

November 2, 2021

Kerry E. Murray Deputy Chief, Satellite Division International Bureau Federal Communications Commission 45 L Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Umbra Lab, Inc., IBFS File No. SAT-LOA-20210616-00080; Call Sign S3095

#### Dear Ms. Murray:

In response to the International Bureau's letter dated October 27, 2021 (the Letter), Umbra Lab, Inc. (Umbra) provides the following additional information to assist in the review of Umbra's above-referenced application (the Application) requesting authority to construct, deploy, and operate six satellites (the Umbra SAR Constellation). For your convenience, the inquiries in the Letter are reproduced in italics below (without citations).

1. The originally filed Schedule S indicates operations of the spacecraft in only one orbital plane at 555 km. Umbra's September 21 response indicates that the Umbra SAR Constellation will in fact operate in four orbital planes at 565 +/- 30 km. Please clarify whether the +/- 30 km figure is to account for the potential range of launch altitudes, or if this indicates the stationkeeping tolerance for the spacecraft. The application mentions a tolerance of +/- 10 km. Please indicate whether this tolerance is still applicable. Also, as the information reflected in the original Schedule S has changed with respect to orbital planes, please file an updated Schedule S in .pdf form under the "Pleadings and Comments" tab in IBFS.

Umbra intends to operate its satellites in four orbital planes within an orbital altitude between 535 km and 595 km (*i.e.*, 565 km +/- 30 km). The variability (*i.e.*, +/- 30 km) is to account for the potential range of launch altitudes and inclinations at the time of launch and provide Umbra commercial flexibility in selecting an optimal operating altitude to ensure the desired revisit rate for each satellite<sup>1</sup>. For example, the "nominal altitude" was initially selected to be 583 km. But following on orbit experience with Umbra-2001 and higher fidelity modeling, Umbra decided to lower its nominal altitude to 565 km. Future commercial demand may dictate we move to a higher altitude to reduce our repeat ground track for the inclination we achieved at the time of launch. The nominal station-keeping variance of each spacecraft at its operating orbital altitude is estimated to be at worse +/- 10 km. Once the specific operating altitude is refined following launch and orbit check-out of each satellite Umbra will file a notice with the commission confirming the precise orbital altitude within the range specified above.

Attached as an exhibit to this Letter is a revised Schedule S in .pdf form that includes the four orbital planes and reflects the information above.

Following is a complete list of the changes to the Schedule S:

<sup>1</sup> E.g., Umbra-2001 was ultimately launched into an orbit with a 97.4° inclination and altitude variation of 525-545 km. At the time of submission of this response letter (Response), Umbra is in the process of circularizing and raising that orbit over the coming weeks to achieve a 14-day revisit rate. Later satellites in the Umbra SAR Constellation may be dropped off at slightly different inclinations, which is typical for rideshare launches, resulting

in slightly different altitudes within the range specified to achieve our commercial revisit rate.

Umbra Lab, Inc. IBFS File No. SAT-LOA-20210616-00080 Call Sign S3095

- Orbit Epoch Date in the Orbital Information for NGSO Satellites section was updated to reflect the June 30, 2021 launch date<sup>2</sup>;
- The Right Ascension of Ascending Node value for Orbital Plane 1 was updated to reflect the change in Orbit Epoch Date<sup>3</sup>;
- Orbital Planes 2 through 4 were added to clarify the configuration of the satellites in the Umbra SAR Constellation<sup>4</sup>;
- Apogee and perigee in Orbital Planes 1 through 4 were adjusted to clarify the configuration of the satellites in the Umbra SAR Constellation<sup>5</sup>:
- Peak Gain values were added for all receiving and transmitting beams<sup>6</sup>; and
- Maximum Transmit EIRP Density values were updated for all transmitting beams<sup>7</sup>.

To be clear, there were no other changes to the revised Schedule S.

2. Umbra proposes to perform post-mission disposal of its spacecraft by lowering them to elliptical orbits, which may cross altitudes at which inhabitable space stations operate. Please provide more detailed information on the method or methods Umbra will employ to protect inhabitable spacecraft (e.g., the International Space Station and Chinese space station, at a minimum) during each Umbra spacecraft orbit-lowering phase.

Umbra intends to lower its satellites post-mission into an elliptical orbit leaving apogee relatively unchanged and lowering perigee to 380 km. Simulations show that in this configuration it will take two to three months for the spacecraft to drop below the ISS orbit. Throughout this process, Umbra will continue to monitor spacecraft positions and pay careful attention to any Umbra SAR Constellation spacecraft conducting post mission disposal maneuvers. The space operations team will coordinate with other operators and work with organizations, such as the 18th Space Control Squadron. Umbra's coordination with the 18th Space Control Squadron (SPCS) includes sending maneuver notifications and ephemeris updates one day in advance of all maneuvers, in addition to receiving regular conjunction notices. Additionally, Umbra is working on obtaining a Space Situational Awareness Sharing Agreement with the SPCS. This agreement would formalize our relationship, whereby Umbra shares information regarding our orbit and the SPCS provides details regarding potential conjunction issues. To the extent necessary, Umbra will perform collision avoidance maneuvers using differential atmospheric drag and any remaining fuel to reduce the probability of any conjunction warnings with sufficient advance notice.

3. Umbra's September 21 response indicates that Umbra did not include certain components and materials in the Orbital Debris Assessment Report (ODAR) analysis because these components and materials demise at high altitudes. Please provide a new ODAR analysis that includes these materials and components.

Umbra has revised the ODAR analysis to add subcomponents that it had previously determined were immaterial to the ODAR and omitted for simplicity. Those changes are described in the below table and provided in the revised ODAR<sup>8</sup> attached to this Letter:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Umbra Revised Schedule S, at 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Umbra Revised Schedule S, at 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Umbra Revised Schedule S, at 5-7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Umbra Revised Schedule S, at 5-7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Umbra Revised Schedule S, at 8-13.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Umbra Revised Schedule S, at 10-13.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Umbra Revised Attachment C ODAR, at 21-22.

