

An Open Source Flight Management System For CubeSats

Andrew Santangelo

sci_Zone

www.sci-zone.com

Overview

- Motivation & Background
- QuickSAT/VMS - key features
- Architecture
- Communications
- Screen Shots
- Road Map

Motivation -

Why a Flight Management System?

- Software is critical to the operation of a satellite
- Most systems are very expensive
- Other solutions are “not ready for prime time”
- Alternatively, “to save money”, the software is written “in house” - which can lead to a range of problems when budgets are constrained.

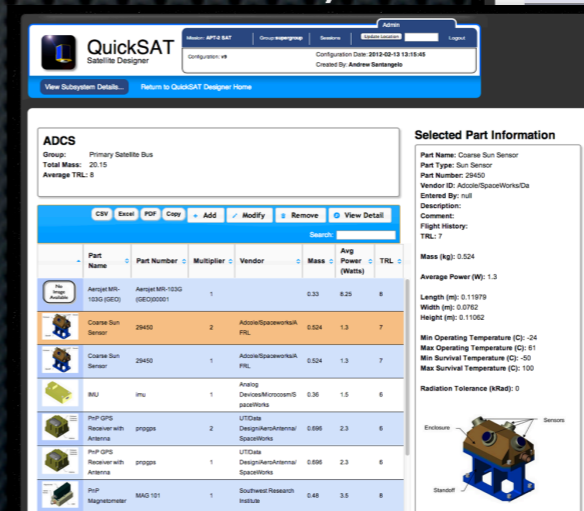
- **Goal:** *To release an open source based flight management system.*

.....enter QuickSAT/VMS

In the beginning...

QuickSAT/step_SATdb

- QuickSAT is a web-based Product Lifecycle Management environment for satellite design
- step_SATdb is an open source database
- Multi-platform, uses open source tools
- Modules can be added by the community



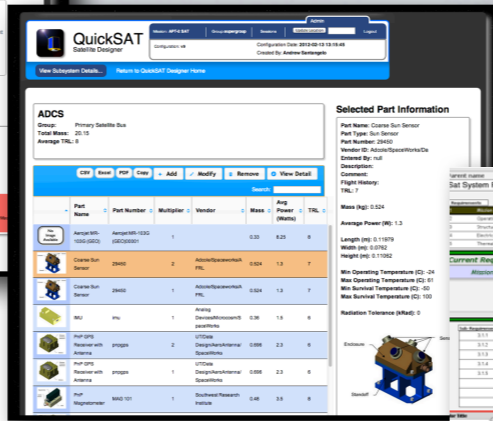
The *step_SATdb* "Cloud"



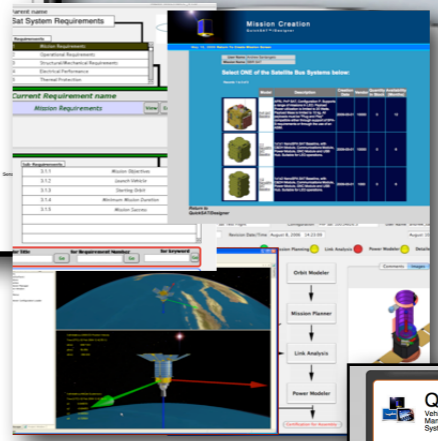
Mission Capture
QuickSAT



Systems Engineering
QuickSAT



Spacecraft Design
QuickSAT

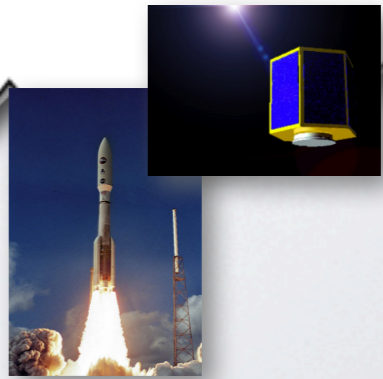
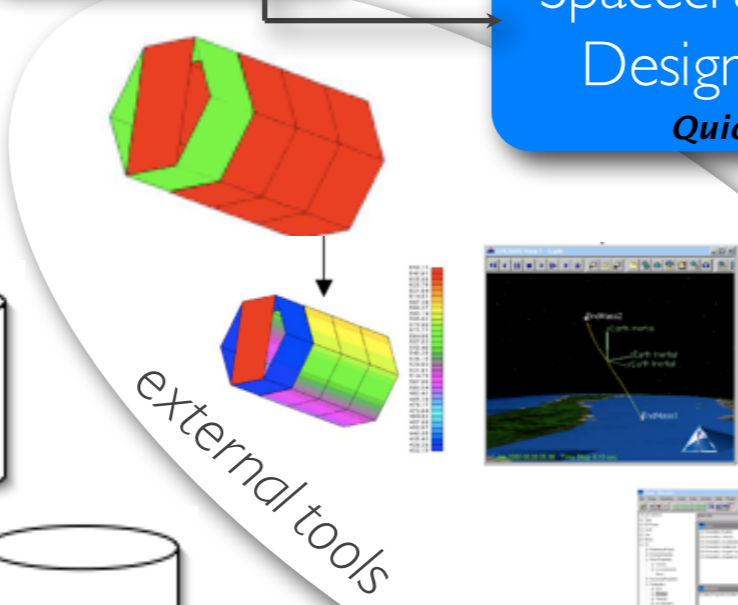


Testing & Verification
QuickSAT



Manufacturing & Assembly
QuickSAT

Flight & Ground Control
QuickSAT



Then came...

The world of Aviation!

- sci_Zone commercialized QS code to support the GE Aviation Aircraft Health Management System Project.
- sci_Zone entered into an agreement with GE to use the open source QuickSAT APIs on their “Operational Ground Program” (OGP).
- QuickSAT/Vehicle Management System (VMS) created as an expanded version of the OGP program.



