris release
4.3-1b	Not Applicable	No planned debris release
4.3-2	Not Applicable	No planned debris release
4.4-1	Compliant	Batteries incapable of debris
		producing failure
4.4-2	Compliant	Batteries incapable of debris
		producing failure
4.4-3	Not Applicable	No planned breakups
4.4-4	Not Applicable	No planned breakups
4.5-1	Compliant	
4.5-2	TBD Damage from small	
	objects	
4.6-1 through 4.6-4	Compliant	Lifetime TBD
4.7-1	Compliant	Non-credible risk of human
		casualty
4.8-1	Not Applicable	No Tethers

Table 1 Compliance Assessment per Requirement

Section 1: Mission Overview

The overall goal of the GEARRS-3 mission, is to correlate Solar Activity to the Electron Density in the Near-Earth (LEO) Plasma Field. The spacecraft will carry an Energetic Particle Detector and a Langmuir Probe.

Section 2: Spacecraft Description

The spacecraft is a 3U cubesat unit with the dimensions of 10 cm X 10 cm X 30 cm The total mass is about 3.17 Kg. See Figure 1.



Figure 1 GEARRS-3 3U Cubesat

Hazards

There are no pressure vessels, hazardous, or exotic materials.

Batteries

The spacecraft carries a total of 17 COTS Tenergy cells, UL 925050.

The Tenergy Model 925050 pouch type cell, uses Polymer Lithium ion chemistry. It stores 2200 mAh at 3.7 volts. The UL listing number of the battery is SR925959 (30256-0). It is used with a battery circuit protection module providing over-charge/over-current protection and over-discharge protection circuitry.

Tests have been conducted to demonstrate compliance with JSC EP-WI-032 "Statement of Work: Engineering Evaluation, Qualification and Flight Acceptance Tests for Lithium-ion Cells and Battery Packs for Small Satellite Systems."

Section 3: Assessment of Spacecraft Debris Released during Normal Operations

The assessment of spacecraft debris requires the identification of any object (>1 mm) expected to be released from the spacecraft any time after launch, including object dimensions, mass, and material.

Section 3 requires rationale/necessity for release of each object, time of release of each object, relative to launch time, release velocity of each object with respect to spacecraft, expected orbital parameters (apogee, perigee, and inclination) of each object after release, calculated orbital lifetime of each object, including time spent in Low Earth Orbit (LEO), and an assessment of spacecraft compliance with Requirements 4.3-1 and 4.3-2.

No releases are planned, therefore this section is not applicable.

Section 4: Assessment of Spacecraft Intentional Breakups and Potential for Explosions

There are NO plans for designed spacecraft breakups, explosions, or intentional collisions.

The probability of battery explosion is very low, and, due to the very small mass of the satellite, and the short orbital lifetime, the effect of an explosion on the far term LEO environment is negligible.

In addition due to the very small mass of the battery, and the foil pouch construction not supporting pressure buildup prior to breach, the effect of battery overpressure would not cause any release of debris from the satellite.

The batteries meet Reg. 56450 (4.4-2), per this reference, by virtue of the HQ OSMA policy regarding battery disconnect stating "Cube Sats as a satellite class need not disconnect their batteries if flown in LEO with orbital lifetimes less than 25 years."

Assessment of spacecraft compliance with Requirements 4.4-1 through 4.4-4 shows the satellite is compliant.

Section 5: Assessment of Spacecraft Potential for On Orbit Collisions

4.5-1 Probability of Collision with Large Debris

Calculation of spacecraft probability of collision with space objects larger than 10 *cm* in diameter during the orbital lifetime of the spacecraft takes into account both the mean cross sectional area (MCSA) and orbital lifetime.

See Appendix for DAS Analysis Input Data and Output Results. This shows that the probability of an on orbit collision with debris or meteoroids greater than 10 cm in diameter is "less than 0.00000". This satisfies the 0.001 maximum probability requirement 4.5-1.

Assessment of spacecraft compliance with Requirements 4.5-1 shows it to be compliant.

4.5-2 Probability of Damage from Small Objects

Assessment of spacecraft compliance with Requirements 4.5-2 shows it to be compliant.

Section 6: Assessment of Spacecraft Postmission Disposal Plans and Procedures

4.6.1 Remove from LEO to Reduce Collision Threat

The spacecraft will naturally decay from orbit within 25 years after end of the mission, satisfying requirement 4.6-1. No systems are required. Requirements 4.6-2, 4.6-3 and 4.6-4 therefore are not applicable.

Summary of DAS 2.1.1 Orbital Lifetime Calculations:

DAS inputs are: 550 km circular orbit, with an inclination of 90° at deployment no earlier than August 2019. The total mass of the spacecraft is 3.171 kg, and per DAS, the equivalent cross sectional area (minimum of all cases, for maximum lifetime) is 0.009 m^2 . From DAS, the lifetime for this maximum case will be 6.73 years.