Component	Subcomponent	Material	Qty.	Mass (kg)	Demise Alt	Total DCA	KE	NOTES
Bus Structure		Aluminum 7075-T6	1	9	71.6	0	0	No Change
	Battery	Aluminum (generic)	32	0.05	69.3	0	0	No Change
	Torq Rods	Aluminum (generic)	3	0.3	67.5	0	0	No Change
	Reaction Wheels	A356	4	0.84	62.1	0	0	No Change
	Prop Tanks	Aluminum (generic)	2	1	68.3	0	0	No Change
	Largest Fastener	Stainless Steel (generic)	62	0.01	69.6	0	0	No Change
	Avionics Harness	Copper Alloy	1	0.19	71.4	0	0	Added back from previous analysis
	Largest Connector	Steel AISI 304	2	0.01	70	0	0	Added back from previous analysis
	Interior EE Chassis	Aluminum 7075-T6	2	0.75	71.5	0	0	Added back from previous analysis
MLB		Aluminum (generic)	1	0.7	75.3	0	0	No Change
Solar Array		Graphite Epoxy 1	6	0.3	0	5.13	13.9	No Change
SAR rib		Graphite Epoxy 1	108	0.07	0	84.55	0.99	No Change
Base Ring		Aluminum 7075-T6	1	0.14	77.1	0	0	No Change
Antenna Element		Aluminum 6061-T6	1	0.28	77.3	0	0	No Change
Canister		Aluminum 6061-T6	1	0.95	77.8	0	0	No Change
	Amplifier chassis	Aluminum (generic)	1	1.71	67.7	0	0	No Change
	Strut Rod	Aluminum (generic)	6	0.094	76.4	0	0	No Change
	Electronics Chassis	Aluminum 7075-T6	3	0.89	71.6	0	0	No Change
	Canister Base Ring	Polycarbonate (aka Lexan	1	0.13	77.8	0	0	Added back from previous analysis
	Canister Upper Restraint	Polycarbonate (aka Lexan	1	0.18	77.7	0	0	Added back from previous analysis
Ti Hinge		Titanium (6 Al-4 V)	8	0.003	0	3.02	0.47	No Change
Ti Hinge 2		Titanium (6 Al-4 V)	108	0.0182	0	44.06	3.61	Added back from previous analysis
Root Hinge		Aluminum 7075-T6	2	0.08	77.3	0	0	Added back from previous analysis

4. Please provide the probability of post-mission disposal failure due to collision with small objects for the Umbra-2001 satellite, with failure defined as an orbital lifetime greater than six years.

The small object analysis in the attached revised ODAR<sup>9</sup> also applies to Umbra-2001 as the critical components and surface configuration remain identical. Table 8<sup>10</sup> has been updated to reflect the 1.108E-4 probability of PMD failure, which is compliant with the requirement.

For clarity, except for the changes described in answers ## 3 and 4 of this Response and update to nominal operational orbit throughout the ODAR, there were no other changes to the revised ODAR.

Sincerely,

/s/ Iulia Davies
Iulia Davies
Legal Counsel
Umbra Lab, Inc.

#### Attachments

CC: Tony Lin

DLA PIPER LLP (US) 500 Eighth Street, NW Washington, DC 20004 tony.lin@us.dlapiper.com

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Umbra Revised Attachment C ODAR, at 17-18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Umbra Revised Attachment C ODAR, at 18.



# (DRAFT COPY - Not for submission) Schedule S

312 File Number:

# **Filing Description**

Question	Response
Description	Umbra SAR Constellation Block 1

# Satellite Information

Question	Response
Select Orbit Type	NGSO
Space Station or Satellite Network Name	Umbra SAR Constellation
Estimated Lifetime of Satellite(s) From Date of Launch	6 Years
Will the space station(s) operate on a Common Carrier basis?	No

# Operating Frequency Bands (5)

Nature of service	Description	Frequency Band(s)	Mode Type
Earth Exploration-Satellite Service		2025.0 MHz -2110.0 MHz	Receive
Earth Exploration-Satellite Service		2200.0 MHz -2290.0 MHz	Transmit
Earth Exploration-Satellite Service		9300.0 MHz -9900.0 MHz	Transmit
Earth Exploration-Satellite Service		8025.0 MHz -8400.0 MHz	Transmit
Earth Exploration-Satellite Service		9200.0 MHz -10400.0 MHz	Transmit

Orbital Information For Non-Geostationary Satellites

Question	Response
Total Number of Satellites in the active constellation	6
Orbit Epoch Date	06/30/2021
Celestrial Reference Body	Earth

# Orbital Plane 1:

Question	Response
Number of Satellites in Plane	1
Inclination Angle	97.5 degrees
Right Ascension of Ascending Node	235.0 degrees
Argument of Perigee	0.0 degrees
Orbital Period	5745.0 seconds
Apogee	565.0 km
Perigee	565.0 km
Active Service Arc Begin Angle with respect to Ascending Node	0.0 degrees
Active Service Arc End Angle with respect to Ascending Node	0.0 degrees

# **Mean Anomaly For Each Satellite**

Satellite Number	Mean Anomaly (degrees) at the Orbit Epoch Date
1	0.0

# Orbital Plane 2:

Question	Response
Number of Satellites in Plane	1
Inclination Angle	97.5 degrees
Right Ascension of Ascending Node	250.0 degrees
Argument of Perigee	0.0 degrees
Orbital Period	5745.0 seconds
Apogee	565.0 km
Perigee	565.0 km
Active Service Arc Begin Angle with respect to Ascending Node	0.0 degrees
Active Service Arc End Angle with respect to Ascending Node	0.0 degrees

# **Mean Anomaly For Each Satellite**

Satellite Number	Mean Anomaly (degrees) at the Orbit Epoch Date
1	180.0

# Orbital Plane 3:

Question	Response
Number of Satellites in Plane	2
Inclination Angle	97.5 degrees
Right Ascension of Ascending Node	265.0 degrees
Argument of Perigee	0.0 degrees
Orbital Period	5745.0 seconds
Apogee	565.0 km
Perigee	565.0 km
Active Service Arc Begin Angle with respect to Ascending Node	0.0 degrees
Active Service Arc End Angle with respect to Ascending Node	0.0 degrees

# **Mean Anomaly For Each Satellite**

Satellite Number	Mean Anomaly (degrees) at the Orbit Epoch Date
1	0.0
2	180.0

## Orbital Plane 4:

Question	Response
Number of Satellites in Plane	2
Inclination Angle	97.5 degrees
Right Ascension of Ascending Node	280.0 degrees
Argument of Perigee	0.0 degrees
Orbital Period	5745.0 seconds

Apogee	565.0 km
Perigee	565.0 km
Active Service Arc Begin Angle with respect to Ascending Node	0.0 degrees
Active Service Arc End Angle with respect to Ascending Node	0.0 degrees

# **Mean Anomaly For Each Satellite**

Satellite Number	Mean Anomaly (degrees) at the Orbit Epoch Date		
1	0.0		
2	180.0		

# Receiving Beams 1:

Question	Response
Beam ID	CCU
Receive Beam Frequency	2079.95 MHz -2080.05 MHz
Beam Type	Spot
Polarization	RHCP
Peak Gain	5.6 dBi
Antenna Pointing Error	0.01 degrees
Antenna Rotational Error	0.01 degrees
Polarization Switchable	
Polarization Alignment Relative to the Equatorial Plane	45.0 degrees
G/T at Max. Gain Point	-37.2 dB/K
Min. Saturation Flux Density	-0.1 dBW/m2
Max. Saturation Flux Density	0.0 dBW/m2
Co- or Cross Polar Mode	С
Service Area Description	Global