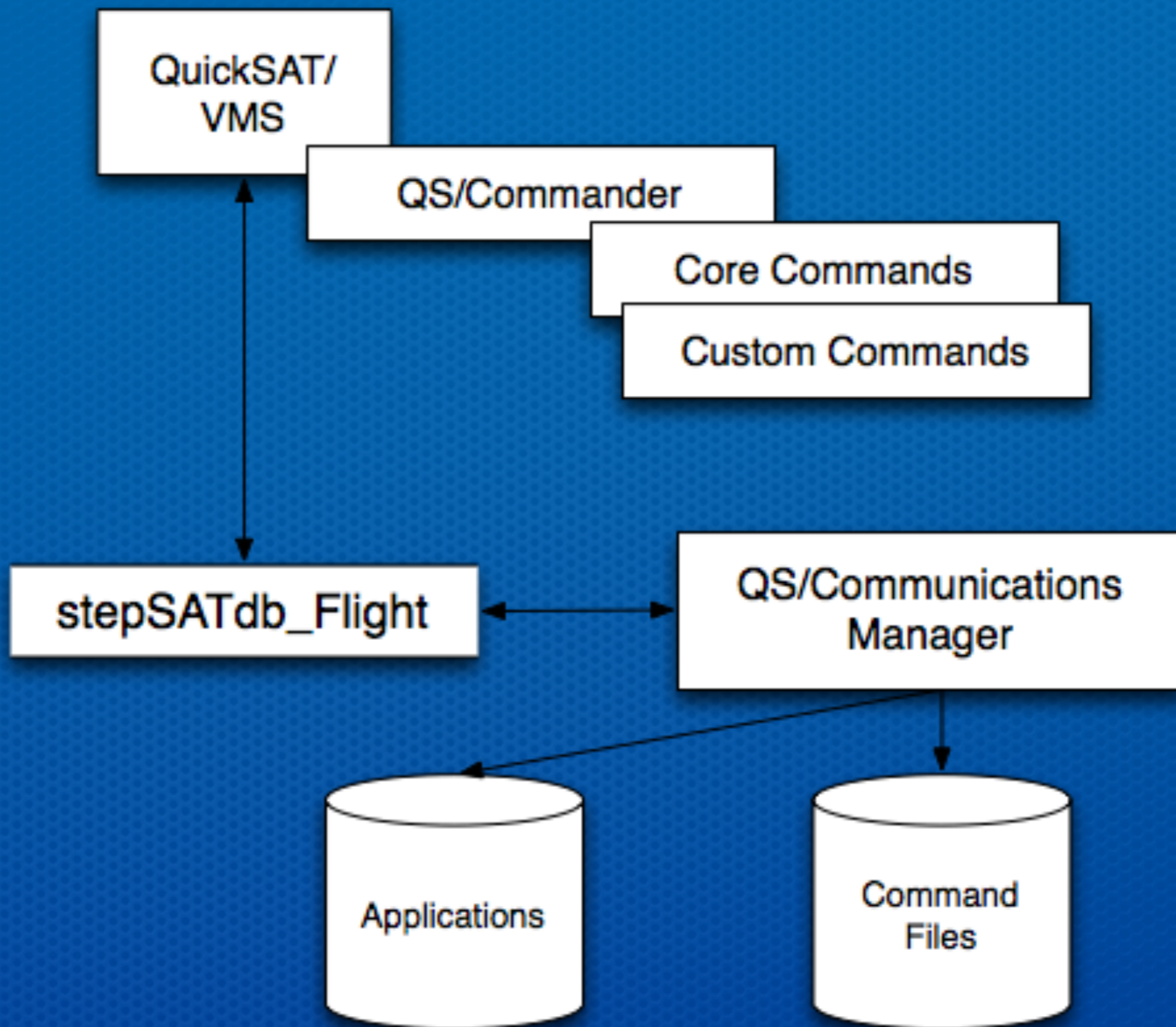
QuickSAT/VMS

- Broad Use: *Aviation, Satellites, Cars*
- A complete Flight Management System
- Vehicle Health Management & Monitoring
- Vehicle Commanding Services
- Communications services
- Test/Monitoring interface

QuickSAT/VMS

- Can serve as a stand alone ground station or part of an expanded environment
- Customizable
- Utilizes open source software where possible
- Works on a range of flight hardware
- Web based - PCs, Tablets, etc.
- Certified DO178B for Aviation

