

Technological Solutions for Failure Management:

“Black Box” RF Sat-Link for Space Debris, Mission Success, and Risk Mitigation



NearSpace Launch, Inc. (NSL)

10.20.2022

Matthew Voss

Chief Operations Officer



NearSpace Launch

Agenda

Overview of NSL

EyeStar S3

Flight heritage and data from NSL's 24/7 radio connected to Iridium network

Black Box Review

for Spacecraft tracking and failure management.

Upgrade to EyeStar S4

What is Next and Questions



NSL Team

**NSL team has delivered and in orbit
over 100+ SmallSat and 180+ EyeStar.**

NSL Team

PI and Chief Scientist: Dr. Hank Voss, 40 years of experience at Lockheed, Prof. Taylor University, NSL

Chief Engineer: Mr. Jeff Dailey, 30 years of experience in Industry, Prof. Taylor University, NSL

Project Engineer: Mr. Matt Orvis, 8 years of experience, Grad school and NSL

Chief Operations Officer: Mr. Matt Voss, 15 years of experience in Business and MBA, NSL

Senior Engineer: Mike Schuckel 25+ years of experience in Imbedded systems, NSL

System Engineer: John Pugsley

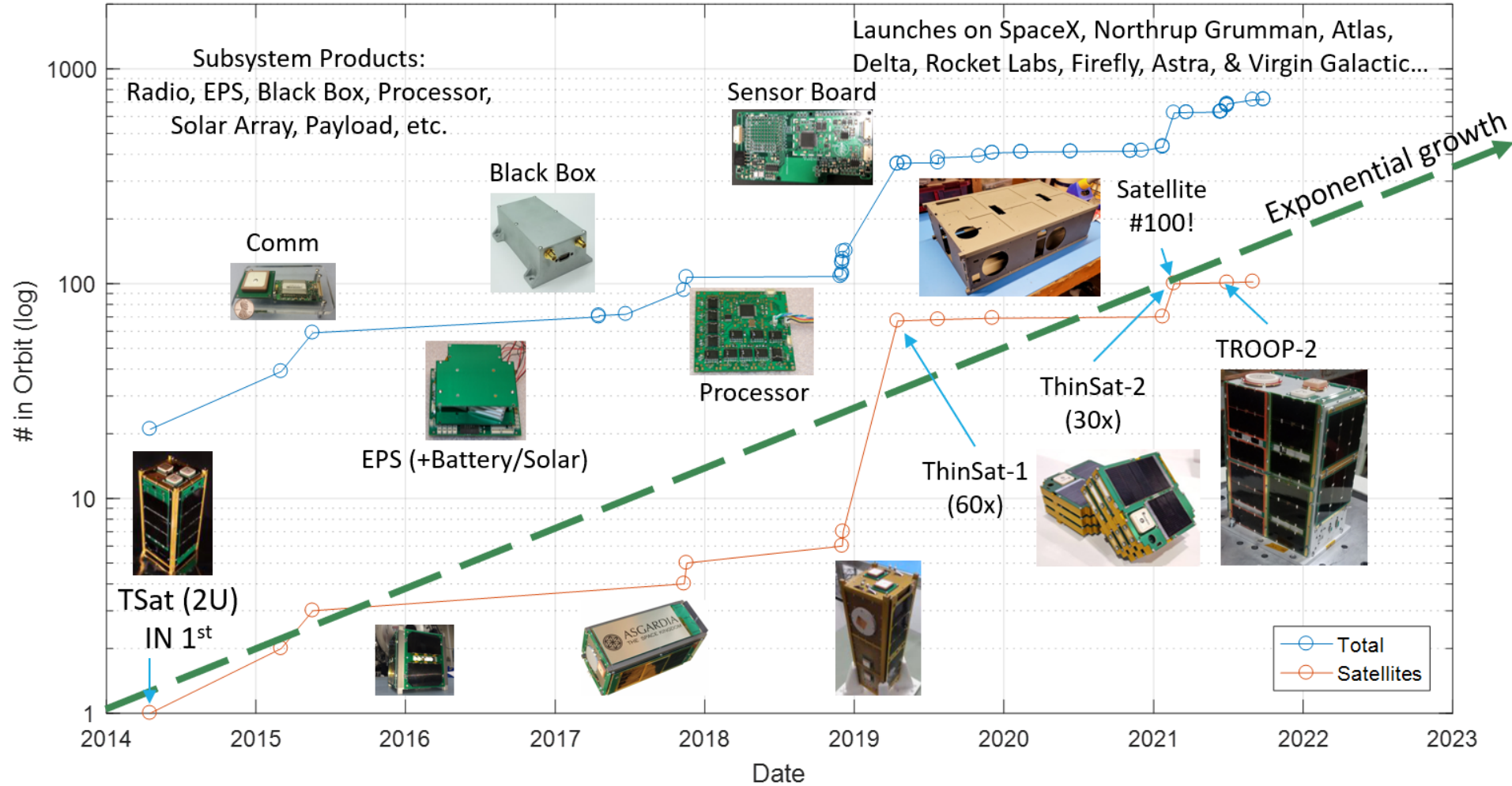
Facilities Equipment

Three locations: 1. Central office and Clean Room 2. Engineering, testing and clean room 3. Machine shop and manufacturing.



NSL Flight Heritage

NSL Heritage of Systems in Orbit since 2014



NearSpace Launch (NSL)

Heritage:

800+ systems and subsystems with flight heritage past 5 years.

Team:

Founders have over 70 years of experience in space science and engineering plus a strong and growing team. Based in Upland, Indiana transition into expanded fulfillment center June. 2022

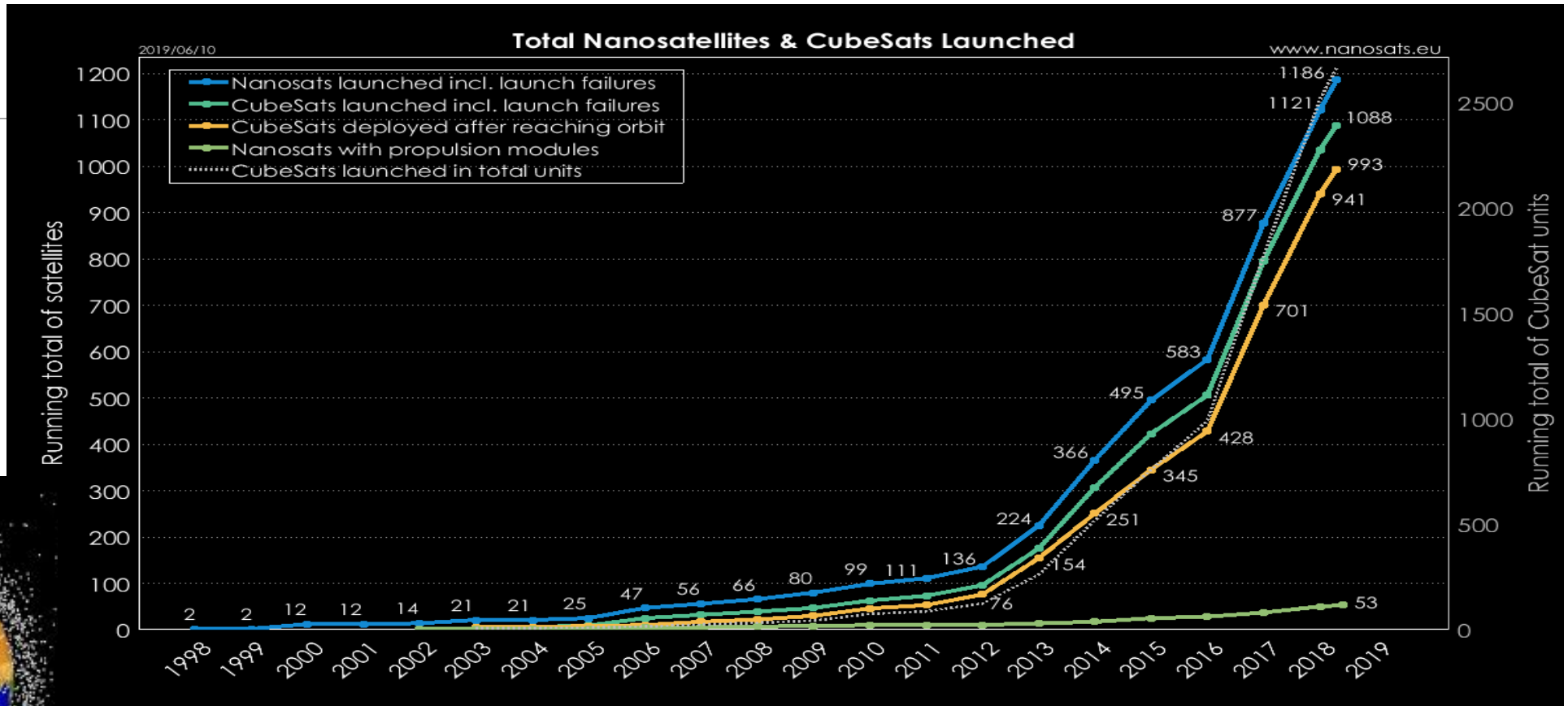
Customers include:

SSC, AFRL, NASA, DOD, Air Force, DARPA, Boeing, NanoRacks, Spaceflight, Rocket Lab, MIT, Etc.



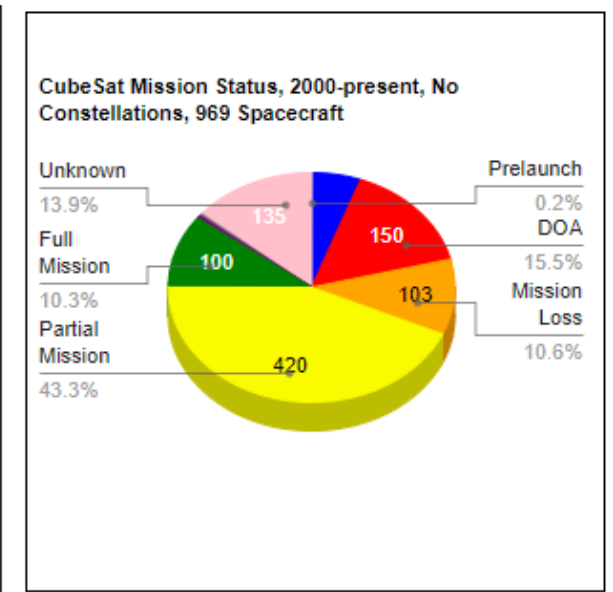
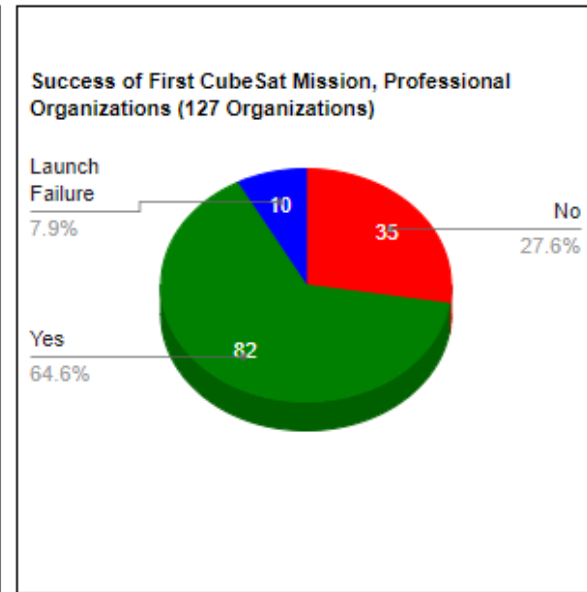
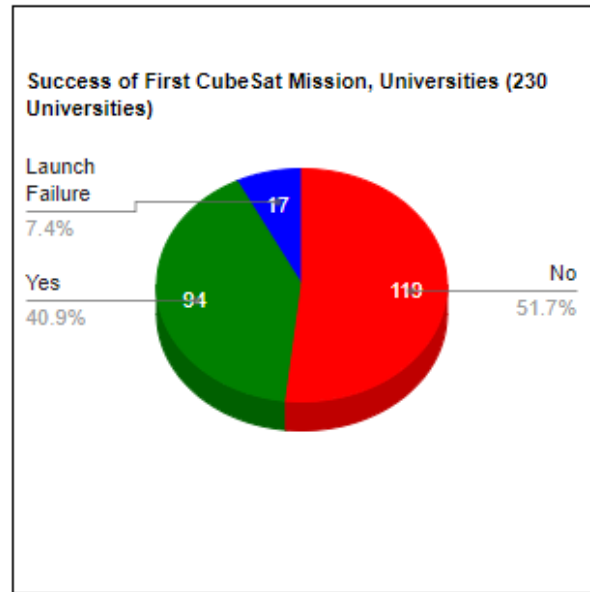
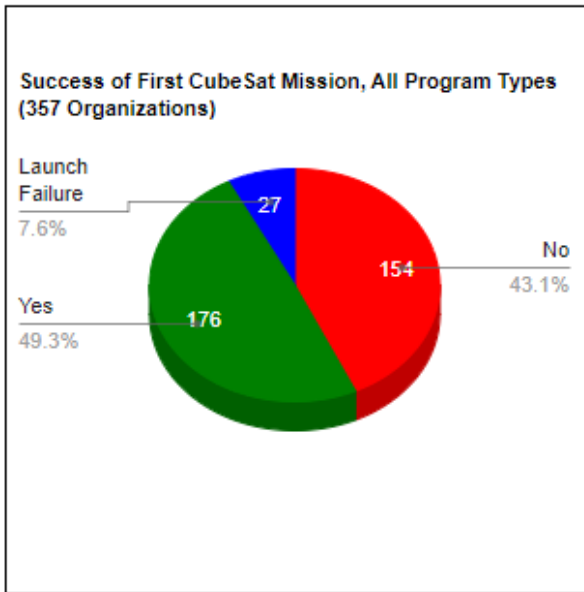
Small Sat Growth