# Receiving Channels (1)

Channel ID	Channel Bandwidth (MHz)	Center Frequency s (MHz)	Feeder Link, Service Link or TT&C
CCU	0.1	2080.0	TT&C

# Transmitting Beams 1:

Question	Response
Beam ID	SAR2
Transmit Beam Frequency	9200.0 MHz -10400.0 MHz
Beam Type	Spot
Polarization	V
Peak Gain	50.9 dBi
Antenna Pointing Error	0.01 degrees
Antenna Rotational Error	0.01 degrees
Polarization Switchable	
Polarization Alignment Relative to the Equatorial Plane	7.4 degrees
Max. Transmit EIRP Density	-63.2 dBW/Hz
Max. Transmit EIRP	78.5 dBW
Co- or Cross Polar Mode	С
Service Area Description	Global

# **Max. Power Flux Density**

* BW:	* 0° - 5° (dbW/m² /BW):	* 5° - 10° (dbW/m² /BW):	* 10° - 15° (dbW/m² /BW):	* 15° - 20° (dbW/m² /BW):	* 20° - 25° (dbW/m² /BW):	* 25° - 90° (dbW/m² /BW):
Hz	-200.0	-91.8	-90.2	-88.8	-87.5	-81.2

# Transmitting Beams 2:

Question	Response
Beam ID	SAR1
Transmit Beam Frequency	9300.0 MHz -9900.0 MHz

Beam Type	Spot
Polarization	V
Peak Gain	50.9 dBi
Antenna Pointing Error	0.01 degrees
Antenna Rotational Error	0.01 degrees
Polarization Switchable	
Polarization Alignment Relative to the Equatorial Plane	7.4 degrees
Max. Transmit EIRP Density	-60.2 dBW/Hz
Max. Transmit EIRP	78.5 dBW
Co- or Cross Polar Mode	С
Service Area Description	Global

# **Max. Power Flux Density**

* BW:	* 0° - 5° (dbW/m² /BW):	* 5° - 10° (dbW/m² /BW):	* 10° - 15° (dbW/m <sup>2</sup> /BW):	* 15° - 20° (dbW/m <sup>2</sup> /BW):	* 20° - 25° (dbW/m <sup>2</sup> /BW):	* 25° - 90° (dbW/m <sup>2</sup> /BW):
Hz	-200.0	-88.8	-87.2	-85.8	-84.5	-78.2

# Transmitting Beams 3:

Question	Response
Beam ID	MD2
Transmit Beam Frequency	8025.0 MHz -8275.0 MHz
Beam Type	Spot
Polarization	RHCP
Peak Gain	17.2 dBi
Antenna Pointing Error	0.01 degrees
Antenna Rotational Error	0.01 degrees

Polarization Switchable	
Polarization Alignment Relative to the Equatorial Plane	45.0 degrees
Max. Transmit EIRP Density	-62.9 dBW/Hz
Max. Transmit EIRP	23.2 dBW
Co- or Cross Polar Mode	С
Service Area Description	Global

# **Max. Power Flux Density**

* BW:	* 0° - 5° (dbW/m² /BW):	* 5° - 10° (dbW/m² /BW):	* 10° - 15° (dbW/m² /BW):	* 15° - 20° (dbW/m² /BW):	* 20° - 25° (dbW/m² /BW):	* 25° - 90° (dbW/m² /BW):
Hz	-162.1	-160.3	-158.7	-157.3	-156.0	-149.7

# Transmitting Beams 4:

Question	Response
Beam ID	MD1
Transmit Beam Frequency	8025.0 MHz -8275.0 MHz
Beam Type	Spot
Polarization	RHCP
Peak Gain	13.0 dBi
Antenna Pointing Error	0.01 degrees
Antenna Rotational Error	0.01 degrees
Polarization Switchable	
Polarization Alignment Relative to the Equatorial Plane	45.0 degrees
Max. Transmit EIRP Density	-66.9 dBW/Hz
Max. Transmit EIRP	19.2 dBW

Co- or Cross Polar Mode	С
Service Area Description	Global

# Max. Power Flux Density

* BW:	* 0° - 5° (dbW/m² /BW):	* 5° - 10° (dbW/m² /BW):	* 10° - 15° (dbW/m² /BW):	* 15° - 20° (dbW/m² /BW):	* 20° - 25° (dbW/m <sup>2</sup> /BW):	* 25° - 90° (dbW/m² /BW):
Hz	-166.1	-164.3	-162.7	-161.3	-160.0	-153.7

# Transmitting Beams 5:

Question	Response
Beam ID	ттс
Transmit Beam Frequency	2253.95 MHz -2254.05 MHz
Beam Type	Spot
Polarization	RHCP
Peak Gain	5.6 dBi
Antenna Pointing Error	0.01 degrees
Antenna Rotational Error	0.01 degrees
Polarization Switchable	
Polarization Alignment Relative to the Equatorial Plane	45.0 degrees
Max. Transmit EIRP Density	-58.4 dBW/Hz
Max. Transmit EIRP	0.0 dBW
Co- or Cross Polar Mode	С
Service Area Description	Global Note: Max EIRP is -8.4 dBW; min value allowable is 0.0

# **Max. Power Flux Density**

*	W:	* 0° - 5° (dbW/m² /BW):	* 5° - 10° (dbW/m² /BW):	* 10° - 15° (dbW/m² /BW):	* 15° - 20° (dbW/m² /BW):	* 20° - 25° (dbW/m² /BW):	* 25° - 90° (dbW/m² /BW):
H	z	-159.7	-157.9	-156.3	-154.9	-153.6	-147.3

# Transmitting Channels (5)

Channel ID	Channel Bandwidth (MHz)	Center Frequency s (MHz)	Feeder Link, Service Link or TT&C
MD2	250.0	8150.0	TT&C
SAR1	600.0	9600.0	Service Link
MD1	250.0	8150.0	TT&C
SAR2	1200.0	9800.0	Service Link
TTC	0.1	2254.0	TT&C

# Certification Questions

Question	Response
Are the applicable service area coverage requirements of 25.143(b)(2) (ii) and (iii), or 25.144(a)(3)(i), or 25.145 (c)(1) and (2), or 25.146(i)(1) and (2), or 25.148(c), or 25.225 met?	N/A
Are the applicable frequency tolerances of 25.202(e) and out-of-band emission limits of 25.202(f)(1),(2), and (3) met?	Yes
Are the cessation of emissions requirements of 25.207 met?	Yes
Are the applicable power-flux-density limits of 25.208 met, and is the appropriate technical showing provided within the application?	
For NGSO applications, are the applicable equivalent-power-flux-density limits of 25.208 met, and is the appropriate technical showing provided within the application?	N/A
Are the applicable full-frequency-reuse requirements of 25.210 met?	
If the application is for a 17/24 GHz BSS space station, will it be operated at an offset location with full power and interference protection in accordance with 25.262(b)?	

# **Attachments**

Information not provided.