Figure 3 Altitude vs. Time GEARRS-3 Spacecraft

The assessment of the spacecraft illustrates it is compliant with Requirements 4.6-1 through 4.6-4

Section 7: Assessment of Spacecraft Reentry Hazards

4.7-1 Limit Number and Size of Debris Fragments Surviving Reentry

A detailed assessment of the components of the spacecraft was performed using DAS 2.1.1, to verify Requirement 4.7-1. See Appendix for a complete log of DAS inputs and outputs. The analysis provides a bounding analysis for characterizing the survivability of a component during re-entry. It is conservative in that when it shows terminal energy of a component surviving reentry, it is does not consider any loss material from ablation or charring. Both of these may for some materials decrease the mass and dimensions of the re-entering components, reducing the risk below that calculated.

All components TBD demise upon reentry and all spacecraft comply with the less than 1:10,000 probability of Human Casualty Requirement 4.7-1.

The satellite thus is in compliance with Requirement 4.7-1 of NASA-STD-8719.14A.

Section 8: Assessment for Tether Missions

4.8-1 Collision Hazards of Space Tethers

No tethers are used. Requirement 4.8-1 is satisfied.

Section 9 through 14:

ODAR sections 9 through 14 pertain to the launch vehicle, and are not covered here.

Appendix

```
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Thermal Mass = 3.171000
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Length = 0.290000
Height = 0.100000
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quantity = 1
parent = 1
materialID = 8
type = Box
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Thermal Mass = 1.210000
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Length = 0.290000
Height = 0.100000
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quantity = 4
parent = 1
materialID = 23
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Thermal Mass = 0.104000
Diameter/Width = 0.083000
Length = 0.290000
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quantity = 2
parent = 1
materialID = 40
type = Box
Aero Mass = 0.069000
Thermal Mass = 0.069000
Diameter/Width = 0.050000
Length = 0.050000
Height = 0.012500
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quantity = 2
parent = 1
materialID = 40
type = Box
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Thermal Mass = 0.015000
Diameter/Width = 0.035000
Length = 0.035000
Height = 0.005000
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quantity = 1
parent = 1
materialID = 8
type = Box
Aero Mass = 0.005000
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Length = 0.040000
Height = 0.005000
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parent = 1
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type = Box
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Thermal Mass = 0.002000
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Length = 0.020000
Height = 0.007000
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quantity = 2
parent = 1
materialID = 40
type = Box
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Thermal Mass = 0.007000
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Length = 0.025000
Height = 0.004500
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quantity = 1
parent = 1
materialID = 23
type = Box
Aero Mass = 0.031000
Thermal Mass = 0.031000
Diameter/Width = 0.080000
Length = 0.100000
Height = 0.002500
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quantity = 1
parent = 1
materialID = 5
type = Box
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Thermal Mass = 0.044000
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Height = 0.007000
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quantity = 1
parent = 1
materialID = 5
type = Box
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Length = 0.100000
Height = 0.005000
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quantity = 1
parent = 1
materialID = 23
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Length = 0.090000
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quantity = 8
parent = 1
materialID = 5
type = Box
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Thermal Mass = 0.083000
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Length = 0.055000
Height = 0.017000
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quantity = 1
parent = 1
materialID = 52
type = Cylinder
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Thermal Mass = 0.100000
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Length = 1.000000
name = Fasteners
quantity = 20
parent = 1
materialID = 54
type = Box
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Thermal Mass = 0.003250
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Length = 0.012500
Height = 0.007000
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quantity = 1
parent = 1
materialID = 23
type = Flat Plate
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parent = 1
materialID = 23
type = Box
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Height = 0.014000
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parent = 1
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Debris Casualty Area = 0.000000
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name = NSL ADACS Module
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Impact Kinetic Energy = 0.000000
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Debris Casualty Area = 0.000000
Impact Kinetic Energy = 0.000000
name = NSL Particle Detector
Demise Altitude = 77.616867
Debris Casualty Area = 0.000000
Impact Kinetic Energy = 0.000000
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     Apogee Altitude = 550.000000 (km)
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     RAAN = 0.000000 (deg)
     Argument of Perigee = 0.000000 (deg)
     Mean Anomaly = 0.000000 (deg)
     Final Area-To-Mass Ratio = 0.009000 (m<sup>2</sup>/kg)
     Start Year = 2019.000000 (yr)
     Initial Mass = 3.171000 (kg)
     Final Mass = 3.171000 (kg)
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     PMD Mean Anomaly = 0.000000 (deg)
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