Growth-Big Picture



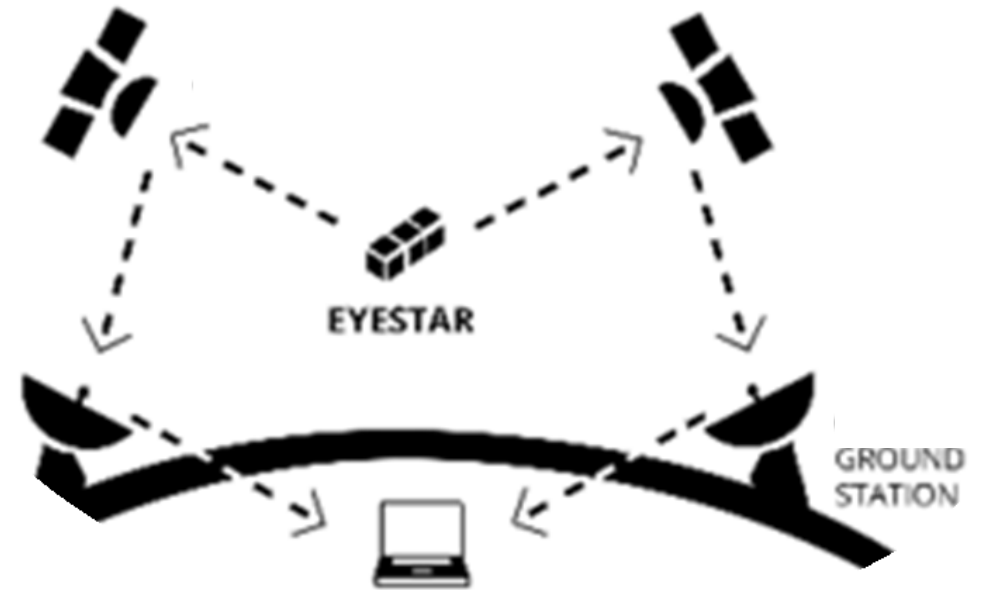
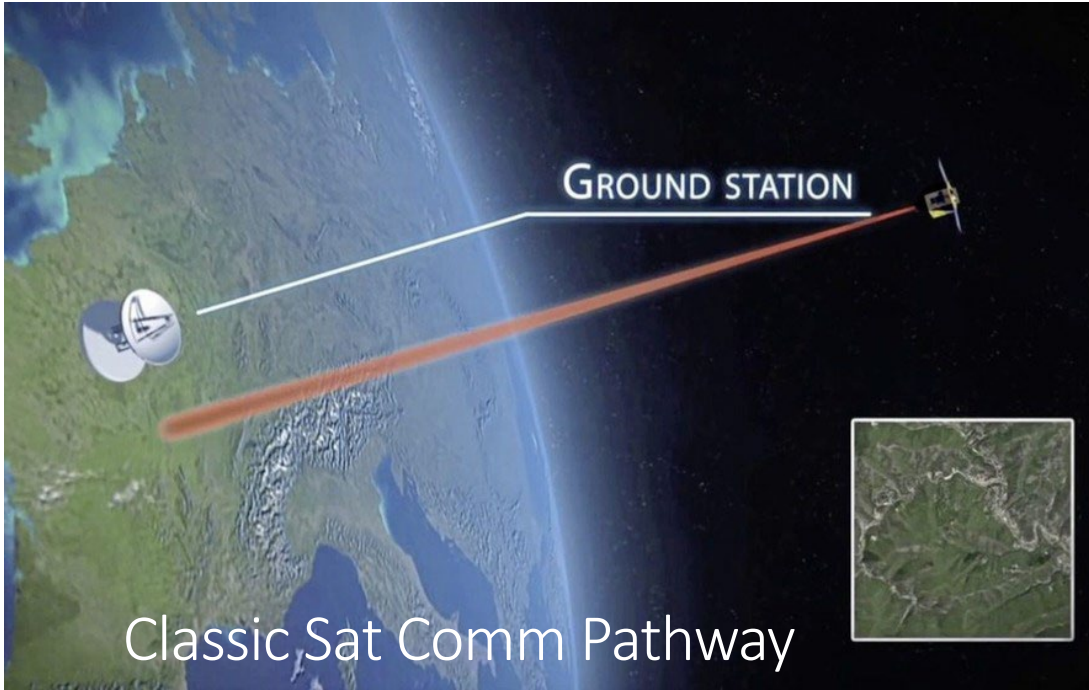
The SmallSat market is rapidly growing in demand

CubeSat Mission Success



Data from M. Swartwout

<https://sites.google.com/a/slu.edu/swartwout/cubesat-database/repeat-success?authuser=0>