# Orbital Debris Assessment Report

For Umbra Satellite Constellation

	Gabrielle Jung Spacecraft Systems Engineer
Document Number	2101D0010
Revision	02



# **Configuration Control**

Approvals	Name	Initial
Author	Gabrielle Jung	Thing
Checker	Alex Potter	J.

# Revisions

Revision	Date	Changes
01	6/16/2021	Initial Revision
02	11/01/2021	Updates for requested content – 6-year small object collision analysis (4.5-2) & material updates to include additional materials and components as with Umbra-2001. Additional updates for refined operational altitude of 565 km.



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# 1.0 Summary of Report Findings

Umbra Lab Inc. ("Umbra") provides an orbital debris assessment report ("ODAR") of its satellite constellation. The analysis uses the Debris Assessment Software, DAS 3.1.2, provided by the NASA Orbital Debris Program Office (ODPO).

An orbital debris assessment of the Umbra constellation shows the mission complies with the applicable requirements for spacecraft end-of-life disposal and risk to human casualty as specified in NASA's Process for Limiting Orbital Debris, NASA-STD-8719.14B.

The Umbra satellite constellation will operate at a nominal altitude of 565 km and a nominal inclination of 97.4°. The satellites will be deployed from the launch vehicle between 500-575 km in altitude and 97.5  $\pm$  2 degrees inclination. In the worst-case scenario, an Umbra satellite is deployed Dead-On-Arrival (DOA) at 575 km, while fully stowed, and it will re-enter in at most 19.4 years.

Spacecraft disposal is accomplished through atmospheric reentry. In the nominal case, each spacecraft is expected to reenter roughly 0.263 years after mission completion with a planned Post Mission Disposal (PMD) maneuver described herein. Umbra will budget sufficient reserves to ensure the capability to conduct the PMD maneuver and take any expected, necessary collision avoidance maneuvers during the lifetime of the mission.

#### 1.1 Self-assessment of the ODAR

A self-assessment is provided in Table 1 in accordance with the assessment format provided in Appendix A.2 of NASA-STD-8719.14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In the associated application, Umbra seeks authority to launch and operate five new satellites and to include a previously authorized experimental satellite as part of that six-satellite commercial constellation. This ODAR applies to each of those six satellites.



Table 1. Orbital Debris Assessment Report Evaluation: UMBRA SAR System

Reqmt		Launch Vehicle		S	pacecra	ft		
#	Compliant	Not Compliant	Incomplete	Standard Non Compliant	Compliant or N/A	Not Compliant	Incomplete	Comments
4.3-1.a			X		X			No debris released in LEO
4.3-1.b			X		X			No debris released in LEO
4.3-2			X		X			No debris released in GEO
4.4-1			X		X			Limit risk of explosion
4.4-2			X		X			Design for passivation
4.4-3			X		X			No planned breakups
4.4-4			X		X			No planned breakups
4.5-1			X		X			Limit debris by collision
4.5-2			X		X			Complies with Streamlined requirements.
4.6- 1(a)			X		X			Atmospheric reentry option
4.6- 1(b)			X		X			NA - storage orbit option
4.6-1(c)			X		X			NA - direct retrieval option
4.6-2			X		X			Not Applicable (GEO)
4.6-3			X		X			Not applicable (MEO)
4.6-4			X		X			Not required to meet 25 yr.
4.7-1			X		X			Reliability of disposal option
4.8-1					X			No tethers used

<sup>1.</sup> This ODAR is for the UMBRA satellite constellation only. No launch vehicle was assessed.

<sup>2.</sup> This Assessment was performed using DAS v3.1.2



## 1.2 Assessment Report Format

**ODAR Technical Sections Format Requirements:** 

This ODAR follows the format recommended in NASA-STD-8719.14, Appendix A.1 and includes the content indicated at a minimum in each Section 2 through 8 below for the Umbra satellites. Sections 9 through 14 apply to the launch platform and are not addressed herein.

# 2.0 Program Management and Mission Overview

## 2.1 Project Manager

Michael Francis Director of Spacecraft Umbra Lab, Inc.

## 2.2 Foreign Government or Space Agency Participation

None

# 2.3 Mission Design and Development Milestones

Launch: Q2 2021-Q4 2022 Launch and orbit insertion
Phase 1: <2 months Checkout and orbit transfer

Operations: 58 months Radar remote sensing

End of Mission: 3 months End of mission maneuvering

### 2.4 Mission Overview

The UMBRA SAR system is a space based commercial remote sensing system. It features an experimental synthetic aperture radar that can produce highly resolved synthetic aperture radar imagery (<0.25-m). The space segment will be inserted via a ride share on a third-party launch vehicle. The ground segment will include a mission operations center and one or more ground stations.



# 2.5 Launch Vehicle Description

Table 2 lists current best estimates for launch parameters associated with Umbra's constellation:<sup>2</sup>

**Table 2. Launch Parameters for Umbra Constellation** 

Orbital Vehicle	Launch Vehicle	Launch Site	Launch Date
2001	Falcon 9	Cape Canaveral	Q2 2021
02	Falcon 9	Cape Canaveral or	Q4 2021
		Vandenberg AFB	
03/04	Falcon 9	Cape Canaveral or	Q2 2022
		Vandenberg AFB	
05/06	Falcon 9	Cape Canaveral or	Q4 2022
		Vandenberg AFB	

# 2.6 Launch and Deployment Profile

Our orbital altitude of separation ranges between 500 km and 575 km.

The nominal operational orbit for the space vehicle is circular sun-synchronous with an altitude of 565 km. The space vehicle will maneuver from the orbital altitude of separation to the desired nominal operational orbit via a series of Hohmann transfers and minor inclination change maneuvers (if required).

**Table 3. Orbital Envelope** 

	Apogee	Perigee	Inclination
<b>High Insertion Orbit</b>	575 km	575 km	$97.5 \pm 2 \deg$
<b>Low Insertion Orbit</b>	500 km	500 km	$97.5 \pm 2 \deg$
Target Operational Orbit	565 km	565 km	$97.5 \pm 2 \deg$
Post Mission Disposal Orbit	515 km	380 km	97.5 ± 2 deg

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Umbra's authorized experimental satellite, ELS File No. 0424-EXCN-2020, is scheduled to launch in June 2021.



### 2.7 Orbit Selection Rationale

The nominal operational orbit is the result of an optimization between the remote sensing payload resolution, the desire to achieve a 3-5 year mission duration, and the availability of launch services.

The 500-575 km range of altitudes for orbit insertion reflects the uncertainty associated with rideshare services.

## 2.8 Interaction with Other Operational Spacecraft

Interaction and potential physical interference with other operational spacecraft are not planned nor anticipated as part of the UMBRA SAR mission. Umbra is aware that other operators operate in the 500-610 km orbital range and intends to coordinate physical operations of its satellites with all such operators, as necessary.

