

OPS-SAT - An Advanced Nanosatellite Mission by European Space Agency

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Presentation Overview

- Background, Motivation
- Phase A/B1 Overview
- Architecture Overview
- Satellite Bus
- Payload
- Ground Segment
- Experiment Evaluation
- Summary

Background & Motivation (1)

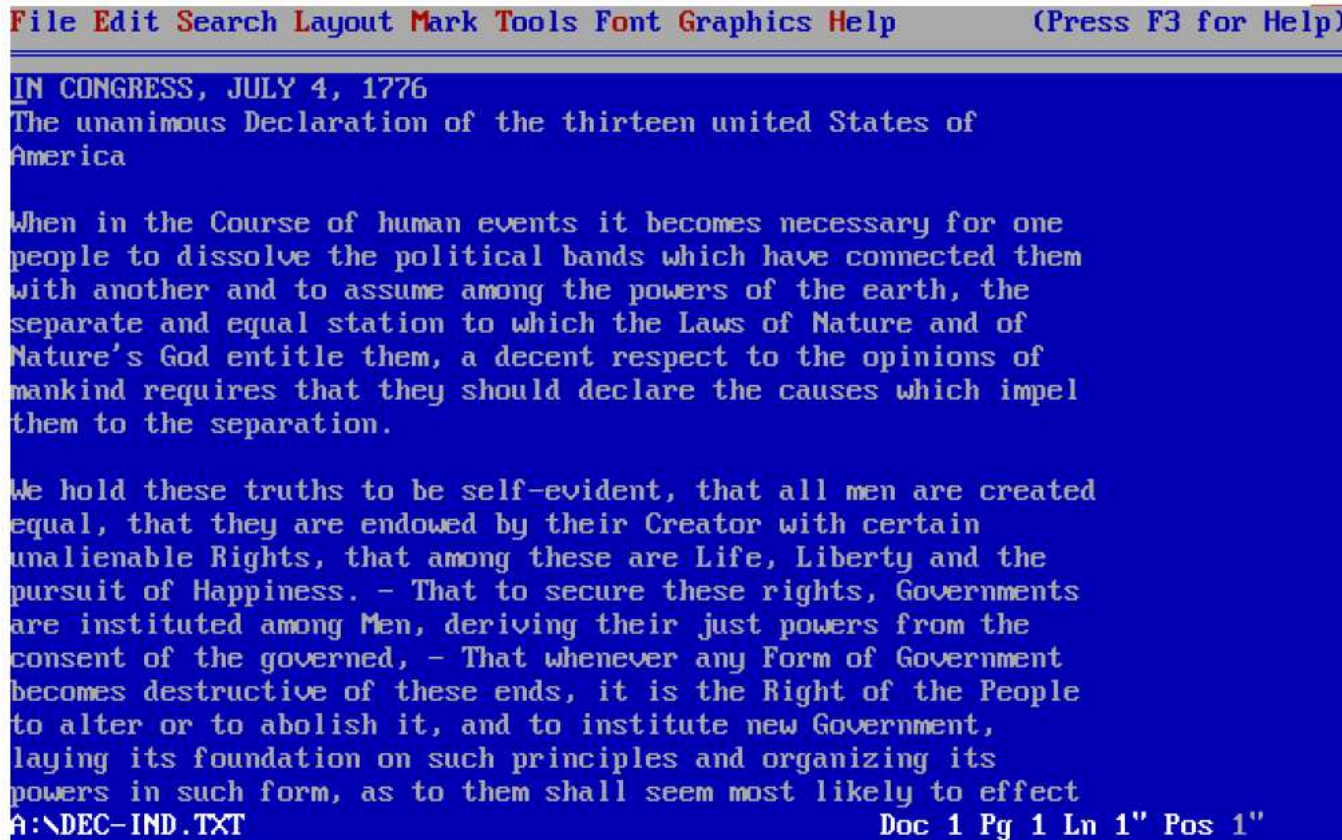
- New ideas are generated by ESA and European industry for evolving mission control
- Patents, studies, prototypes & breadboards are produced
- But the majority do not make it near a real mission