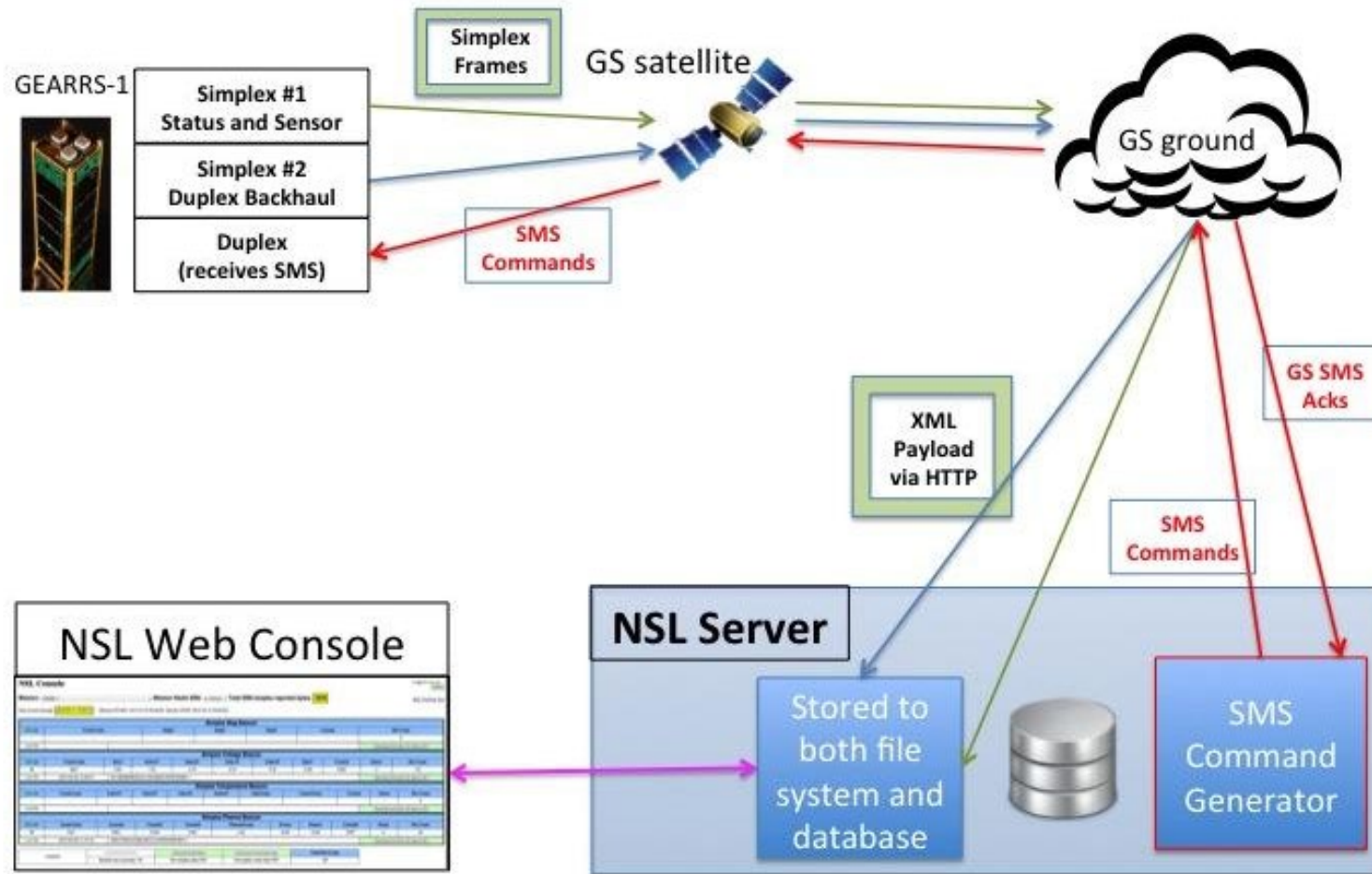
NSL EyeStar Comm Pathway



Simplex: STX-3 (or STX-2): 200 Kbytes/day, 9 Bytes/sec



NSL EyeStar Radio architecture



NSL EyeStar Radios Connected to



Simplex: STX-3 (or STX-2): 200 Kbytes/day, 9 Bytes/sec



NSL EyeStar Radios

EyeStar Advantages

Low power/cost/size

24/7 Data collection with latency of several seconds

Turn-on data in seconds

Global Anywhere/Anytime data

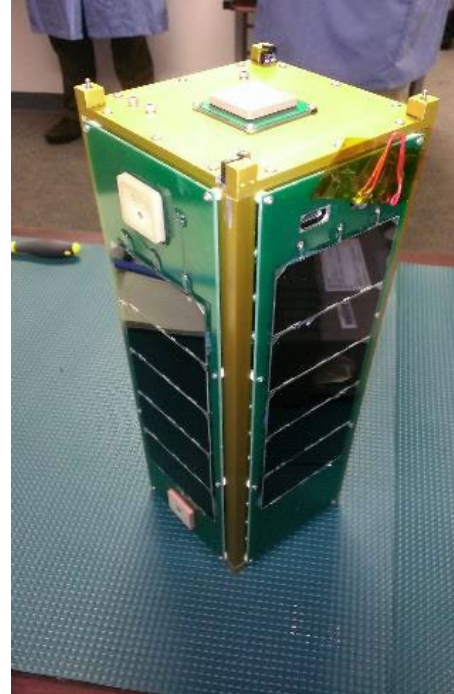
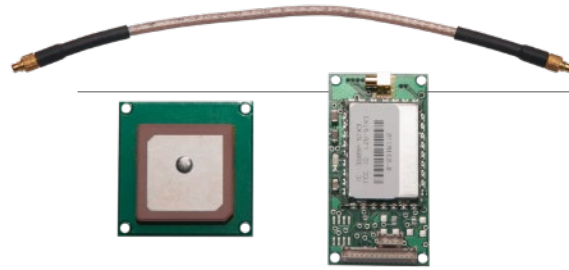
Connecting while 12 RPM tumbling

Validated in LEO Orbit

Value added network

weeks turn around time

Digital and analog downlink



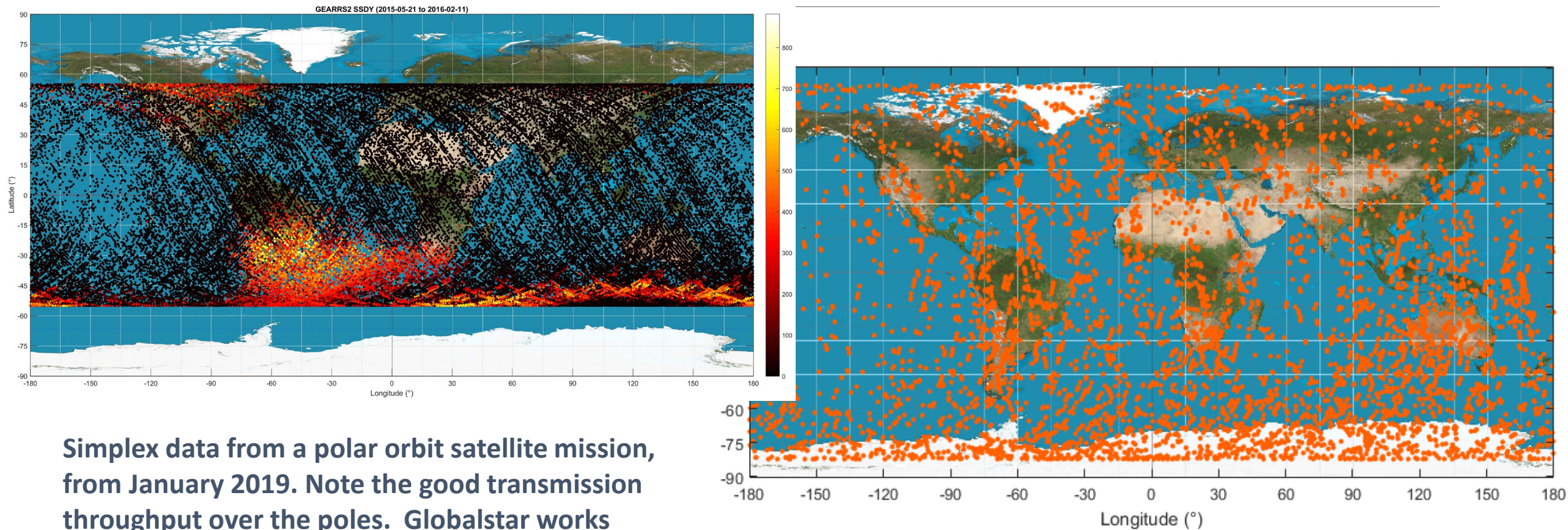
Simplex: STX-3 (or STX-2): 200 Kbytes/day, 9 Bytes/sec

180+ Radios flown in orbit to DOD, NASA, Industry, & Universities



GEARRS2 Globalstar Coverage

GEARRS2 Simplex raw data projection and sampling Normalization



Simplex data from a polar orbit satellite mission, from January 2019. Note the good transmission throughput over the poles. Globalstar works well over the poles for satellites.




Connection in Tumble


EyeStar Simplex still
connecting at 12+ RPM



NSL Console


Logged in as [Logout](#)

[EyeStar Simplex](#)
[EyeStar Duplex](#)
[HARP \(Balloon\)](#)
[Documentation](#)
[Admin](#)
[Simplex First Contact \(FCC\)](#)



NearSpace Launch

NSL Info

General Info

8702 E. 823 S.
Upland, IN 46989
765-998-8942

Email Contacts

Billing questions: finance@nearspacelaunch.com
 Technical support: nsi@nearspacelaunch.com
 IT support: it@nearspacelaunch.com

NSL Home Page Links

[NearSpace Launch Home Page](#)
[NearSpace Launch Resources](#)

News

[nearspacelaunch.com](#)

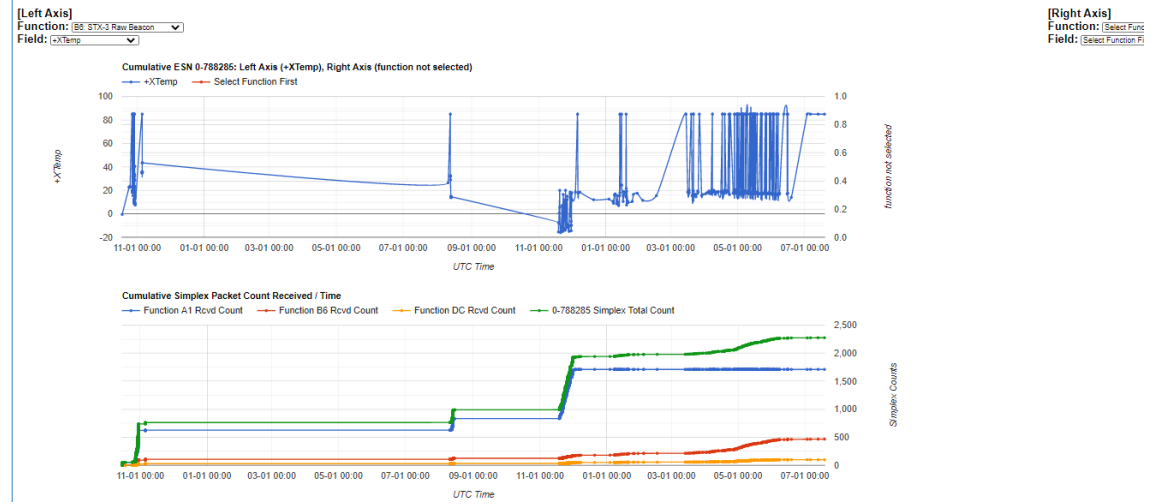
System updates

No Scheduled Maintenance

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FuncCode	-XTemp	-YTemp	-ZTemp	VCC	Temp	Counter	PIDI	XSolVolt	YSolVolt	ZSolVolt	Battery1	STINGR1	X	
B6	85.0 C	85.0 C	85.0 C	85.0 C	-0.5 C	85.0 C	5.57 V	85.0 C	3.12 V	0.00 V	3.13 V	8.00	D4D+	1C

