

Deployment Service for CubeSats from ISS

Tatsuhito Fujita

JEM Utilization Center Human Spaceflight Technology Directorate Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)

Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency



 The core implementing agency to support the Japanese government's development and utilization of space with technology.

Space Transportation

Human Space Activities

Satellite Program





Aviation Program







Lunar & Planetary Exploration Program





Kibo (Japanese Experiment Module)

Kibo Exposed Facility

Kibo Pressurized Module

Kibo Exposed Facility



- Kibo has a unique Exposed Facility (EF) with an Airlock (AL) and a Remote Manipulator System (JEMRMS) and a high capacity to exchange experimental equipment.
- JEM Small Satellite Orbital Deployer has been operated to deploy the satellite from 2012.





Specification of J-SSOD



ltem	Specifications
Satellite size	CubeSat: 1U ^{*1} , 2U, 3U, 4U, 5U, 6U, W6U 50-kg class satellite: 55 × 35 × 55 cm
Satellite mass	CubeSat: 1.33 kg or less per 1U 50-kg class satellite: 50 kg or less
Orbital altitude	approximately 380 - 420 km*2
Inclination	51.6°
Deployment direction	Nadir-aft 45° from the ISS nadir side
Deployment velocity	CubeSat: 1.1 - 1.7 m/sec. 50-kg Microsat: 0.4 m/sec.
Ballistic coefficient	CubeSat: 120 kg/m ² or less ^{*3} 50-kg Microsat: 100 kg/m ² or less ^{*3}



- *1) CubeSat specifications:1U : 10 cm (W) x 10 cm (D) x 10 cm (H)
- *2) Depends on the ISS altitude.
- *3) Depends on the ballistic coefficient, altitude at release, solar activity, etc.

Deployment Mechanism of J-SSOD





The spring mechanism and the separation mechanism are installed on the J-SSOD case to deploy the satellites.

A new deployment case (J-SSOD-R), which can be used repeatedly and can release 6U satellites in a slot.

Small Satellite Deployment Process









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Support from the ground

















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Requirement of J-SSOD and Safety Review



Requirement of J-SSOD

- JEM Payload Accommodation Handbook -Vol.8-Small Satellite Deployment Interface Control Document(JX-ESPC-101133)
- https://humans-in-space.jaxa.jp/kibouser/library/item/jx-espc_8e_en.pdf

Safety Review in ISS

- JAXA is responsible for guaranteeing the safety of the Japan Experiment Module (JEM, also called Kibo), the Visiting Vehicle, and other payloads.
- The JAXA Safety Review Panel, chaired by the Director of Human Space Safety and Mission Assurance Office under the Safety Review Board, will review human systems, including experimental payloads.
- According to the System Safety Standard and the Safety Review Process Requirements, risks will be minimized as much as possible by managing hazards.

Requirement of J-SSOD and Safety Review



Proceed of Safety Review

 Hazards that may loss of the ISS and directly harm crews or indirectly harm crews by damaging safety-related systems should be identified early in the design process.



Δ Safety verification

Deployment Achievements from J-SSOD



Cubesats from 31 countries were deployed using J-SSOD.
72 Cubesats were successfully deployed from J-SSOD from 2012 to 2023.



NASA and the U.S. private sector can operate the satellite deployment missions from Kibo. Including these deployment,
278 satellites have been successfully deployment from Kibo by May 2021.

Capacity building through J-SSOD



- JAXA has provided the opportunities of satellite deployment to various countries as a gateway for sharing the values of ISS/Kibo for the purpose of enhancing satellite development and operation technology.
- JAXA launched new comprehensive capacity building measures to provide the educational programs and sustainable satellite deployment opportunities, which finally contribute the SDGs Goal 4, 8 and 9.

Kibo CUBE

- Program in collaboration with UNOOSA
- To provide 1U size CubeSat deployment opportunities for Access to Space for All

J-CUBE (Fee-Based)

• To provide more challenging satellite deployment opportunities for various countries in collaboration with Japanese universities

Kibo CUBE Academy

- To provide opportunities for educational aspects through satellite lifecycle
- Sustained international contribution by construction of relation in various countries and university in Japan

KiboCUBE Academy (Webinar based Education Program)



- JAXA and UNOOSA launched the KiboCUBE Academy and posted a series of on-line lectures on the UNOOSA website in order to enhance opportunities for the educational aspects of the satellite development, its operation, the project managements and systems engineering.
- JAXA also provided the technical consultations for potential applicants of KiboCUBE by the collaboration with University Space Engineering Consortium (UNISEC-Japan).
- You can find webinars on a "webinar" section of the following website;

https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/access2space4all/SatDevTrack_Webinars.html

List of On-line Lecture Uploaded

Lecture #1 Introduction to Small Satellite Mission and Utilization Lecture #2 CubeSats for Capacity Building Lecture #3 Overview of Project Management of Satellite Development Lecture #4 Systems Engineering for Micro/nano/pico-satellites Lecture #5 Introduction of Safety Review Process Lecture #6 CubeSat Design for Safety Requirements Lecture #7 Introduction to CubeSat Technologies Lecture #8 Subsystem Lecture for CubeSat: Power Control System Lecture #9 Subsystem Lecture for CubeSat: Communication System Lecture #10 Subsystem Lecture for CubeSat: Command and Data Handling System Lecture 11 Subsystem Lecture for CubeSat: Structure System Lecture 12 Subsystem Lecture for CubeSat: Mechanism System Lecture 13 Subsystem Lecture for CubeSat: Thermal Control System Lecture 14 Subsystem Lecture for CubeSat: Attitude Control System Lecture 15 Introduction to CubeSat Environmental Testing Lecture 16: Introduction to Orbital Mechanics for Microsatellites Lecture 17: Introduction to CubeSat Operation and Ground Systems Lecture 18: Introduction to CubeSat Payload Systems Lecture 19: CubeSat System Integration and Electrical Testing Lecture 20: Space Debris Problems and Countermeasures Lecture 21: Lessons Learned of CubeSat Missions

Thank you for your kind attention!!