- Why
 - Has never flown - will never fly problem
 - Risk aversion: healthy when dealing with large missions but not good for innovation

Background & Motivation (2)

- In 2011 ESOC's Advanced Operations Concepts Office had an idea to change the current situation
- A low cost, in-orbit demonstrator for mission control based on a COTS CubeSat bus - OPS-SAT
- In January 2012 a CDF Study funded by GSP (with CNES participation) declared the idea feasible
- In May 2013 an Open Call for OPS-SAT Experiments was run by ESA
 - Over 100 experiment ideas from 17 ESA member states
 - OPS-SAT Open Day in June 2013 attracted 100+ guests

IT Evolution versus Space



Packet Utilisation Standard: ESA PSS-07-101 Issue 1 May 1994

Motivation / History (3)

- A Phase A/B1 contract under GSTP was awarded to:

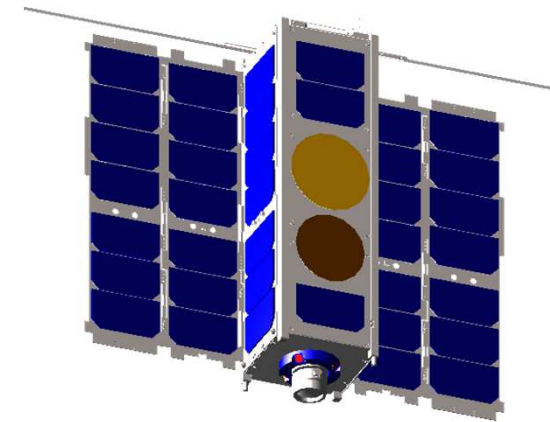
-  Prime Contractor
Graz University of Technology



- Substantial CCN to include the experiment requirements from the open call into the design process was funded by GSP
- Kick-off: 1 July 2013
- Final Presentation: 29 January 2014

OPS-SAT Mission Statement

“OPS-SAT is a safe, hard/software laboratory, flying in a LEO orbit, reconfigurable at every layer from channel coding upwards, available for authorised experimenters to demonstrate innovative new mission operation concepts.”

