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Subject: Explanation of Application for STA

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This application for STA is solely for the purpose of requesting an extension to the currently valid STA 0611-EX-ST-2012. Due to schedule slippage incurred by the initial Antares rocket that launched on 21 April 2013, the launch schedule of this subsequent Antares rocket launch is also impacted, resulting in the need to request the extension.

STA 0611-EX-ST-2012 is currently scheduled to expire on 1 June 2013. Even though the currently projected launch schedule for this next Antares rocket is 24 June 2013, it is requested that the STA extension be granted to cover the period of 1 June 2013 to 31 December 2013. This allows for extra time to address any unforeseen issues that might impact schedule, while also aligning exactly with the STA extension dates that were previously granted for the Cygnus payload that this Antares rocket will be carrying to space.