# 3.0 Spacecraft Description

## 3.1 Physical Description of the Spacecraft

Each UMBRA SAR satellite fits within the standard ESPA envelope when stowed for launch. The bus structure consists of an aluminum frame with machined aluminum panels and has dimensions of approximately 58 cm x 58 cm x 22 cm, not including the solar arrays which reside in a stowed condition on either side of the bus. The payload is approximately 80 cm x 53 cm diameter in the stowed position. When deployed into the operational configuration, the maximum physical dimensions of the space vehicle are approximately 4. m x 4. m x 2. m.

## 3.2 Spacecraft Illustration

The figure below shows both the stowed and operational configurations of the UMBRA SAR space vehicle. The details of the payload are not shown, but approximate relative dimensions are captured.



**STOWED DEPLOYED CONFIGURATION CONFIGURATION** S-Band Antenna Payload Payload **Deployed** Stowed SC Bus **Solar Arrays** SC Bus Star Solar Arrays **Trackers** MLB SC Bus Thrust S-Band Nozzle Antenna **Primary** Antenna

Figure 1. UMBRA SAR Space Vehicle External Views

Table 4. Area-to-Mass Ratios Used in Analysis

Stowed Area-to-Mass Ratio (wet)	$6.03x10^{-3}$	m <sup>2</sup> /kg
Deployed Area-to-Mass Ratio (dry)	17.15x10 <sup>-3</sup>	m <sup>2</sup> /kg
PMD Area-to-Mass Ratio (dry)	45.4x10 <sup>-3</sup>	m <sup>2</sup> /kg

## 3.3 Space Vehicle Mass

Wet Mass: 65 kg Dry Mass: 60 kg

## 3.4 Propulsion System

Satellite propulsion is provided by a thermo-electric propulsion system that uses water as its propellant. The system consists of a single thruster, 2 propellant tanks, fill & drain ports, and an electronics enclosure. The water-based propulsion system will be used for station keeping, PMD maneuvers, and collision avoidance, if necessary. Below are some technical details of the capabilities of the propulsion system. A more detailed Collision Avoidance Process is provided below in Section 6.



**Table 5. On-Board Propulsion Metrics** 

$\Delta V$	130	m/s
Nominal Acceleration	2.6x10 <sup>-4</sup>	m/s <sup>2</sup>
ISP	180	sec

The propulsion system is sufficiently capable of performing station-keeping activities to maintain better than  $\pm$  10-km within our planned orbital altitude over the life of the mission. It can do this while retaining the ability to perform any necessary collision avoidance maneuvers and the planned PMD maneuvers at the conclusion of the spacecraft's operational life.

## 3.5 Fluids, Fluid Management, Fluid Systems

All fluids are contained within the propulsion system. The system includes a thruster, fill-drain valves for the pressurant and propellant, propellant tanks with elastomeric bladders, and avionics. The qualified propulsion system module will be subject to random vibration, shock and thermal cycling tests.

**Table 6. Spacecraft Fluids** 

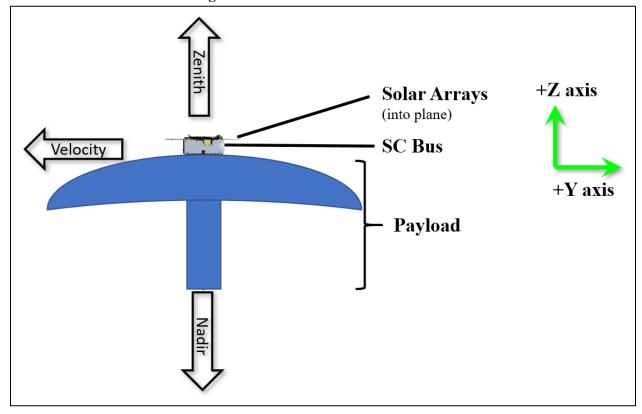
Description	Fluid	Mass (kg)	Max Pressure (psi)
Propellant	H <sub>2</sub> 0	< 5	190
Pressurant	HFC-236	<< 1	190

## 3.6 Attitude Control Systems

Satellite attitude is controlled by torque rods and reaction wheels integrated into a 3-axis control system that also includes star trackers and sun sensors. The nominal attitude mode places the satellite in a "Nadir Pointing" orientation as shown in Figure 2. Nominal Umbra SAR Attitude. Satellite attitude will be varied among other pointing control modes to orient solar arrays towards the sun, to orient the payload for imaging, and to orient antennas for communication.



Figure 2. Nominal Umbra SAR Attitude



## 3.7 Range Safety and Pyrotechnic Devices

None.

## 3.8 Electrical Generation and Storage System

Power storage is provided by a battery consisting of Lithium-Ion cells arranged in an 8S4P configuration in four (4) battery modules. The batteries will be recharged by solar cells mounted on the two (2) deployable solar array wings extending from the bus structure.

# 3.9 Other Sources of Stored Energy

None.

## 3.10 Radioactive Materials

None.



# 4.0 Assessment of Spacecraft Debris Released during Normal Operations

Assessment of spacecraft compliance with Requirements 4.3-1 and 4.3-2

- 4.1 Identification of any Objected Expected to be Released There are no intentional releases of objects.
- 4.2 Rationale for Release of Each Object Not Applicable.
- 4.3 Time of Release for Each Object Relative to Launch Time Not Applicable.
- 4.4 Release Velocity of Each Object with Respect to Spacecraft Not Applicable.
- 4.5 Expected Orbital Parameters of Each Object After Release Not Applicable.
- 4.6 Calculated Orbital Lifetime of Each Object Not Applicable.
- 4.7 Compliance Assessment for Requirements 4.3-1 and 4.3-2

Requirement 4.3-1: Mission Related Debris Passing Through LEO

### **Compliance Statement (4.3-1):**

Compliant. Requirement is not applicable to the mission profile.



### Requirement 4.3-2: Mission Related Debris Passing Near GEO

### **Compliance Statement (4.3-2):**

Compliant. Requirement is not applicable to the mission profile.

# 5.0 Assessment of Spacecraft Intentional Breakups and Potential for Explosions

# 5.1 Potential Causes of Spacecraft Breakup During Deployment and Mission Operations

There is no credible scenario that would result in spacecraft breakup during normal deployment and operations.

# 5.2 Summary of Failure Modes and Effects Analyses Which May Lead to an Accidental Explosion

Rupture of a lithium-ion cell leading to explosion or breakup of the space vehicle is not a credible scenario. In-Mission failure of the propulsion system, leading to explosion or breakup of the space vehicle is not a credible scenario. An electrothermal propulsion system employing a liquid water propellant was selected in part to eliminate this hazard.

## 5.3 Plan for Any Designed Spacecraft Breakup

There are no planned breakups.