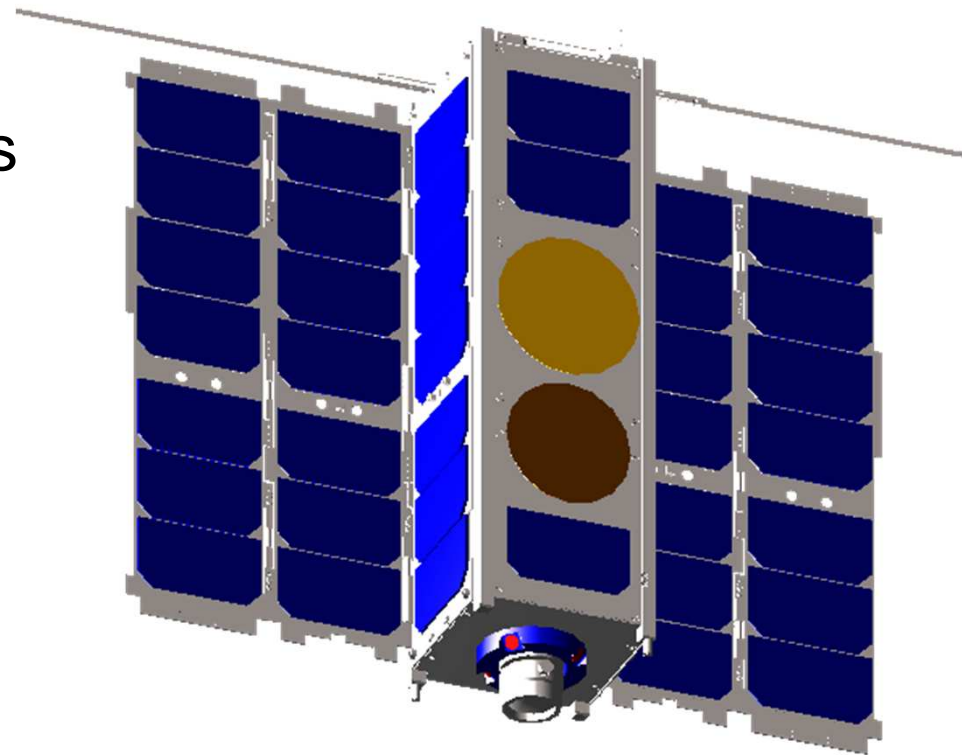


Design Goals

- Derived from experiment evaluation
- Powerful processor needed
 - SoM (dual ARM 9, FPGA)
 - Large RAM / mass storage (1 GB DDR3, 8 GB SD)
- Linux support
- High-resolution camera
- Fine-pointing ADCS incl. GPS
- Orbit compliant with space-debris guidelines

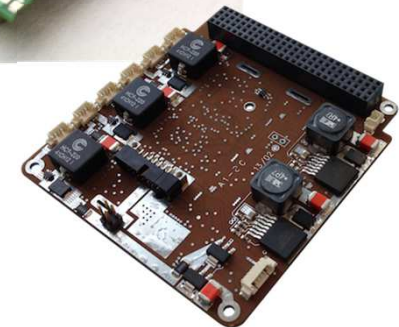
Spacecraft

- Triple CubeSat (10x10x30 cm)
- Mass: ~ 6 kg
- Power: ~ 30 W
- Deployable solar arrays on both sides



Satellite Bus

- CubeSat COTS components
 - OBC & FDIR
 - UHF communications system
 - Coarse ADCS system
 - Electric Power System (EPS)
 - Deployable solar arrays
 - Batteries
 - Charge/discharge regulators



Satellite Payload

- Processing Platform (Austria)
- Altera Cyclone V System on Module 4x
 - Dual ARM processor
 - FPGA
 - SDRAM
 - ECC



Payload Processing Platform Software

- OS: Linux, Android, QNX, ...
- Custom Linux OS can be generated
 - Using Yocto / openembedded
- Standard Image
 - Linux Operating System
 - Java Virtual Machine
 - Standard FPGA Image
 - Libraries provided for Linux
 - Access to peripherals (drivers)
 - API to OBC
- Changes possible
 - Altera DS-5
 - Cross Compile Development Environment

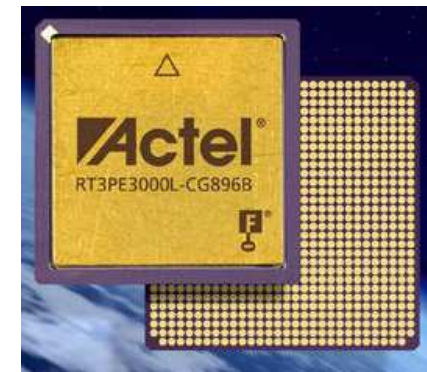
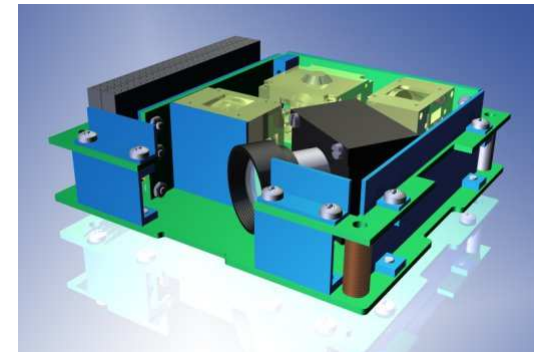


yocto
PROJECT



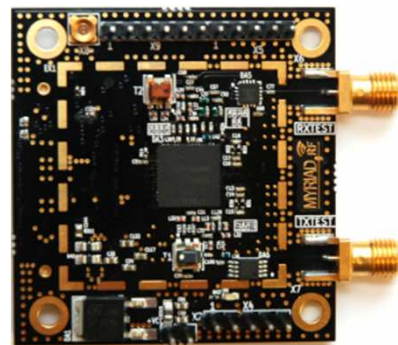
Satellite Payload

- HD Camera
- Fine-pointing ADCS (Germany)
- GPS
- S-Band Transceiver (France)
- CCSDS-Engine (Poland)