Architecture



QuickSAT/Designer

Parts Management

Parameter Defn

C&DH

Mission Flight Plan

Scheduler

Xen Tools

Define Modes

Mission Conops &
Analysis

v6.0

QuickSAT/VMS

Flight Management

File Transfer

Health Monitoring

Communications

Configuration Support

Ground Control

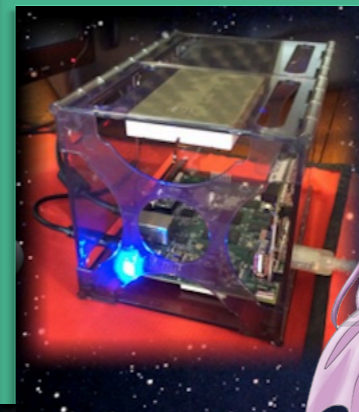
v3.5

Xen

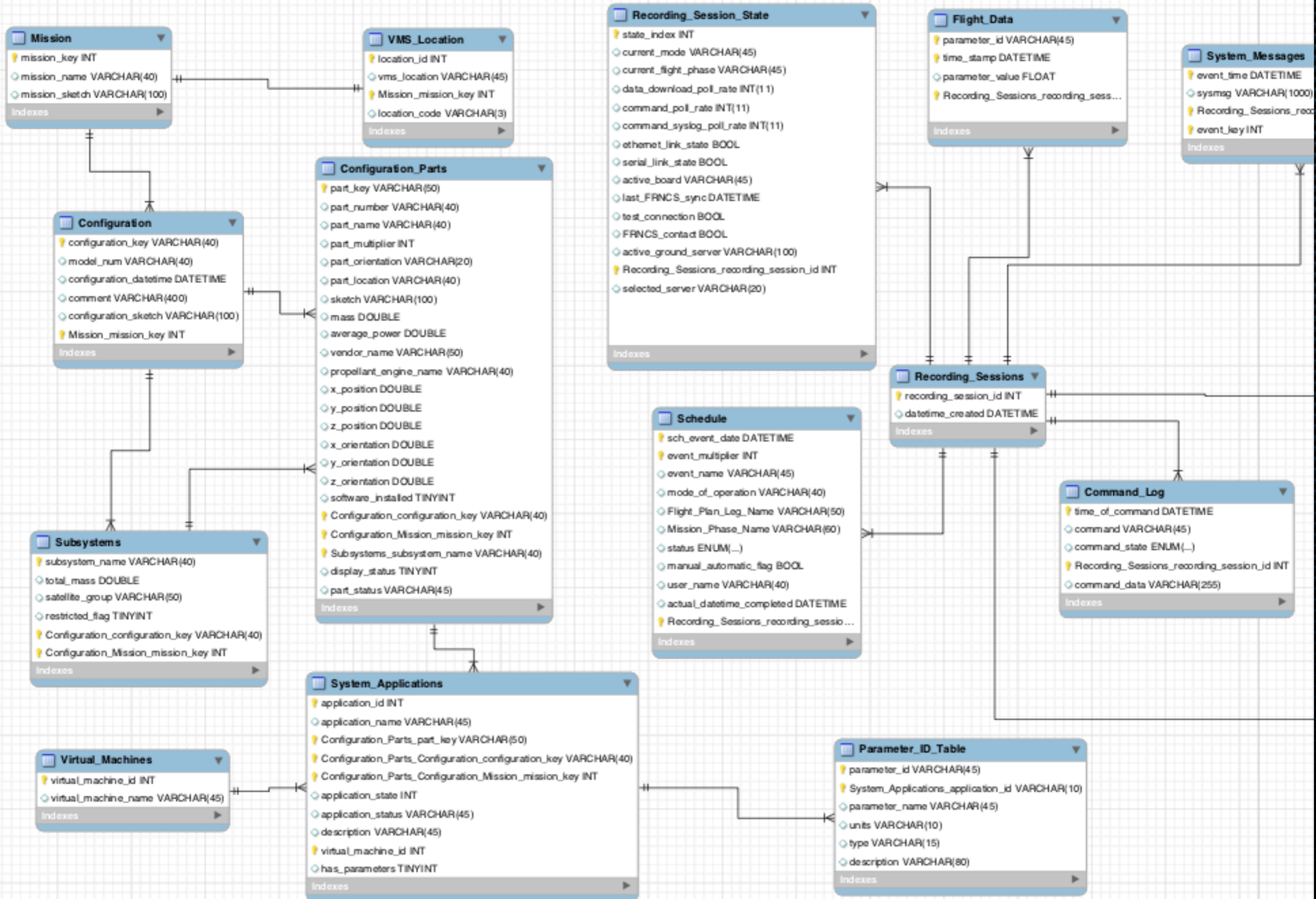
MCP 1.0

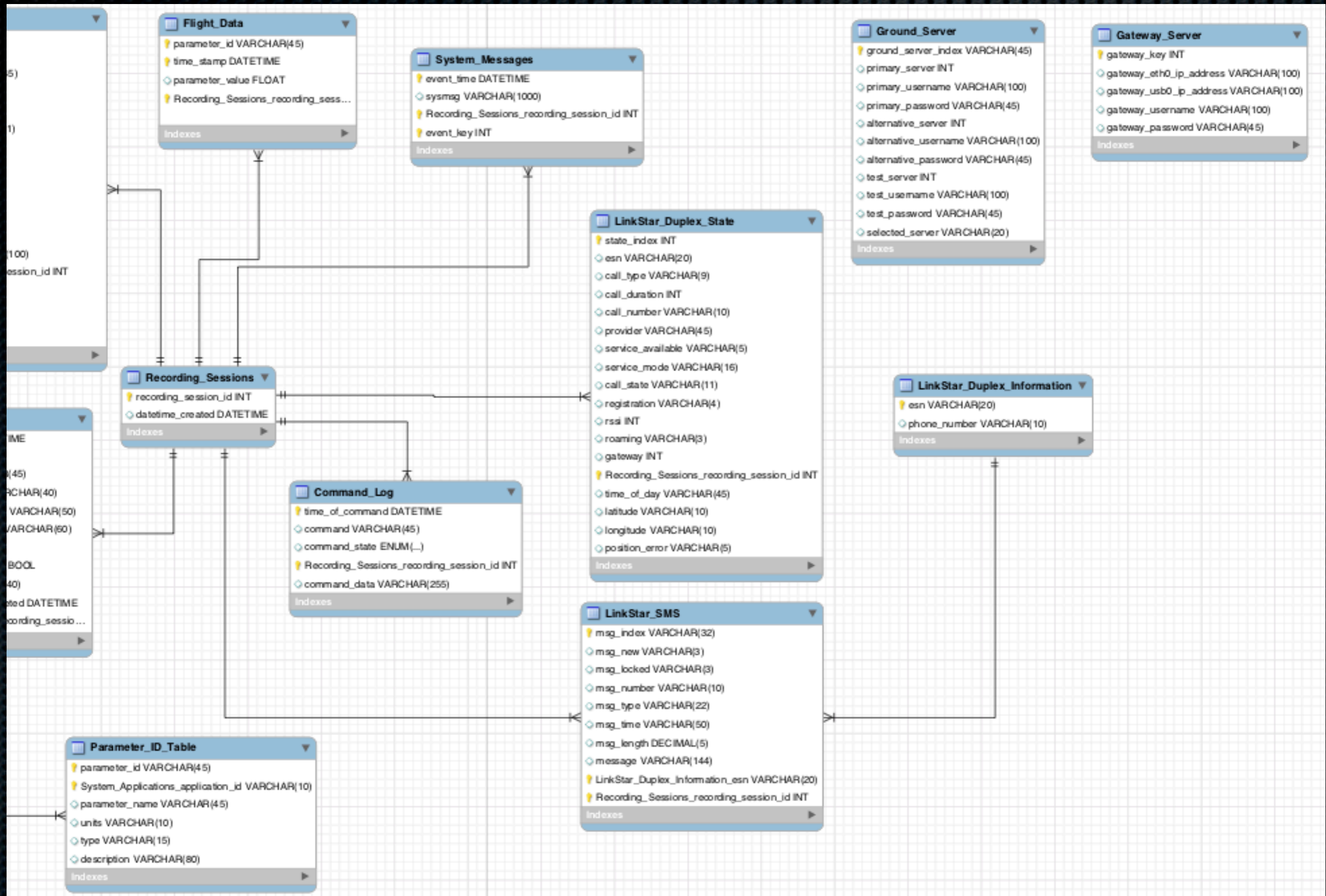
MCT 1.0

FRNCS
Flight computer

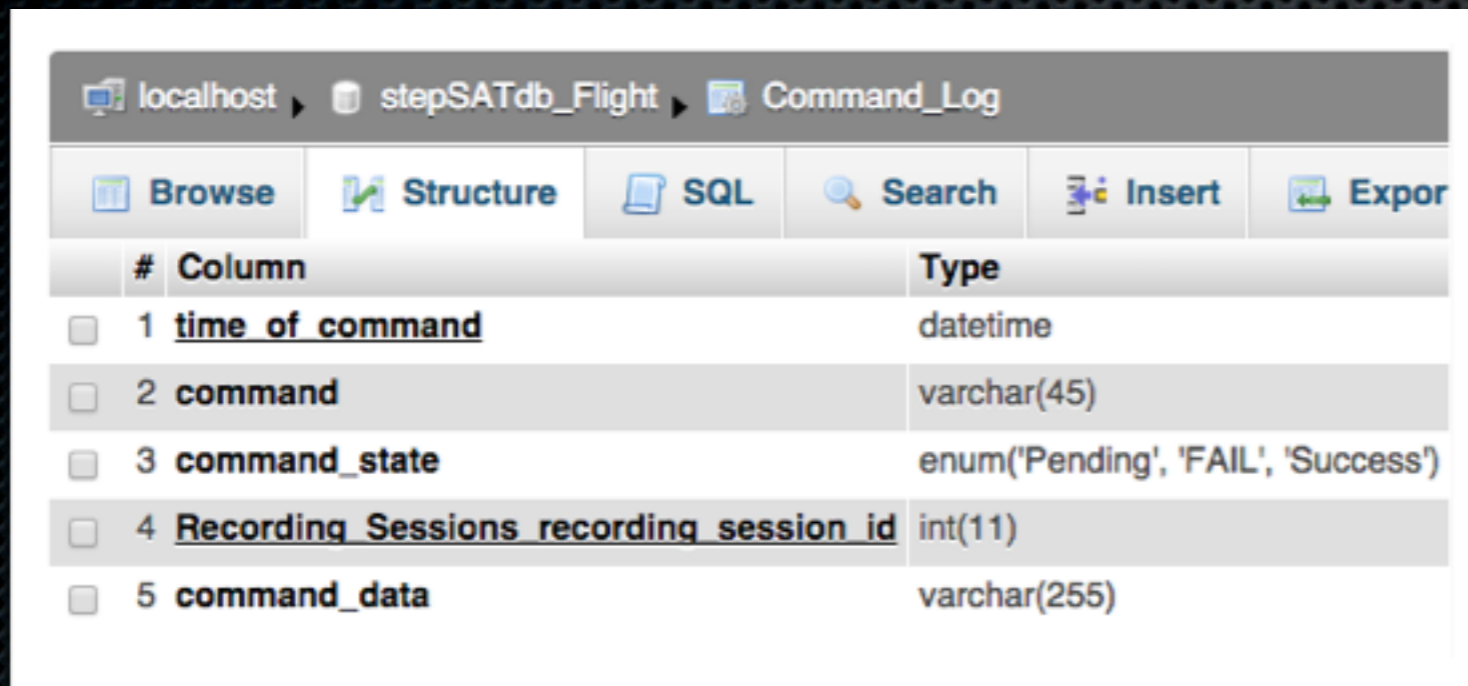


ARM-15, -8, -7
Intel Support



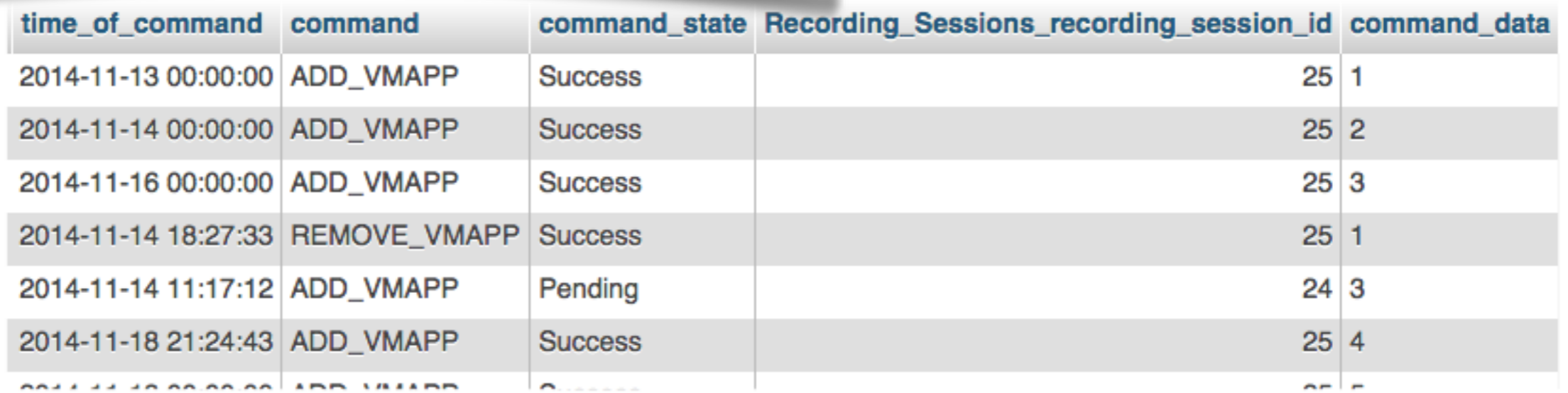


Database Command Handling



The screenshot shows a database management interface for a table named 'Command_Log' in the 'stepSATdb_Flight' database on 'localhost'. The table structure is as follows:

#	Column	Type
<input type="checkbox"/>	1 <u>time of command</u>	datetime
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 <u>command</u>	varchar(45)
<input type="checkbox"/>	3 <u>command_state</u>	enum('Pending', 'FAIL', 'Success')
<input type="checkbox"/>	4 <u>Recording Sessions recording_session_id</u>	int(11)
<input type="checkbox"/>	5 <u>command_data</u>	varchar(255)



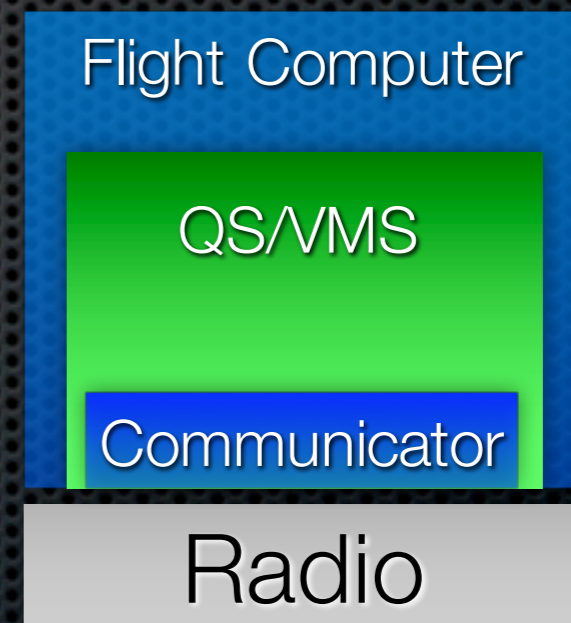
The screenshot shows a query result for the 'Command_Log' table. The data is as follows:

time_of_command	command	command_state	Recording_Sessions_recording_session_id	command_data
2014-11-13 00:00:00	ADD_VMAPP	Success	25	1
2014-11-14 00:00:00	ADD_VMAPP	Success	25	2
2014-11-16 00:00:00	ADD_VMAPP	Success	25	3
2014-11-14 18:27:33	REMOVE_VMAPP	Success	25	1
2014-11-14 11:17:12	ADD_VMAPP	Pending	24	3
2014-11-18 21:24:43	ADD_VMAPP	Success	25	4
2014-11-18 21:24:43	ADD_VMAPP	Success	25	5

Communications

QuickSAT/VMS - Multiple Options

- S-Band radios
- Amateur Radios
- Laser based radios
- “Newly invented” radios
- *LinkStar...*



LinkStar Product Features

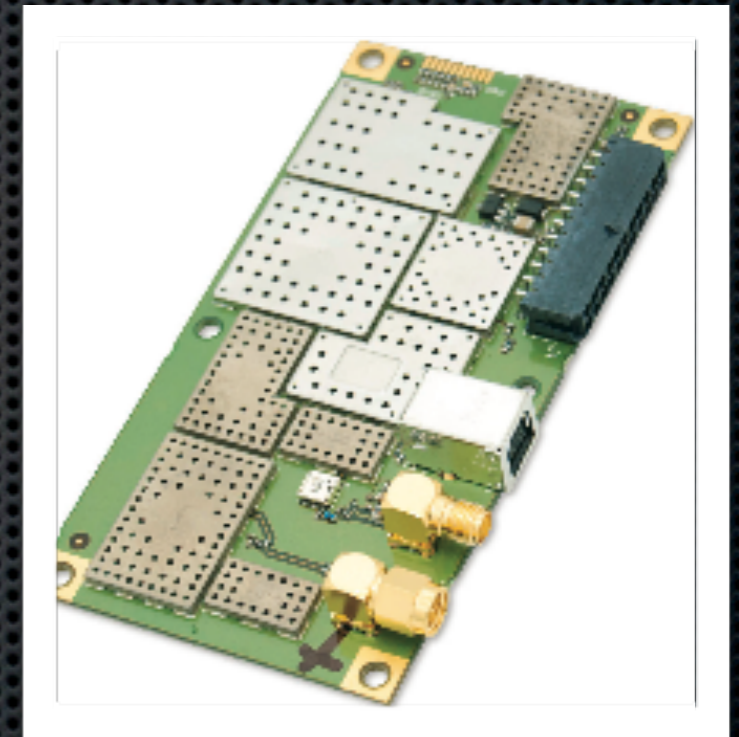
- Almost anytime, anywhere satellite TT&C
- Estimated +70% orbital coverage for Duplex based radios; over 95% for Simplex based radio!
- Common FCC Satellite-to-Satellite License
- No Amateur bands
- Radio astronomy interference was eliminated by limiting the GlobalStar units to operate at 1616.25 MHz with a bandwidth of +/- 1.25 MHz
- No satellite to ground license required

LinkStar Product Features

- No deployables
 - 2 cm x 2 cm patch for simplex
 - 2.5 cm diameter circular patch for duplex
- Rapid acquisition - simplex beacons within 15 seconds
- Data rates
 - 9600 kbps maximum
 - *LinkStar* can compliment traditional high speed radios
 - *LinkStar* can serve as a primary radio depending mission data requirements.