FuncCode	M0	M6	M9	M12	M15	M18	M21	M24	M27	M30	M33	M36	M39	M42	M45	M47	X1
DC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	DC



First Black Box flown

Black Box “Standard”

13cm x 13.8cm x 4.4cm

Launched December 3, 2018



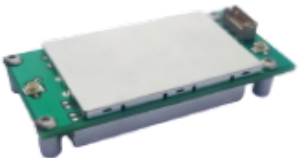
EyeStar-S3

End-to-End System, 24/7 connected to Globalstar constellation, with latency of seconds, Max 600 Kbytes/day, Anywhere-Anytime, 100% On-orbit success, Flight Ready, TRL 9, Compliant with new FCC requirements



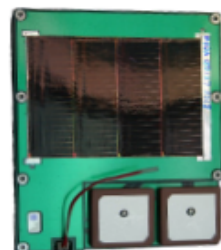
EyeStar-Tag

The 22 gram 5.3x2.5x0.9cm Tag and S3 can ID its satellite with Integrated GPS within a few minutes after turn-on while in LEO orbit from pole to pole 24/7. The Tag can track damaged satellites or identify problems early, several hours before ground station contact. TLE can be produced and sent automatically to the 18th Squadron and for the payload team within minutes of orbit deployment. The Black Box subsystems are TRL 9.



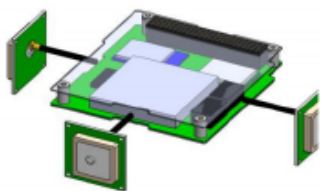
Black Box-Patch

140 gram 10x8.3x0.9cm Black Box and S3 can ID its satellite with GPS within a few minutes after turn-on while in LEO orbit from pole to pole 24/7. The Black Box is an independent barnacle that can track damaged satellites or identify problems early, several hours before ground station contact. TLE can be produced and sent automatically to the 18th Squadron and for the payload team within minutes of orbit deployment. The Black Box subsystems are TRL 9.



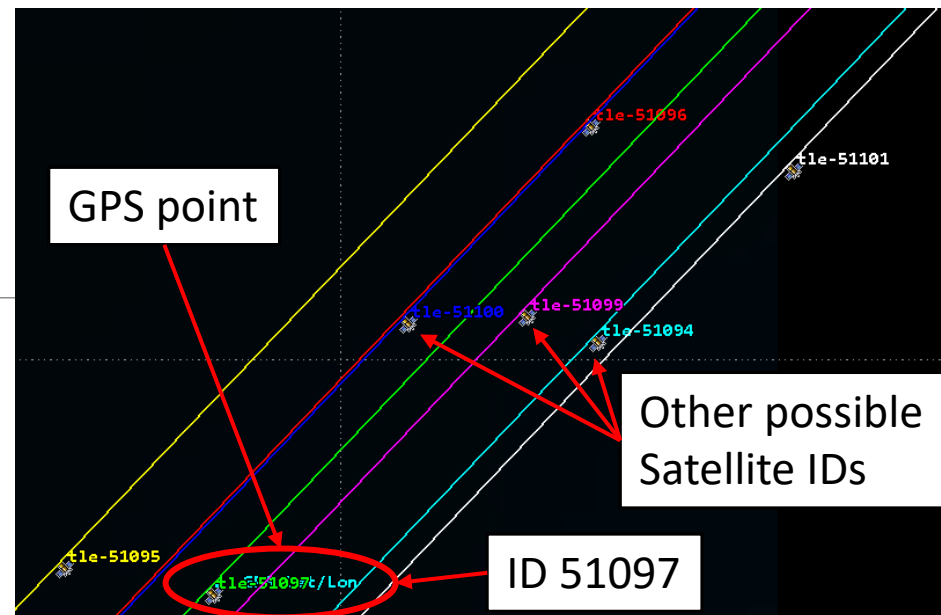
Black Box PC 104

9x9.6x1.3 cm Black Box and S3 can ID its satellite with GPS within a few minutes after turn-on while in LEO orbit from pole to pole 24/7. The Black Box is an independent system that can track damaged satellites or identify problems early, several hours before ground station contact. TLE can be produced and sent automatically to the 18th Squadron and for the payload team within minutes of orbit deployment. The Black Box subsystems are TRL 9.



Black Box-Standard

140-gram Black Box and S3 can ID its satellite with GPS within a few minutes after turn-on while in LEO orbit from pole to pole 24/7. The Black Box is an independent barnacle that can track damaged satellites or identify problems early, several hours before ground station contact. TLE can be produced and sent automatically to 18th Squadron and for the payload team within minutes of orbit deployment. The Black Box subsystems are TRL 9.



	UNIT	EYESTAR TAG	BLACK BOX PATCH	BLACK BOX PC104	BLACK BOX STANDARD
SIZE L X W X H	cm	5.3 X 2.5 X 0.9	10 X 8.3 X 0.85	9 X 9.6 X 1.3	8.9 X 7.1 X 4.1
WEIGHT	g	22	140	NA	350
POWER	v	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2