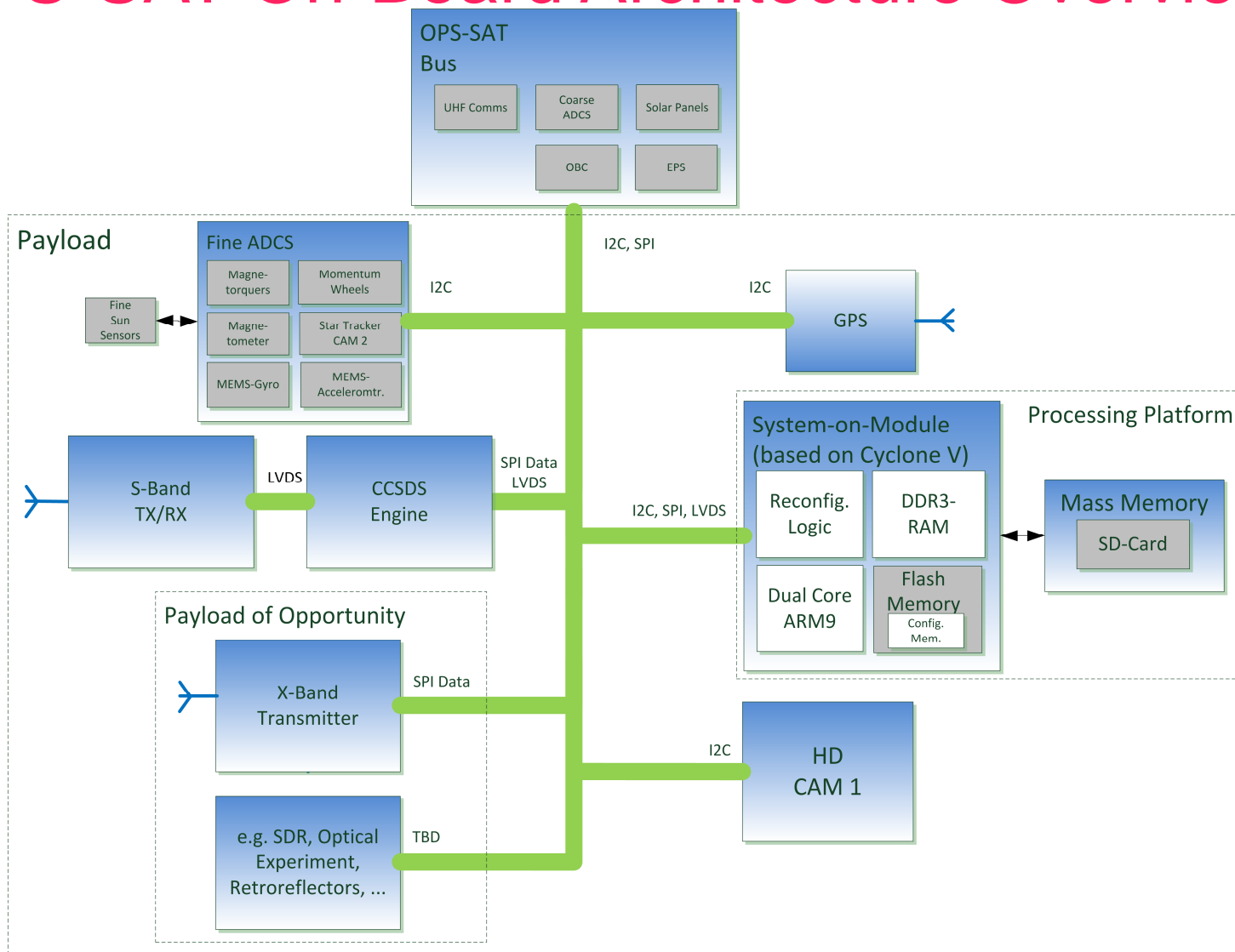


Payloads of Opportunity

- X-band Transmitter (France)
- Retro-reflectors
- Optical Receiver
- Software Defined Radio Receiver