## 5.4 Components Which are Passivated at EOM

#### 5.4.1 Propulsion System:

Residual propellant will be depleted via EOM burns or venting upon demise at the end of mission. The propellant (water) is not energetic and is not toxic, thus its release does not pose any credible hazard. Likewise, the pressurant, Hexafluoropropane (FE-36), does not pose any credible hazard. Per the manufacturer, it is non-corrosive, electrically non-conductive, free of residue and has zero ozone depleting potential. As the propellant used in this case is water, there is no risk from persistent liquids, as any release of propellant evaporates and dissipates. This propellant is unable to persist in droplet form in the space environment.



#### 5.4.2 Batteries

Batteries will not be passivated at EOM due to the low risk and low impact of a cell or cells rupturing and the extremely short lifetime at mission conclusion. The maximum total chemical energy stored in each lithium-ion cell is 15 kJ. If a single cell were to rupture, the debris would be contained within the rugged battery housing, which itself is contained within an aluminum bus structure. These structures would retain any debris that could be ejected by a ruptured cell.

#### 5.4.3 Rationale for Non-Passivation

The battery and solar array configurations were designed in concert to minimize the possibility of overcharging the battery. However, in the unlikely event that a battery cell does rupture, the small size, mass, and potential energy of these batteries is such that, while the spacecraft could be expected to vent gases, debris from the battery rupture would be contained within the vessel due to the lack of penetration energy.

## 5.5 Compliance Assessment for Requirements 4.4-1 to 4.4-4

Umbra has completed Failure Mode and Effects Analysis (FMEA; see Appendix) and concluded that the appropriate steps have been taken to assure that any failure of energetic components (limited to batteries and propulsion system) do not result in fragmentation of the Umbra SAR satellites or do not otherwise generate orbital debris. As described above, energy sources are both safely contained during the mission and/or depleted at the time of post mission disposal.

# 6.0 Assessment of Spacecraft Potential for On-Orbit Collisions

Umbra has developed a standard course of action for the case that a conjunction data message (CDM) is received. Immediately following the receipt of the CDM, Umbra will evaluate, using the information provided in the message, whether the associated risk falls above or below the predetermined threshold. The preliminary set point for this threshold is  $1x10^{-5}$ , however this is software configurable and may be subject to change as necessary. Should the risk stated by the  $18^{th}$  Space Control Squadron (18 SPCS) be higher than this threshold, Umbra will contact the other entity (if any) that shares the potential collision risk; this information is provided by 18 SPCS in the CDM. Umbra will then collaborate on how to avoid a collision. The current procedure is temporary and will evolve towards an automated system. Umbra plans to create a process that flags an operator and executes propulsive maneuvers semi-autonomously, thereby minimizing the required time, propellant and tasking deltas required.



## 6.1 Calculation of Spacecraft Probability of Collision

Assessment of spacecraft compliance with Requirements 4.5-1 and 4.5-2 per NASA-STD-8719.14b was performed using DAS v3.1.2. See Appendix A.1.

## 6.2 Compliance Assessment for Requirement 4.5-1 and 4.5-2

**Requirement 4.5-1:** Limiting debris generated by collisions with large objects when operating in Earth orbit:

For each spacecraft and launch vehicle orbital stage in or passing through LEO, the program or project shall demonstrate that, during the orbital lifetime of each spacecraft and orbital stage, the probability of accidental collision with space objects larger than 10 cm in diameter is less than 0.001 (Requirement 56506).

### **Compliance Statement (4.5-1):**

Compliant. The computed probability for Large Object Impact and Debris Generation for each satellite (and the system as a whole) is less than 0.001, excluding the propulsion system; these values are shown in Table 7. The probability of collision for each satellite is equal to zero when accounting for the propulsion system, as deemed by the FCC.

Table 7. Probability of Collision with Large Objects

Orbital Vehicle	Year	Probability
02	2021.95	9.409e-05
03/04	2022.55	1.1163e-04
05/06	2022.95	1.0698e-04

z

**Requirement 4.5-2:** Limiting debris generated by collisions with small objects when operating in Earth or lunar orbit:

For each spacecraft, the program or project shall demonstrate that, during the mission of the spacecraft, the probability of accidental collision with orbital debris and meteoroids sufficient to prevent compliance with the applicable post-mission disposal requirements is less than 0.01 (Requirement 56507).

### **Compliance Statement (4.5-2):**

Compliant. As shown in the below Table 8, the probability of collision with small objects resulting in PMD failure for each satellite is less than 1.4x10<sup>-4</sup>, well below the 0.01 requirement. This failure is defined as on orbital lifetime greater than six years and was analyzed at the revised target altitude of 565-km as this was deemed more stressing. Higher



operational altitudes show a decrease in PMD failure and even in the unlikely scenario where an entire mission is run at the lowest possible deployment altitude of 500-km PMD failure due to collision with small objects never exceeds the requirement of 0.01 (5.591E-5). Table 8 also includes the Umbra-2001 spacecraft as that was not applicable to the experimental filing it is currently operating under and all critical surface analysis is identical with launch year being the only variable in the below results.

Table 8. Probability of PMD failure due to collision with small objects

Launch Year	Vehicle(s)	Probability of Collision with
		Small Objects
2021.05	2001	1.108E-04
2021.95	02	1.059E-04
2022.55	03/04	1.076E-04
2022.95	05/06	1.090E-04

Table 9. Small Object Damage Analysis for Missions 1 through 6

Critical Surface
Propulsion Electronics
Radio
GNC
Reaction Wheel
Battery

# 7.0 Assessment of Spacecraft Post-mission Disposal Plans and Procedures

## 7.1 Description of spacecraft disposal option selected

The satellites will de-orbit by atmospheric re-entry. The combination of the chosen disposal orbit and a high area-to-mass ratio result in rapid orbital decay after station keeping has ceased.

# 7.2 Systems or Components Required to Accomplish Post-mission Disposal Operations

In a worst-case scenario, for any individual satellite within the Umbra constellation, where the satellite is delivered to a 575 x 575 km orbit and remains in its stowed configuration due to a hardware malfunction (DOA), it will reenter in less than 19.4 years.



# 7.3 Post-mission Disposal Maneuver Plan

Nominally, to avoid interaction with LEO objects, as well as to accelerate reentry, a Post-mission Disposal (PMD) maneuver to lower the satellite to a disposal orbit of approximately 515 x 380 km will be performed in conjunction with an End-of-mission (EOM) maneuver orienting the Z-Axis with the velocity vector. This orientation is also the most stable equilibrium orientation that the spacecraft would naturally assume thereby accelerating the deorbit of a non-functional satellite without any external input.

The DAS prediction for orbit lifetime following the described PMD/EOM maneuver is 0.26 years as shown in Figure 3. In the event of a hardware failure or other anomaly during operations at the nominal 565-km circular altitude, an Umbra satellite would naturally deorbit within 4 years.