LinkStar Product Features

- Ground station over Internet Protocol (IP)
 - *Access your spacecraft from anywhere!*
- Piggy-backs on established 2 billion dollar network
- Low Cost
 - No Ground Station
 - No tracking
 - Proven system



Operating Frequencies

Maximum transmit power
DC input voltage

Power Consumption
@5VDC input (estimated)

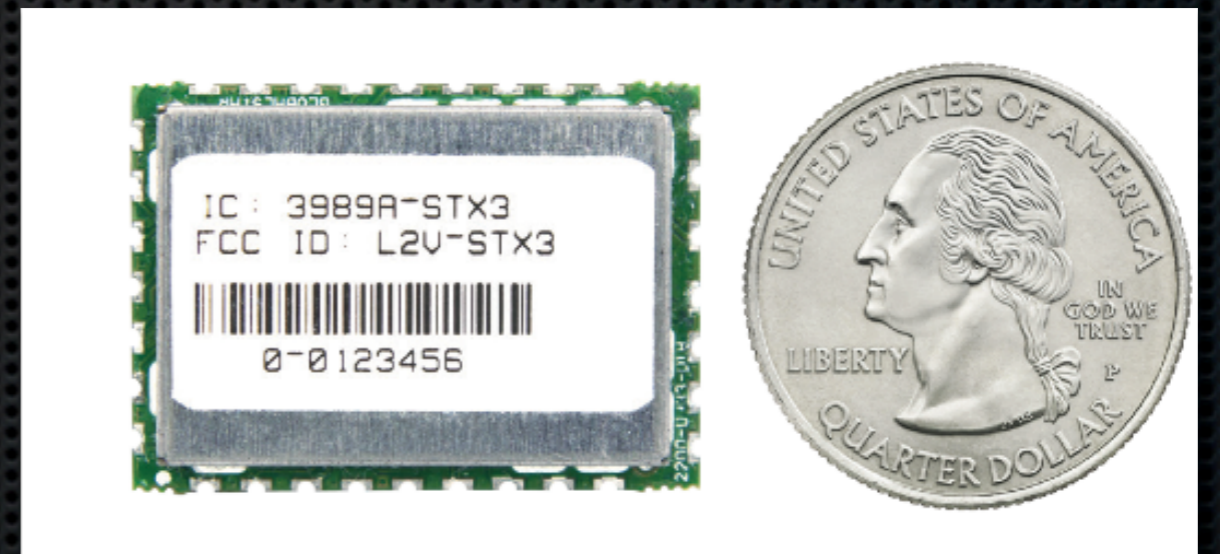
Transmit: 1610 MHz – 1626.5 MHz
Receive: 2483.5 MHz – 2500 MHz
+31dBm EIRP (passive antenna), +34 dBm (active antenna)
+4.7V to 5.1V

State	Min	Typical	Max	Units
Shutdown	0.0	0.65	1.0	mW
Standby	0.5	0.5	1.1	W
Transmit	2.2	3.65	5.0	W