OPS-SAT On-Board Architecture Overview



Satellite Deployer

- ISIPOD Standard 3-Cubesat deployer
- Flight heritage provided



Ground Segment

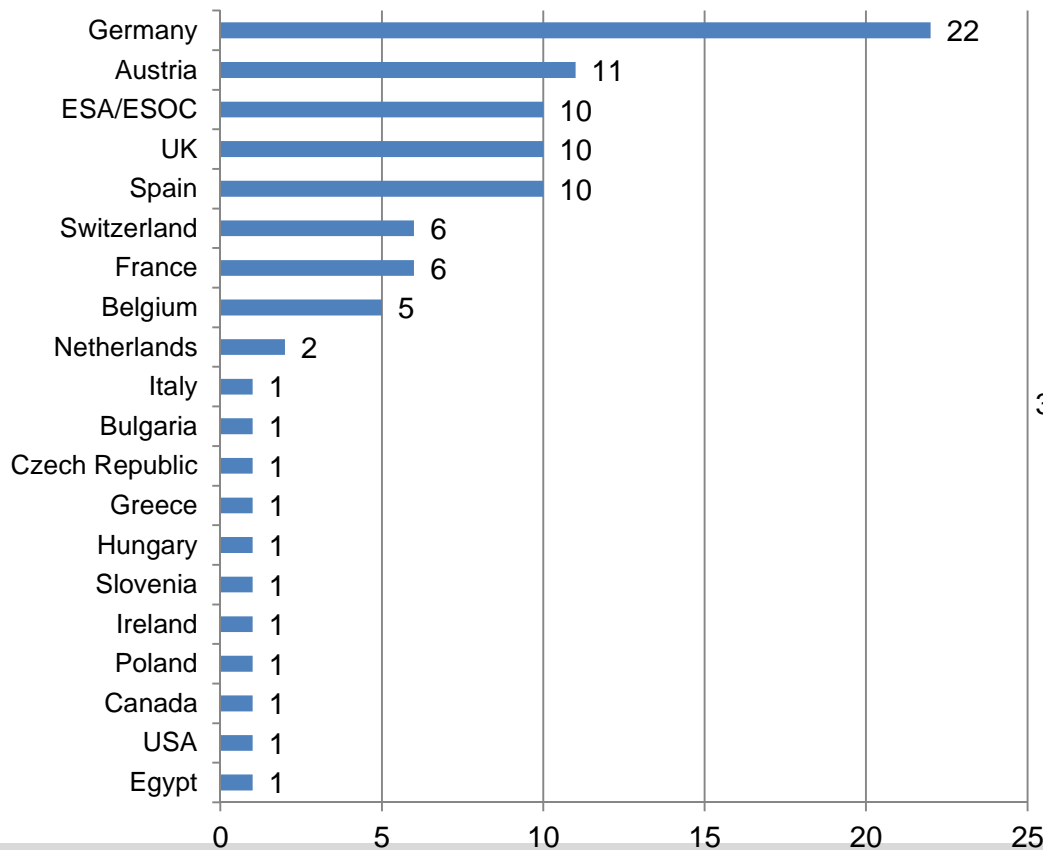
- Ground Stations
 - NGS-1: primary TT&C / S-band
 - ESTRACK Station: S-band backup
- Mission Control Centre
 - ESOC SMILE facility to be used
 - Core MCC: SCOS 2000
 - Baseband: GNU Radio/URSP (s/w radio + FPGA)
 - CubeSat MCC (UHF TT&C)