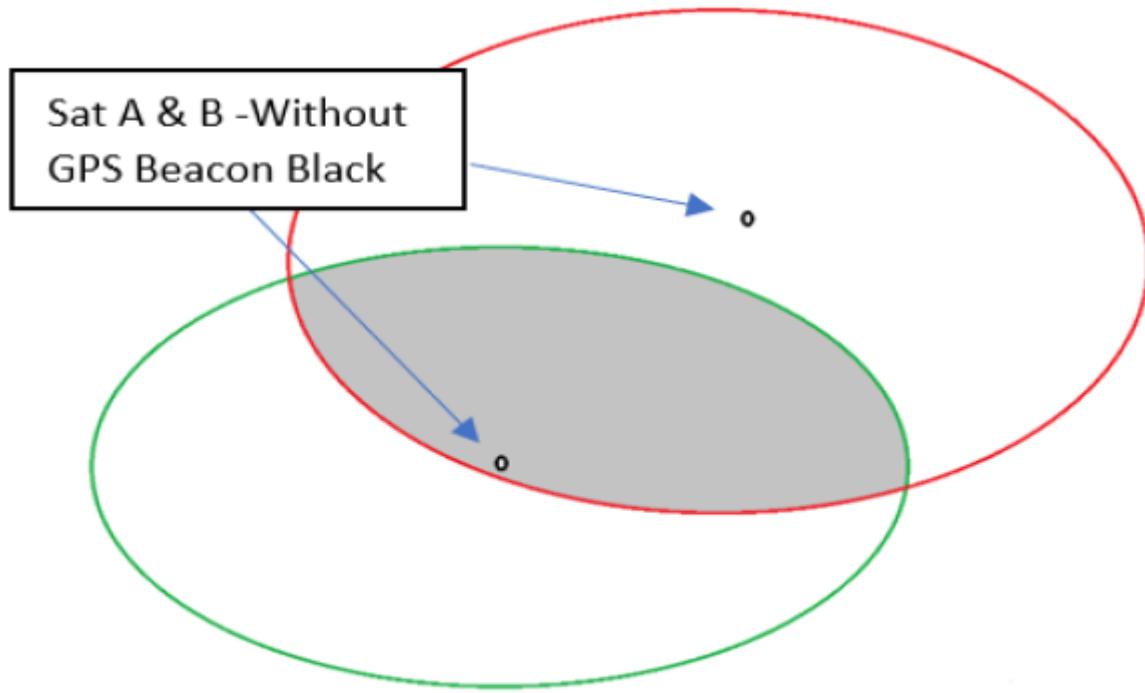


Fig. 2. The ellipse represents collision cross-sections. Gray area represents intersection of two satellites without beacon GPS conjunction boxes.

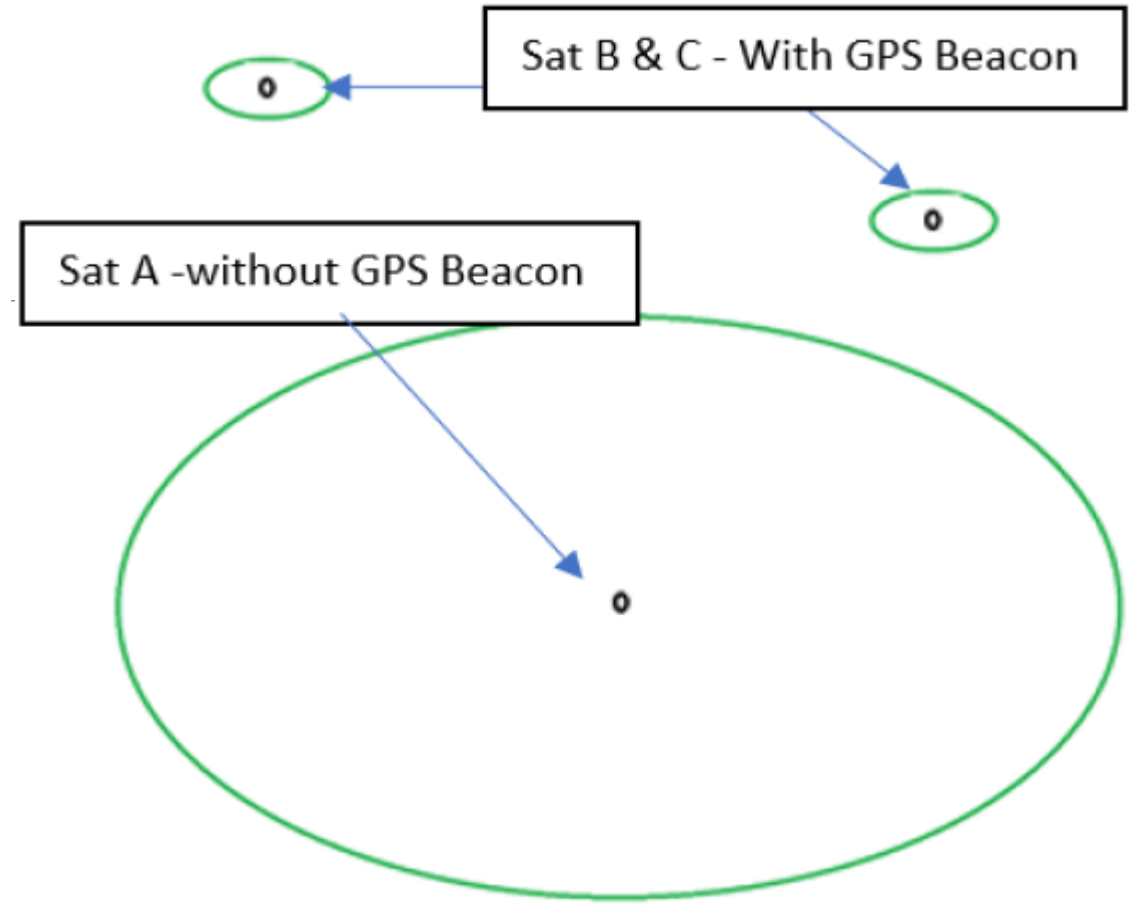


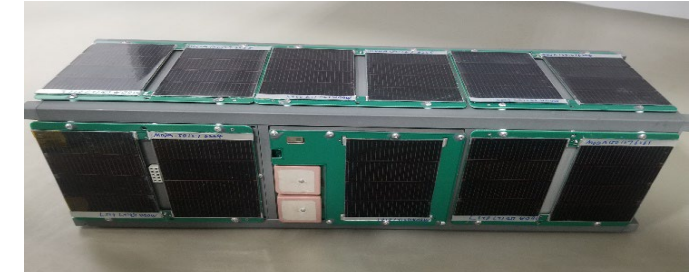
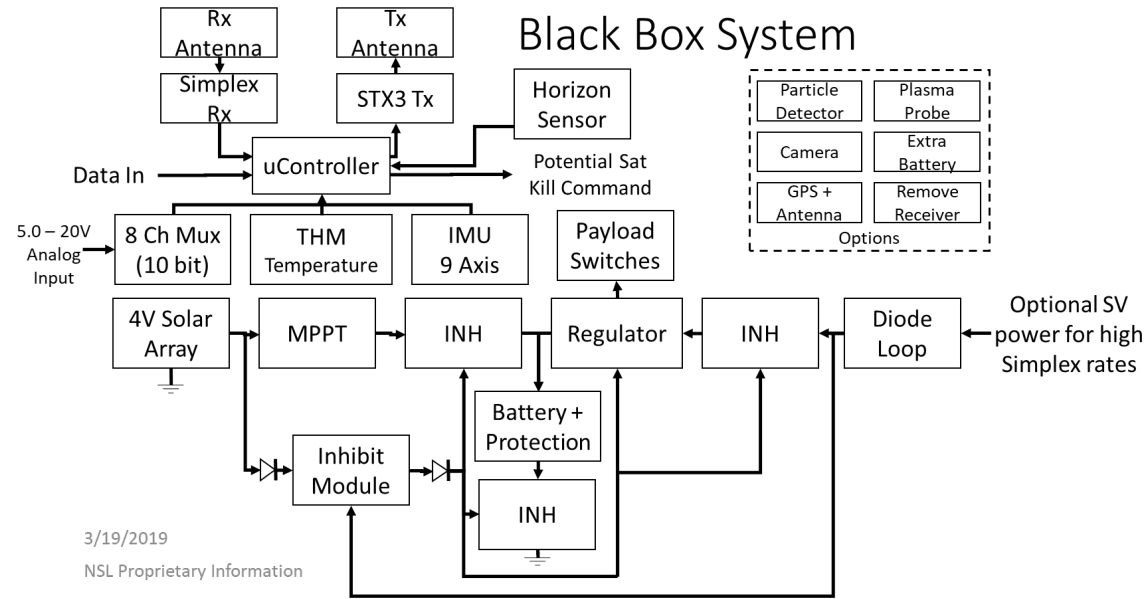
Fig. 3. Example of three satellites. Sat B and C shows conjunction shrinking due to GPS Beacon Black Box. The ellipses represent collision cross-sections.