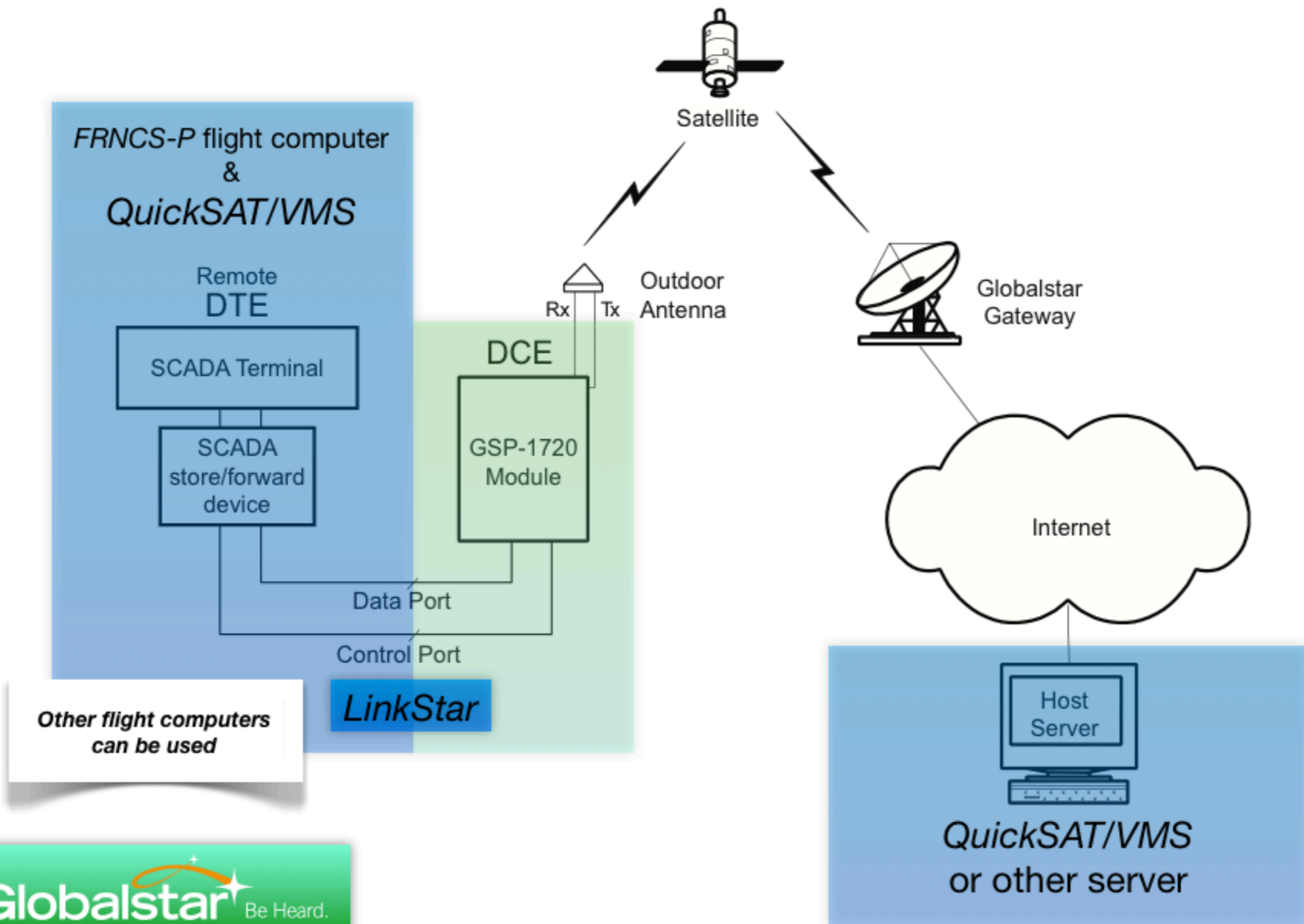
LinkStar-STX3

Simplex Gen 3 Features

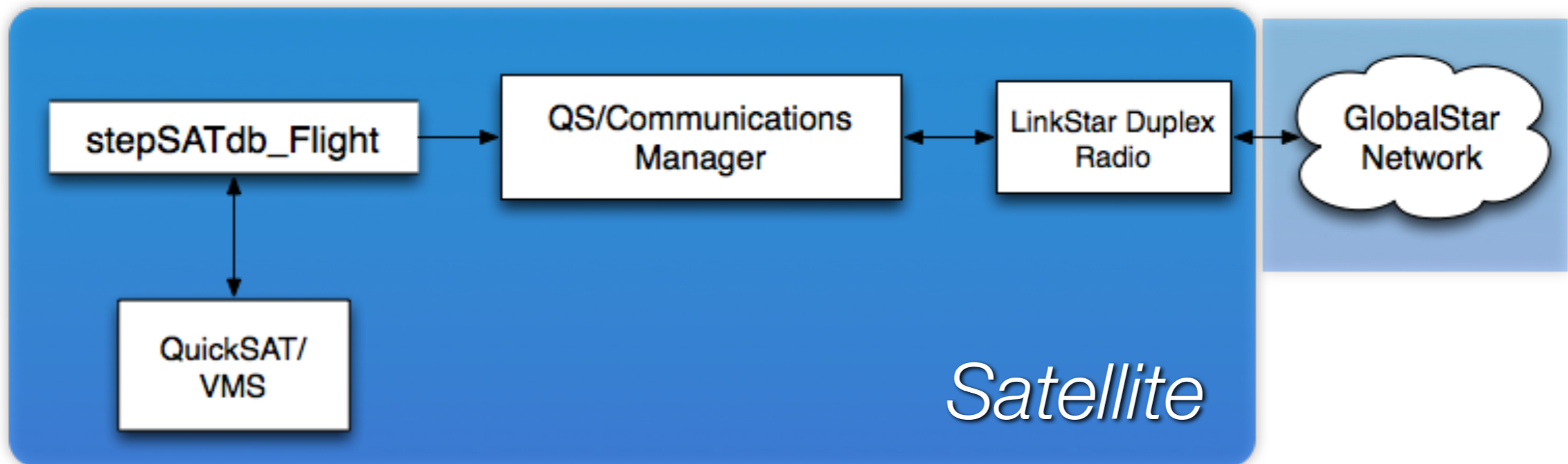
- Small form factor
 - Power
 - 350 mW Tx power
 - Dimensions
 - 28.7mm x 20.57mm x 4.13mm
 - Electrical
 - Accepts 3.3 V to 12 V
 - TTL Data Protocol
 - Near Global Coverage!



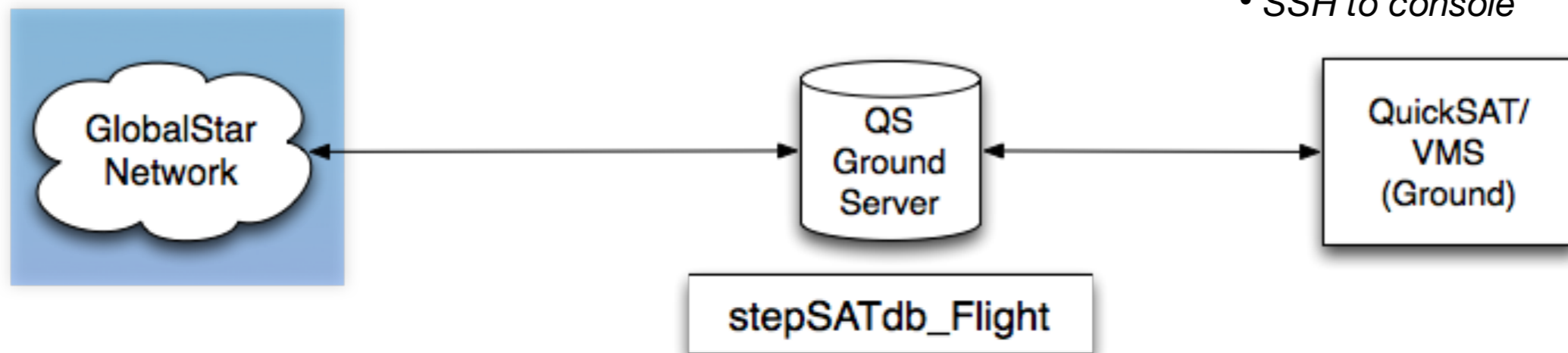
Baseline Communications Scheme with LinkStar