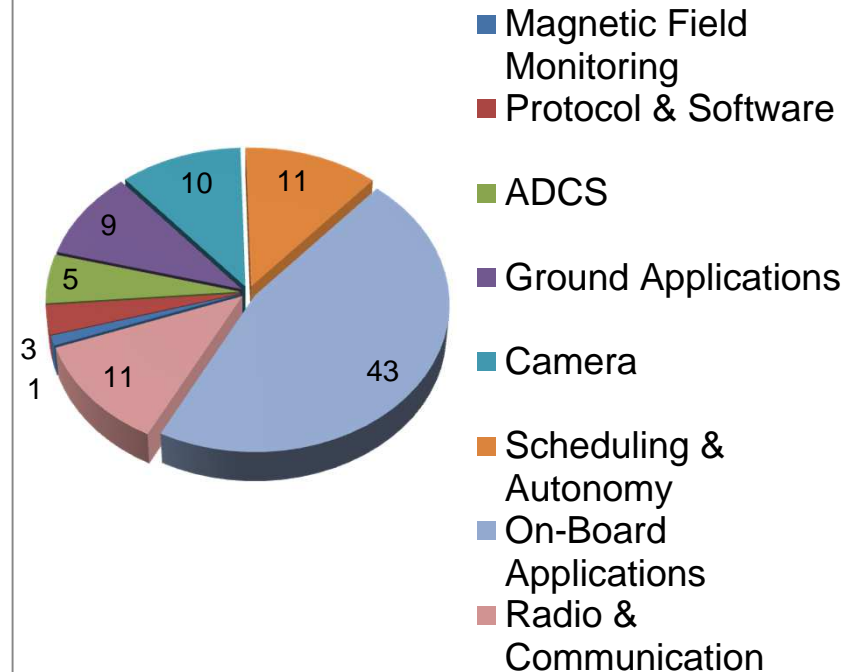
Experiments Evaluation

- More than 100 experiments were submitted to ESA Open Call
- 93 Experiments evaluated

No. of Experiments per country

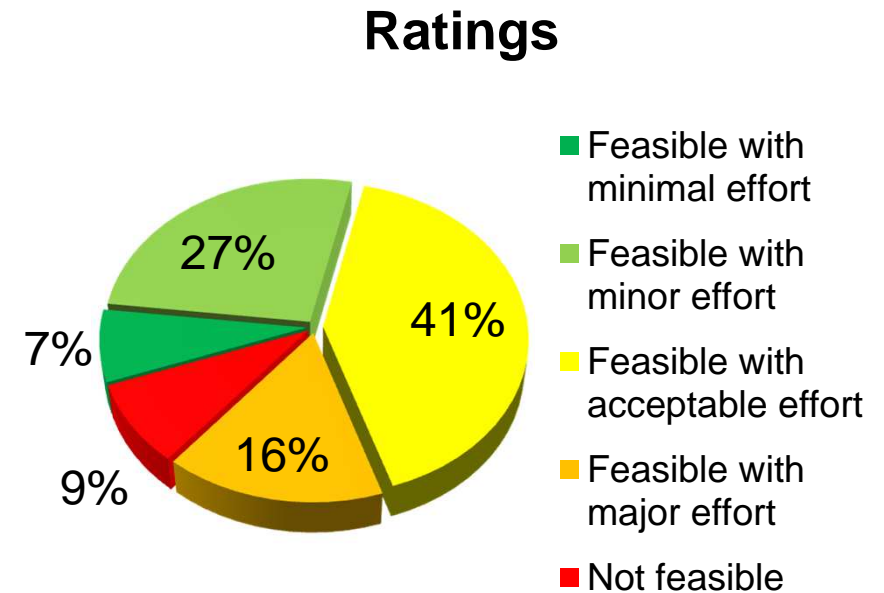


Experiment Category



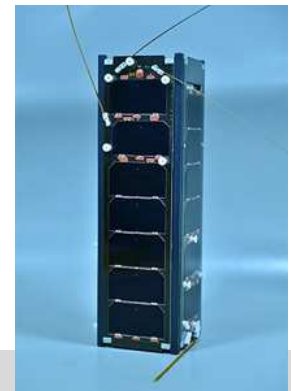
Experiments Evaluation Summary based on the presented design