Black Box Systems



“Black Box” Satellite Self- Identification

RF Sat-Link for Mission Success, Risk Mitigation and Space Debris



Black Box Patch

10cm x 8.3cm x 1.45cm

Black Box Patch on a 3U CubeSat

PRODUCT	EYESTAR S3	FLIGHT PROCESSOR	RT SHIELDING	SERIAL INTERFACE	A/D INPUTS	FRAME	SIMPLEX RX	NSL GPS	3RD PARTY GPS	DC-DC ISOLATION	BATTERIES	SOLAR ARRAY	9 AXIS IMU	HORIZON SENSOR	PARTICLE DETECTOR
BLACK BOX PATCH	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	●	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
BLACK BOX TAG	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	○	○	✓	○	✗	✗	✗	○	○	○
BLACK BOX STANDARD	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	●	●	✓	●	●	●	●	○	●
BLACK BOX PC104	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	●	●	●	○	✓	●	●

✓ INCLUDED ● INTEGRATED OPTION
 ✗ NOT INCLUDED ○ ADD ON OPTION

EyeStar S4 Crossover mission

Compare capabilities from EyeStar S3 Simplex via Globalstar
to EyeStar S4 Half-Duplex via Iridium



Figure 1: NearSpace Launch joins Astra's EyeStar-S4 CrossOver Mission on 3/15/2022



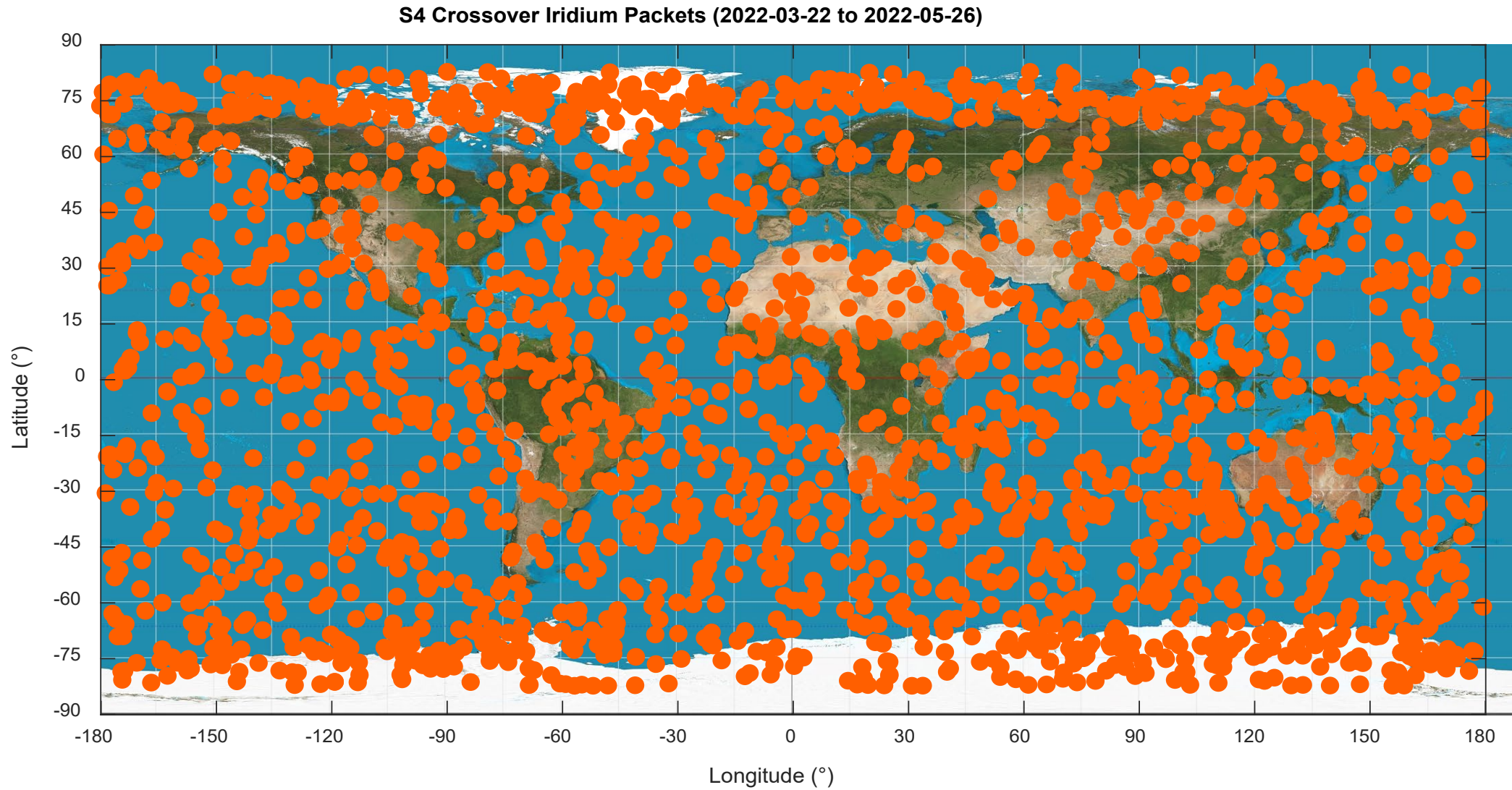


Figure 1 Global Iridium coverage data of transferred packets from the S4-Crossover mission. Using the Iridium TX firmware within the EyeStar-S4. Note the full global coverage, with increased connectivity over the polar regions.

Moving from EyeStar S3 to Eyestar S4

Carryover from S3 to S4

- Small form factor
- 24/7 data with global coverage
- Low latency and VLEO down to 110km.
- Full ground segment included
- Data livestreaming to online console
- Small patch antenna
- Autonomous beacon mode

Upgrades from S3 to S4

- Accessing Iridium constellation with fuller coverage area
 - Less dropouts and good polar coverage
- Added Uplink capability for commanding
- Higher data rate
 - Still being quantified
 - Over 80% throughput over earth
- Lower overall power
- Better tumbling performance
- Interfaces directly with NSL GPS

Spec	GEARRS-3	S4-Crossover	TROOP-3
Launch Date	1/13/2022 23:46:00 UTC	3/15/2022 16:31:00 UTC	5/25/2022 19:31:42 UTC
Rocket	VOX Launcher One	Astra Rocket 3	SpaceX Falcon-9
Orbit	SSO, 500x500, 90°	SSO, 550x498, 97.5°	SSO, 534x539, 97.5°
Tip off	~2.5 RPM	< 60 RPM	< 8 RPM
Current Tumble	~2.5 RPM	< 40 RPM	< 8 RPM
Radios	S3, BB-P (S3, GPS), GPS	S3, S4, GPS	S3, S4, GPS
Sensors	Mag, Plasma, PIN, Solar V, BUS+, Bat V/Q	Solar Temp, Bat V/Q, Mag	Bat V/Q, PIN
Uplink	NA	Yes	Yes
Downlink	Yes	Yes	Yes

Resources

Small Sat Conference 2022

- [Thin CubeSats and Compact Sensors for Constellations in VLEO to Deep Space](#)

Small Sat Conference 2021

- [ID, GPS Tracking, 24/7 Tag Link for CubeSats and Constellations: Flight Results](#)

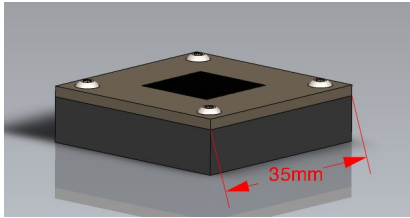
Small Sat Conference 2019

- [Architecture & Manufacture for 1/7U to 27U 60 ThinSat Constellations: Flight Results](#)
- [“Black Box” RF Sat-Link for Space Debris, Mission Success and Risk Mitigation](#)

Black Box Next Steps

SPACEWERX - STTR Phase I

Intergrade the Autonomous 24/7 EyeStar Black Box Commanding with μ Stamp Collision Avoidance Thruster (Black Box-MCAT)



Objectives and Key Metrics: Integrate Black Box EyeStar comm system that shrinks the conjunction window between satellites while enabling a collision avoidance thruster. The Key Metrics are to complete a PDR and feasibility Study of integrating the 24/7 Black Box including GPS system with University of Tennessee thruster system.