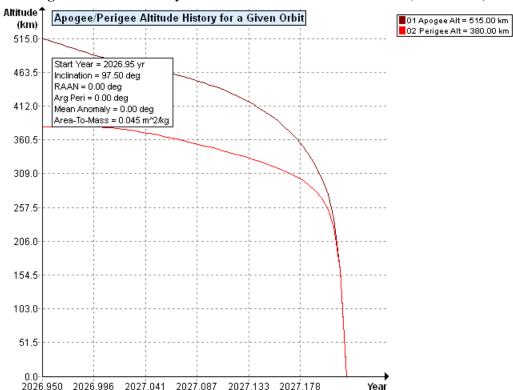


Figure 3. Orbital Decay Profile with PMD/EOM Maneuver (DAS v3.1.2)

## 7.4 Preliminary Plan for Spacecraft Controlled Reentry

Not Applicable.



## 7.5 Compliance Assessment for Requirement 4.6-1 to 4.6-4

### Requirement 4.6-1:

Disposal for space structures passing through LEO.

### **Compliance Statement (4.6-1):**

The UMBRA SAR satellite reentry is COMPLIANT using 4.6.2.1.a(1) described within NASA-STD 8719.14b.

Each UMBRA SAR satellite, after executing a PMD/EOM maneuver, will re-enter the Earth's atmosphere 0.26 years after the completion of mission and 5.26 years after launch.

### Requirement 4.6-2:

Disposal for space structures near GEO.

### **Compliance Statement (4.6-2):**

Compliant. The requirement is not applicable. UMBRA SAR satellites will not be located or disposed of near GEO.

### Requirement 4.6-3:

Disposal for space structures between LEO and GEO.

#### **Compliance Statement (4.6-3):**

Compliant. The requirement is not applicable. UMBRA SAR satellites will not be located or disposed of between LEO and GEO.

#### Requirement 4.6-4:

Reliability of post-mission disposal operations in Earth Orbit.

#### **Compliance Statement (4.6-4):**

Compliant.

An EOM maneuver is not required to ensure deorbit within 25 years per Requirement 4.6-1.

An EOM maneuver is not required to limit the probability of human casualty to 1:10,000 per Requirement 4.7-1 (A).



# 8.0 Assessment of Spacecraft Reentry Hazards

# 8.1 Detailed Description of Spacecraft Components

**Table 9. Spacecraft Model** 

	Table 7. Spacecraft Wood		Mass
Component	Subcomponent	Qty.	(kg)
Bus Structure		1	9
	Battery	32	0.05
	Torq Rods	3	0.3
	Reaction Wheels	4	0.84
	Prop Tanks	2	1
	Largest Fastener	62	0.01
	Avionics Harness	1	0.19
	Largest Connector	2	0.01
	Interior EE Chassis	2	0.75
MLB		1	0.7
Solar Array		6	0.3
SAR rib		108	0.07
Base Ring		1	0.14
Antenna Element		1	0.3
Canister		1	0.95
	Amplifier chassis	1	1.71
	Strut Rod	6	0.094
	Electronics Chassis	3	0.89
	Canister Base Ring	1	0.13
	Canister Upper Restraint	1	0.18
Ti Hinge		8	0.003
Ti Hinge 2		108	0.0182
Root Hinge		2	0.08

This analysis was done using DAS 3.1.2 to ensure compliance with 4.7-1. The below Table 10 provides the details showing modeling constraints replicated for all spacecraft. The table also shows the DAS-calculated demise altitude for components of an Umbra satellite. The DAS-calculated debris casualty risk was shown to be zero.



Table 10. Spacecraft Component List for Human Casualty Risk Analysis

Component	Subcomponent	Material	Qty.	Mass (kg)	Demise Alt	<b>Total DCA</b>	KE
Bus Structure		Aluminum 7075-T6	1	9	71.6	0	0
	Battery	Aluminum (generic)	32	0.05	69.3	0	0
	Torq Rods	Aluminum (generic)	3	0.3	67.5	0	0
	Reaction Wheels	A356	4	0.84	62.1	0	0
	Prop Tanks	Aluminum (generic)	2	1	68.3	0	0
	Largest Fastener	Stainless Steel (generic)	62	0.01	69.6	0	0
	Avionics Harness	Copper Alloy	1	0.19	71.4	0	0
	Largest Connector	Steel AISI 304	2	0.01	70	0	0
	Interior EE Chassis	Aluminum 7075-T6	2	0.75	71.5	0	0
MLB		Aluminum (generic)	1	0.7	75.3	0	0
Solar Array		Graphite Epoxy 1	6	0.3	0	5.13	13.9
SAR rib		Graphite Epoxy 1	108	0.07	0	84.55	0.99
Base Ring		Aluminum 7075-T6	1	0.14	77.1	0	0
Antenna Element		Aluminum 6061-T6	1	0.28	77.3	0	0
Canister		Aluminum 6061-T6	1	0.95	77.8	0	0
	Amplifier chassis	Aluminum (generic)	1	1.71	67.7	0	0
	Strut Rod	Aluminum (generic)	6	0.094	76.4	0	0
	Electronics Chassis	Aluminum 7075-T6	3	0.89	71.6	0	0
	Canister Base Ring	Polycarbonate (aka Lexan	1	0.13	77.8	0	0
	Canister Upper Restraint	Polycarbonate (aka Lexan	1	0.18	77.7	0	0
Ti Hinge		Titanium (6 Al-4 V)	8	0.003	0	3.02	0.47
Ti Hinge 2		Titanium (6 Al-4 V)	108	0.0182	0	44.06	3.61
Root Hinge		Aluminum 7075-T6	2	0.08	77.3	0	0

# 8.2 Summary of Objects Expected to Survive an Uncontrolled Reentry

Per DAS3.1.2, four objects specified in Table 9 are expected to survive an uncontrolled reentry and reach the Earth's surface. In each case, the kinetic energy of the surviving object is calculated to be less than 15 J as shown in Table 11.

## 8.3 Calculation of Probability of Human Casualty

DAS v3.1.2 calculated the risk of human casualty to be 1:100,000,000 with a total debris casualty area of 0.0 m<sup>2</sup>. This is the lowest probability DAS output and is considered to be zero.

## 8.4 Compliance Assessment for Requirement 4.7-1

Limit the risk of human casualty.

#### Requirement 4.7-1(A):

The potential for human casualty is assumed for any object with an impacting kinetic energy in excess of 15 joules. For uncontrolled reentry, the risk of human casualty from surviving debris shall not exceed 0.0001 (1:10,000) (Requirement 56626).



### **Compliance Statement (4.7-1 (A)):**

Compliant. The calculated risk of human casualty is 1:100,000,000. This is the lowest probability DAS output and is considered to be zero.

#### *Requirement 4.7-1 (B):*

For controlled reentry, the selected trajectory shall ensure that no surviving debris impact with a kinetic energy greater than 15 joules is closer than 370 km from foreign landmasses, or is within 50 km from the continental U.S., territories of the U.S., and the permanent ice pack of Antarctica (Requirement 56627).

