Bio-Habitat Testing Capability

Experimental Physics Branch - APS

Paul Soderman
NASA Ames Research Center
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Facilities and Apparatus

Anechoic chamber with habitat on pedestal. Sound power reflection plane and hemispherical microphone grid to left.

ANSI Mylar test rig for fan alone noise testing under load

ANSI aerodynamic test rig
Acoustic Measurements

• APS Anechoic Chamber
  – Interior dimensions: 5.49-m by 9.14-m by 3.35-m high wedge-tip-to-wedge-tip
  – Fiberglass wedges: 556-mm deep plus 64-mm air gap
  – Anechoic environment for ISS frequency range and certification distances
  – Hemispherical sound power microphone grid
  – Individual panel units or full racks can be tested

• System noise testing
  – Fan or motor installed noise while operating bio habitat
  – Fan alone noise versus mass flow rate using ANSI acoustic test rig

• Acoustic metrics
  – Octave and third-octave band sound levels
  – A-weighted sound levels
  – Narrow band sound levels
  – Sound power levels
    (overall, octave, third-octave)
System Flow Performance Measurements

- System pressure drop versus mass flow rate using ANSI aerodynamic test rig
- Fan alone pressure head versus mass flow rate
- System noise correlated with system flow performance
- Currently configured for fans delivering up to 6 inches of water and 600 cfm

ANSI flow rig mated to bio habitat for system studies

Typical system and fan performance curves
Typical muffler performance

2' SPL Back 4" screen #1

Lp, dB re 20 µPa

1/3 oct frequency, Hz

Fan exhaust muffler
Points of Contact

Paul Soderman
Aeroacoustics Group Leader
Experimental Physics Branch APS
NASA Ames Research Center
ms 247-2
Moffett Field CA 94035-1000
650-604-6675
psoderman@mail.arc.nasa.gov

Tom Wynn
Branch Chief
Advanced Projects Branch SFS
NASA Ames Research Center
ms 247-2
Moffett Field CA 94035-1000
650-604-1087
twynn@mail.arc.nasa.gov

Nina Scheller
Program Manager
Systems Development Branch SFD
NASA Ames Research Center
ms 247-2
Moffett Field CA 94035-1000
650-604-4889
nscheller@mail.arc.nasa.gov