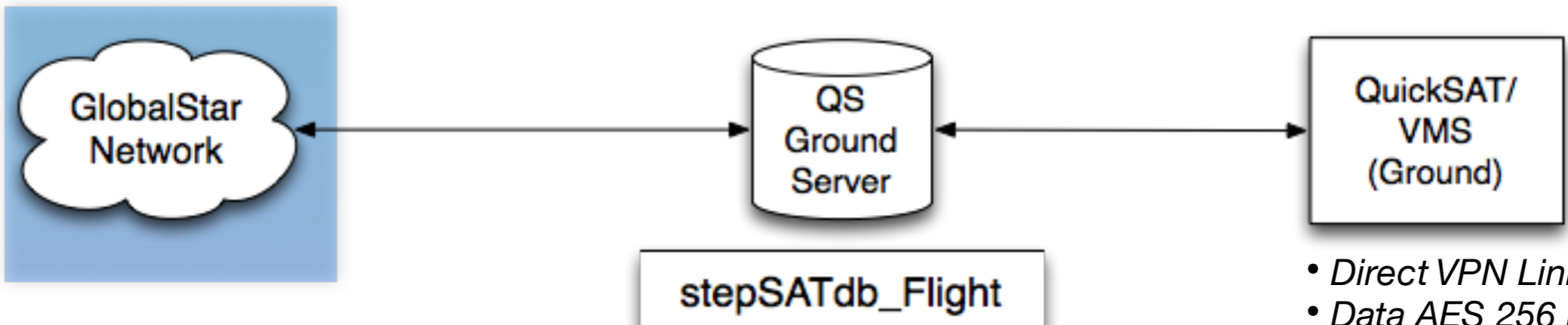
Satellite to Ground



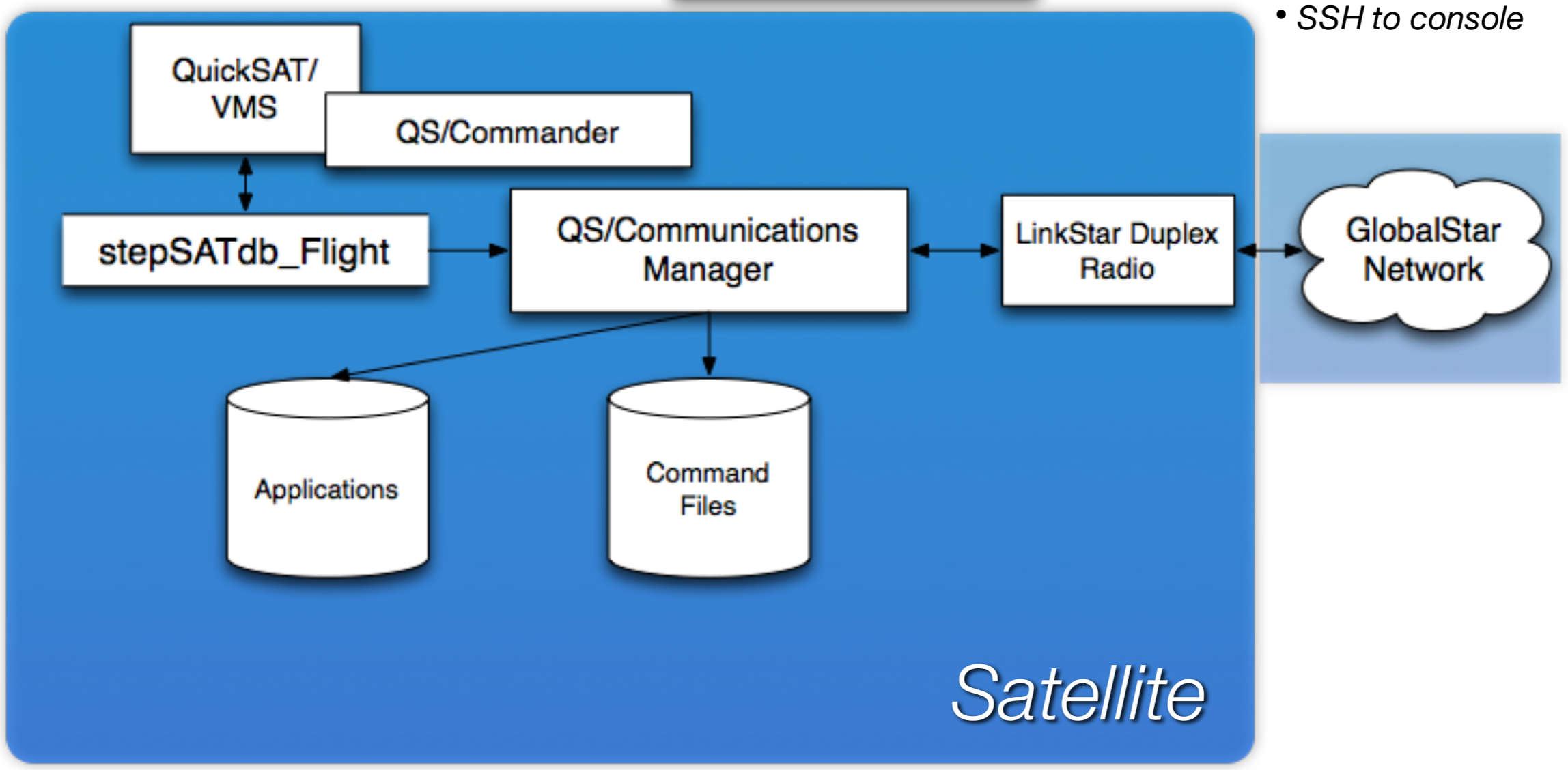
- Direct VPN Link
- Data AES 256 Encryption
- SSH to console



Ground to Satellite



- Direct VPN Link
- Data AES 256 Encryption
- SSH to console





QS/VMS

Vehicle Management System

Identifier: FRNCS-P/SHARC

Sessions

Update Location

Logout

Last DB Capture: 04/18/2015 @ 02:15:43
 Current Recording Session: 72
 Mission Phase: Operating Mode
 Mode of Operation: Mission Science/Operations
 Current VMS Command: No Commands Pending

GSTAR USA
 Last Sync with FRNCS: 04/18/2015 @ 02:15:43

Configuration

Mission Operations

Live Parameter View

FRNCS Maintenance

Schedule

Server

FRNCS-P

Space Vehicle Profile

FRNCS Virtual Machines and Software

CSV Excel

Search:

ID	Name	Status	State Code	State
VM1: Domain 1				
1	prime	GATEWAY Storage	80	FRNCS Storage
VM2: Domain 2				
2	prime	GATEWAY Storage	80	FRNCS Storage
VM3: Domain 3				
3	sine	GATEWAY Storage	80	FRNCS Storage
VM4: Domain 4				

Showing 1 to 5 of 5 entries

Parameters

for the application "prime"

CSV Excel

Search:

ID	Parameter Name	Units	Type	Description
1	Prime Number	n/a	INTEGER	Calculated prime value for the give

FRNCS-P

Space Vehicle Profile

Space Vehicle Profile ?

SHARC Mission

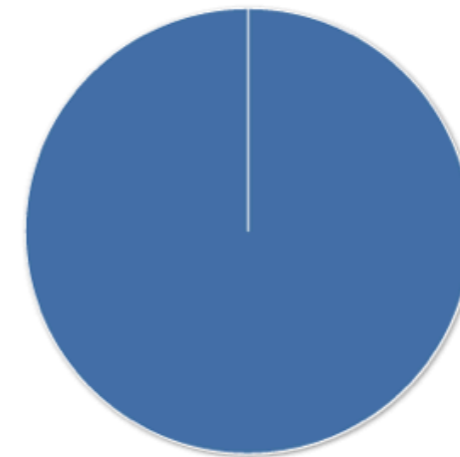
Configuration: Rev 4.0 SHARC
Model Number: Version 4.0
Date/Time: 2014-10-09 01:42:39
Comments: SHARC is a 5U cubesat to be deployed from the ISS

Search:

Subsystem	Subsystem Mass (kg)
FRNCS-Hypervisor	0.39

Showing 1 to 1 of 1 entries

Subsystem Mass Summary Chart



FRNCS-Hypervisor

Satellite Mass, Dry (kg): 0.39
 Mass Propellants (kg): 0.00
 Satellite Mass (Dry + Propellants, kg): 0.39

Select all Deselect all CSV Excel PDF Copy

Search:

Part Name	Part Number	Multiplier	Vendor	Mass	Avg Power (Watts)	Part Key
BeagleBone Black, RevC	BeagleBoneBlackRevC00001	1		0.03968	2.3	BeagleBoneBlackRevC000011
Cubieboard3 - Cubietruck	800024001	1	sci_Zone Inc	0.1	5	8000240011
FRNCS-P Bracket	SHARCFRNCSBracket-01	1	AFRL	0.2	0	SHARCFRNCSBracket-011
Global Star Duplex Antenna X2	duplexantennaX2	1	sci_Zone Inc	0	0	duplexantennaX21
LinkStar Duplex Radio	LinkStar-0001-v00100001	1	sci_Zone Inc	0.05	2	LinkStar-0001-v001000011

QS/VMS

Vehicle Management System

Identifier: FRNCS-P/SHARC

Sessions

Update Location

Admin

Logout

Last DB Capture: 04/18/2015 @ 02:15:43
Current Recording Session: 72
Mission Phase: Operating Mode
Mode of Operation: Mission Science/Operations
Current VMS Command: No Commands Pending

 GSTAR USA

Last Sync with FRNCS: 04/18/2015 @ 02:15:43

Configuration

Mission Operations

Live Parameter View

FRNCS Maintenance

Schedule

Server

FRNCS-P

Space Vehicle Profile

FRNCS Virtual Machines and Software

CSV

Excel

PDF

Copy

Hide Parameters

Search:

Upload Gateway ->
Host

Delete from Gateway

Name	Status	State Code	State
Domain 1			
prime	GATEWAY Storage	80	FRNCS Storage
Domain 2			
prime	GATEWAY Storage	80	FRNCS Storage
Domain 3			

[Operations](#)[Support](#)[LinkStar](#)[Recording Sessions](#)