- Rated according to current baseline design
- Evaluations showed
 - 75% feasible with moderate or small effort
 - 16% feasible with major effort
 - Only 9% not feasible



Reuse from other Cubesat Missions

- UWE-3
 - Launched in November 2013
 - Uses redundant OBC
- GOMX-1
 - Launched in November 2013
 - Uses GomSpace Bus Components
Nanomind, Batteries, EPS, NanoCom (UHF),
SolarPanels
- UKube-1
 - Will launch in 2014
 - Uses ClydeSpace 3U Solar Panels
- TurkSat-3USat
 - Launched 26 April 2013
 - Uses ISIS 3U Structure, ISIPOD



Development Process

- Start with CubeSat COTS systems
- Integrate FDIR system
- Gradually build Flatsat with payload
- Test and qualification of subsystems
- Integrate in flight configuration (PFM)
- Environmental tests and qualification
- Build experimenter flatsat

Programmatics

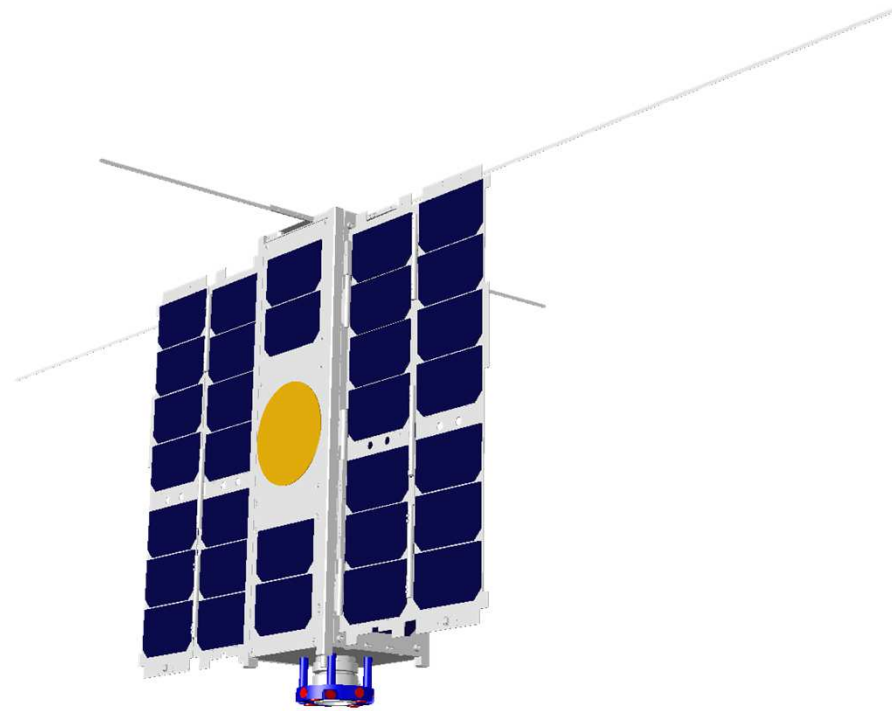
- Phase C/D will start in Fall 2014
- Consortium composed of organisations/companies from
 - Austria
 - Poland
 - Germany
 - Denmark

Summary

- OPS-SAT offers a unique opportunity to test, demonstrate and validate novel operational concepts in flight
- Experimenters will have a unique opportunity to change flight/ground software and reconfigure flight/ground hardware during this mission
- We have designed a mission that can allow this to take place with minimal risk and at minimal cost

Acknowledgements

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Thank you for your attention!