### **Compliance Statement (4.7-1 (B)):**

The requirement is not applicable since controlled reentry is not an element of the end of mission disposal plan.

### *Requirement 4.7-1 (C):*

For controlled reentries, the product of the probability of failure of the reentry burn (from Requirement 4.6-4.b) and the risk of human casualty assuming uncontrolled reentry shall not exceed 0.0001 (1:10,000) (Requirement 56628).

### **Compliance Statement (4.7-1 (C)):**

The requirement is not applicable since controlled reentry is not an element of the end of mission disposal plan.

## 8.5 Hazardous Materials Summary

The UMBRA SAR satellite does not contain any hazardous materials.

## 9.0 Assessment for Tether Missions

Not applicable. There are no tethers in the UMBRA SAR system.



# Appendix A

## A.1 Acronyms

DAS Debris Assessment Software

ODPO Orbital Debris Program Office (NASA)

DOA Dead On Arrival
PMD Post Mission Disposal

ODAR Orbital Debris Assessment Report

LEO Low Earth Orbit
GEO Geostationary Orbit
MEO Medium Earth Orbit
SAR Synthetic Aperture Radar

ESPA EELV Secondary Payload Adapter

EOM End-of-mission

FMEA Failure Mode and Effects Analysis

OV Orbital Vehicle

18 SPCS 18<sup>th</sup> Space Control Squadron C&DH Command & Data-handling

# A.2 Failure Modes and Effects Analysis

**Requirement 4.4-1:** Limiting the risk to other space systems from accidental explosions during deployment and mission operations while in orbit about Earth or the Moon:

For each spacecraft and launch vehicle orbital stage employed for a mission, the program or project shall demonstrate, via failure mode and effects analyses or equivalent analyses, that the integrated probability of explosion for all credible failure modes of each spacecraft and launch vehicle is less than 0.001 (excluding small particle impacts) (Requirement 56449).

### **Compliance statement (4.4-1):**

Required Probability: 0.001. Expected probability: 0.000.

### **Supporting Rationale and Details:**

Propulsion tank explosion:



**Effect:** All failure modes below might theoretically result in propulsion tank explosion with the possibility of orbital debris generation. However, in the unlikely event that a propellant tank does rupture due to internal pressure, the small size, mass, and potential energy of the tank is such that while the spacecraft could be expected to vent gases without breakup and most debris from the cell tank should be contained within the closed aluminum bus structure due to lack of penetration energy.

**Probability:** Extremely Low. It is believed to be a much less than 0.1% probability. Tank rupture resulting in the generation of orbital debris is not believed to be credible.

**Failure Mode 1:** Tank heaters fail closed and the temperature of water in propellant tank rises above the boiling point of water, generating steam and ultimately exceeding the burst pressure of the tank.

Combined faults required for realized failure: Spacecraft thermal design must be incorrect **AND** temperature control circuits must fail to the power on state.

*Mitigation 1:* Redundant temperature sensors on tank to indicate excessive temperature. Switch off loads to propulsion system heaters if propulsion system avionics fail to limit the maximum temperature.

*Mitigation 2:* Size tank heaters to preclude maximum tank temperature that is above the boiling point of water.

#### Battery explosion:

**Effect:** All failure modes below might theoretically result in a battery cell rupture. However, in the unlikely event that a battery cell does rupture due to internal pressure, the small size, mass, and potential energy, of the selected COTS battery cells is such that the spacecraft can be expected to vent gases without breakup. Debris from the cell rupture will be contained within the aluminum battery housing, which itself is contained within an aluminum bus structure, due to the lack of penetration energy.

**Probability:** Extremely Low. It is believed to be a much less than 0.1% probability. Battery cell rupture resulting in the generation of orbital debris is not believed to be credible.

#### Failure Mode 2: Internal short circuit.

*Mitigation:* Qualification and acceptance shock, vibration, thermal cycling and vacuum tests followed by maximum system rate-limited charge and discharge to prove that no internal short circuit sensitivity exists.

Combined faults required for realized failure: Environmental testing <u>AND</u> functional charge/discharge tests must both be ineffective in discovery of the failure mode.



**Failure Mode 3:** Excessive cell temperature due to high load discharge rate and high initial temperature.

*Mitigation:* Test cells for high load discharge rates in a variety of flight-like configurations, with a maximum initial temperature, to determine the likelihood and impact of an out of control thermal rise in the cell.

*Mitigation:* Discharge current limiting to include fusing and simulations show discharge to never exceed 25% of cell capability. Screening of cells to assure minimal capacity and internal resistance mismatch between cells.

Combined faults required for realized failure: Spacecraft thermal design must be incorrect **AND** a fault resulting in excessive discharge current must occur simultaneously **AND** discharge current limiting must fail.

#### Failure Mode 4: Exceed maximum rated cell voltage

*Mitigation:* Size solar array strings to limit maximum voltage across battery cell string. Charging circuit and Con-Ops makes it extremely unlikely that Solar cells to continue to charge the battery beyond 100% SOC.

*Mitigation*: Battery charge controller monitors string voltage and temperature and engages shunts as required OR can be commanded to a non-sun pointing attitude until nominal operations resume.

Combined faults required for realized failure: Spacecraft EPS sizing must be inadequate to limit maximum battery cell voltage <u>AND</u> battery charge controller must fail allowing battery state of charge to exceed nominal maximum <u>AND</u> the Command & Data-handling Systems (C&DH) subsystem must allow the battery state of charge to exceed the nominal maximum without mitigation <u>AND</u> alternative solar array configuration would be required to sustain charging in over-voltage condition.

#### **Failure Mode 5:** Excessive charge rate

*Mitigation:* Power system architecture prevents charge rate from exceeding battery specifications.

Combined faults required for realized failure: No credible scenario could produce a battery over-charge rate condition.

#### **Failure Mode 6:** Excessive discharge rate

*Mitigation:* Short circuit protection on each external circuit.

Mitigation: Battery design to inhibit internal short circuit

*Mitigation*: Vibration, shock and thermal cycling tests to identify short circuits

Combined faults required for realized failure: An external load must fail in a short circuit state **AND** short circuit protection failures must all occur to enable this failure mode.



### Failure Mode 7: Inoperable vents

*Mitigation:* Inspect machined parts to verify vent features are incorporated. Confirm during battery cell and module screening.

Combined effects required for realized failure: The final assembler fails to adhere to build procedure and limits proper venting **AND** one or more battery cells must rupture or vent into the battery housing. No credible scenario could block module vents sufficiently to cause an issue.

### Failure Mode 8: Crushing

*Mitigation:* This mode is negated by spacecraft design. There are no moving parts in the vicinity of the battery.

Combined faults required for realized failure: A catastrophic failure must occur in an external system <u>AND</u> the failure must cause a collision sufficient to crush the batteries leading to an internal short circuit <u>AND</u> the satellite must be in a naturally sustained orbit at the time the crushing occurs.