Zero Waste 24/7 Autonomous Black Box Tracked Satellite The Recycled Constellation (Black Box – ZW)



Objectives and Key Metrics: Integrate Black Box EyeStar comm system that shrinks the conjunction window between satellites while enabling a space weather particle detector to collect data. The Key Metrics are to complete a commercial feasibility study of space weather instruments and integrate the 24/7 Black Box system for second life mission. Creating recycled constellations of Space Weather Black Boxes as secondary missions after primary missions are complete.





NearSpace Launch

Questions/Discussion

NearSpace Launch Inc.(NSL)

mattvoss@nearspacelaunch.com

765.998.8942

Rapid Orbit Testing to raise TRL

TROOP & RAPSAT Payload Train

- Launching every **90 to 180 days** on Falcon 9 and Astra Launches
- Raise payloads TRL by hosting for 3-5 year in orbit missions
- **Autonomous Satellite** transmit 24/7 payload data via Sat to Sat EyeStar Radio
- Send flight telemetry plus critical mission data
- Diagnostics include: Temperature, Voltage, Particle detector, IMU, GPS options and more
- 15 minute integration to ESPA Rings

TROOP-1

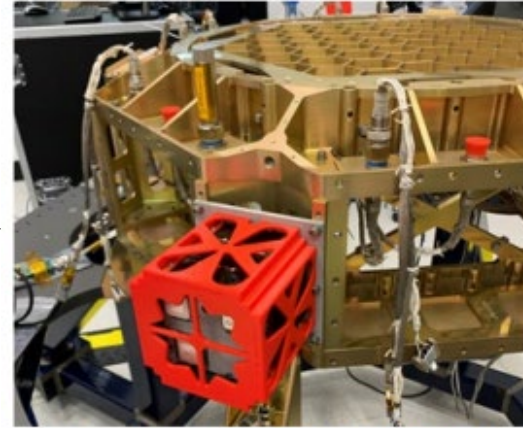


Figure 20 Picture of TagSat-1 (TROOP-1) mounted to the SHERPA deployment ring for

TROOP-2

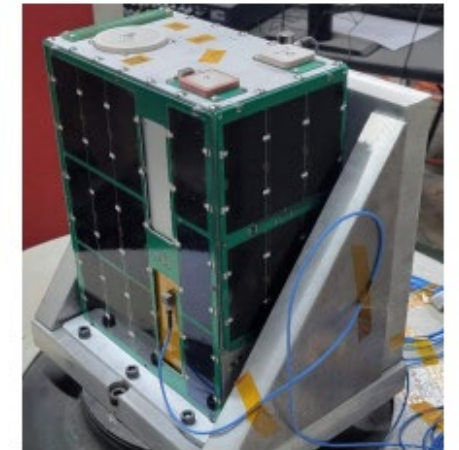


Figure 22 TagSat-2 (TROOP-2) Mounted to a vibe table for vibration testing ahead of delivery.

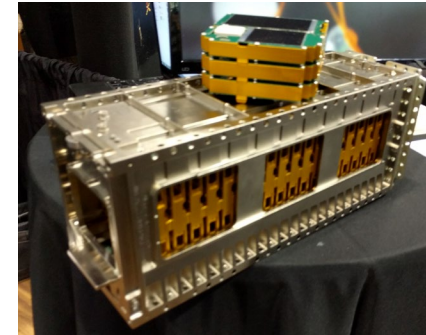


ThinSat

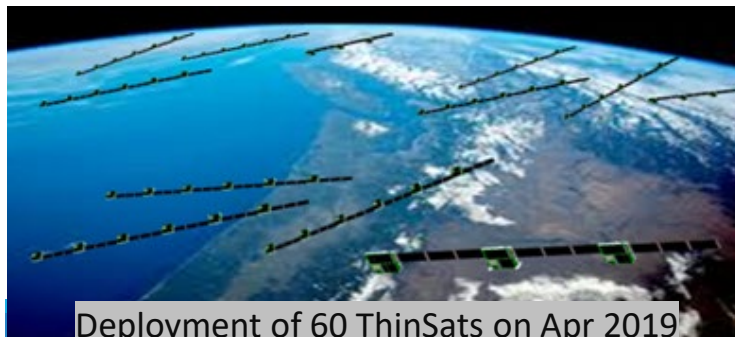
NSL Current Commercial 21-ThinSat 3U

- **60 ThinSats were launched** off NG-11. Declared mission success by customer. 52 of 60 Sats connected within first hour, others came online later that day. (See Figure 1 depiction) It was primary a program that study very low earth orbit with academia. NSL also had it own sensors on all ThinSat
- NSL is currently developing a ThinSat constellation for Space Weather.
- NSL is delivering second constellation of 30+ ThinSat October 2020 and manifested for Feb 2021

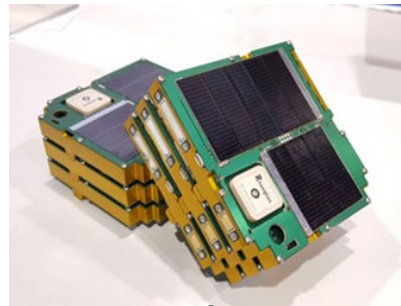
Further detail see 20+ page flight results published paper at SmallSat 2019 (Attached Volume V)



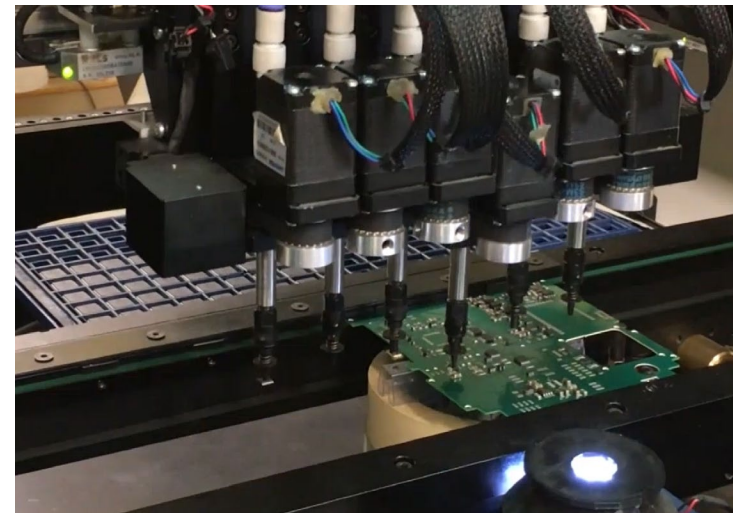
21-ThinSat 3U inside
Standard CubeSat
Launcher
17 x 112 x 114mm



Deployment of 60 ThinSats on Apr 2019



6 ThinSats



Robotic Assembly
of 100 ThinSat