



Environmental Control and Life Support Systems

Johnson Space Center (JSC) is the world leader in human spaceflight for environmental control and life support systems, including waste management and air revitalization, water recovery, and regeneration systems. JSC personnel have unique experience in the areas of air quality, potable water, urine monitoring, regenerative fluids, and hygiene activities. The Center offers expertise in design, development, test, and maintenance of hardware to provide potable water aboard the International Space Station and future spacecraft. The air revitalization team provides research, development, test, and maintenance of systems that create a livable cabin atmosphere for spaceflight applications. Capabilities include evaluation of air revitalization technology in the functional areas of carbon dioxide (CO₂) removal, CO₂ reduction, oxygen (O₂) generation, and trace contaminant control.



Services Provided

- Environmental control and life support system testing
 - Metabolic loading to life support systems
 - Parametric testing
- Air Revitalization System testing
 - CO₂ removal/reduction
 - O₂ generation
 - Trace contaminant control
- Water systems test, analysis, and development
 - Wastewater Collection and Transportation
 - Biosafety level 2 microbiology laboratory
- Microbiology and wastewater test and analysis



Air Revitalization Systems

Air Revitalization Technology Evaluation Facility

The facility provides the capability to accommodate several independent test articles simultaneously, as well as integrated hardware evaluations of multiple components. The facility can accommodate end-to-end operation and long-term testing of integrated Air Revitalization (AR) subsystems. The facility provides gaseous CO₂, nitrogen (N₂), and O₂. Multiple vent lines and a deionized water source are available.

Gas Analysis Laboratory

The Gas Analysis Laboratory provides analytical capabilities in support of air revitalization. Analyses performed include qualitative and quantitative analyses of trace components, moisture measurements, chemical identification, and contamination analysis. Additionally, facility personnel have the capability to analyze many liquids, polymers, and other solid substances.

Air Revitalization Systems

Advanced Water Recovery Systems Development Facility (AWRSDF)

The AWRSDF provides a test area for all facets of spacecraft water recovery systems, including

- Wastewater pretreatment
- Primary processor technologies
- Brine water recovery
- Post processors
- Water filtration
- Personal hygiene studies

Water Analysis Laboratory

A water analysis laboratory provides water sample analysis, including examination of physical properties, quantification of metal content, and quantification of organic and inorganic content. Analyses include

- pH and conductivity
- Total organic carbon and total inorganic carbon
- Total nitrogen, iodine, chlorine, phosphates, ammonium, and many other ions
- Turbidity, surface tension
- Absolute color, alkalinity, metals
- Dissolved oxygen and chemical oxygen demand

Altitude Testing

Facility	Internal Volume	Pressure Range	Features
8-Foot Chamber	8' Dia x 14' L	1 x 10 ⁻² – 760 torr	Human metabolic simulator for Life support systems
11-Foot Chamber	11' Dia x 19' L	1 x 10 ⁻² – 760 torr	Advanced life support systems testing
Space Station Airlock Test Article	Equipment lock: 1,100 ft. ³ Crew lock: 310 ft. ³ Observer lock: 1,570 ft. ³	1 x 10 ⁻² – 760 torr	Pre-breathe protocol evaluation
20-Foot Chamber	20' Dia x 27.5' H	1 x 10 ⁻² – 760 torr	Long-duration habitability and life support equipment and systems testing

We have developed customer-friendly agreements to streamline business relationships and are eager to share our unique facilities and expertise with new customers. We invite your inquiries regarding application or adaptation of our capabilities to satisfy your special requirements. Briefings on general or specific subjects of mutual interest can be arranged at JSC or at your business site.



For the benefit of all

For more information:
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