Ethernet Comm Status: ● Link Active

Serial Line Status: ● Link Disabled

Active Board: Host_1

FRNCS Software Status

Search:

ID	Name	Status	State Code	State
VM1: Domain 1				
1	prime	GATEWAY Storage	80	FRNCS Storage
VM2: Domain 2				
2	prime	GATEWAY Storage	80	FRNCS Storage
VM3: Domain 3				
3	sine	GATEWAY Storage	80	FRNCS Storage
VM4: Domain 4				

Showing 1 to 5 of 5 entries

Schedule

[CSV](#)[Excel](#)[PDF](#)[Copy](#)

Search:

Event Date/Time (UTC)	Multiplier	Event Name	Status	User	Date/Time Completed (UTC)	Mode of Operation	Flight Leg	Mission Phase
2015-08-10 08:15:40	1	TEST	Pending	Admin	-	Mission Science/Operations	Primary	Operating Mode

Schedule

Search:

Event Date/Time (UTC) ▲	Multiplier	Event Name	Status	User	Date/Time Completed (UTC)	Mode of Operation	Flight Leg	Mission Phase
2015-08-10 08:15:40	1	TEST	Pending	Admin	-	Mission Science/Operations	Primary	Operating Mode

Showing 1 to 1 of 1 entries

Command Log

Search:

Time of Command (UTC) ▲	Command	Command State	Command Data
2014-04-23 02:16:55	REMOVE_VMAPP	Success	1
2015-02-17 21:43:57	REMOVE_VMAPP	Success	1
2015-02-17 21:55:58	REMOVE_VMAPP	Success	2
2015-11-18 20:00:14	REMOVE_VMAPP	Success	2
2015-11-18 20:01:27	ADD_VMAPP	Success	1
2015-11-19 09:39:46	ADD_VMAPP	Success	3

Showing 1 to 31 of 31 entries

System Message Log

Search:

System Message Time (UTC) ▲	System Message
2014-04-23 20:23:20	Success - VM/App "prime_test_app00001" installed
2014-04-23 20:23:20	Command Success
2014-04-23 20:25:24	Success - VM/App "cosine_test_app00001" installed
2014-04-23 20:25:24	Command Success



QS/VMS

Vehicle Management System

Identifier: FRNCS-P/SHARC

Sessions

Update Location

Admin

Logout

Last DB Capture: 04/18/2015 @ 02:14:53
Current Recording Session: 72
Mission Phase: Operating Mode
Mode of Operation: Mission Science/Operations
Current VMS Command: No Commands Pending

 GSTAR USA
Last Sync with FRNCS: 04/18/2015 @ 02:14:53

Configuration

Mission Operations

Live Parameter View

FRNCS Maintenance

Schedule

Server

Operations

Support

LinkStar

Recording Sessions

LinkStar Duplex Status

Phone Number: 2542045633

esn: 11601206706

Call Type:

Call Duration: 0

Call Number:

Provider: GSTAR USA

Service Available: YES

Service Mode: GLOBALSTAR

Call State: IDLE

Registration: YES

RSSI: 4

Roaming: NO

Gateway: 11

LinkStar Duplex Location

Time of Day: 2014:355 00:44:20

Latitude (N): 035 Deg 16' 50"

Longitude (W): 106 Deg 37' 51"

Position Error: < 10 km

LinkStar Duplex SMS Messages (received)

No SMS Messges Exist



QS/VMS

Vehicle Management System

Mode: SIMULATION

Maintenance Mode

Sessions

Update Location

Admin

Logout

SD Card :

USB: Downloading

Ground Comms: Completed

Percent Progress: null

Percent Progress: 0

Configuration

Ground Communications

USB

BIT

Events

Download »

Upload »

Add Ons...DPD

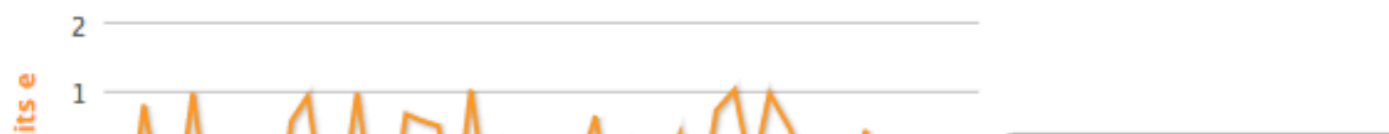
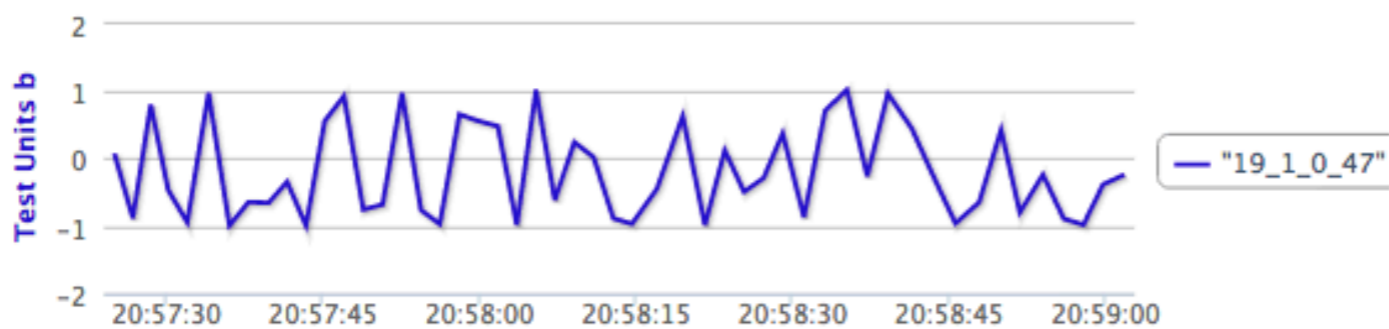
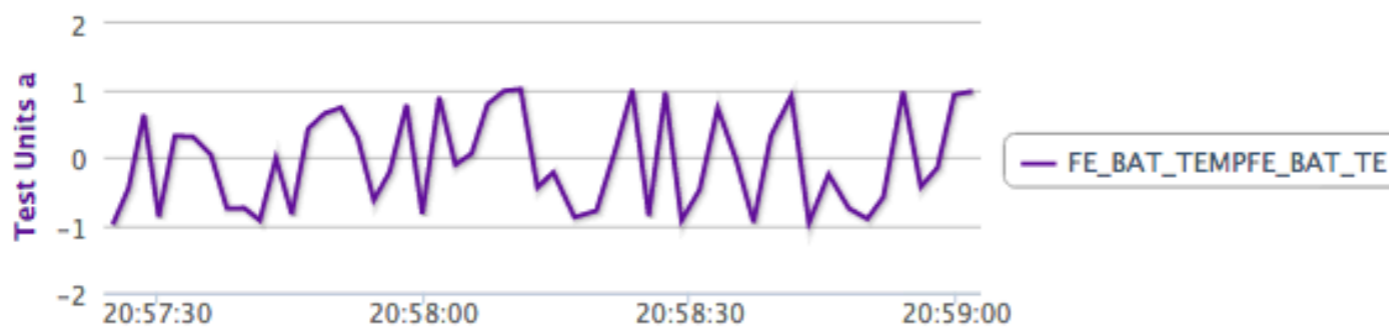
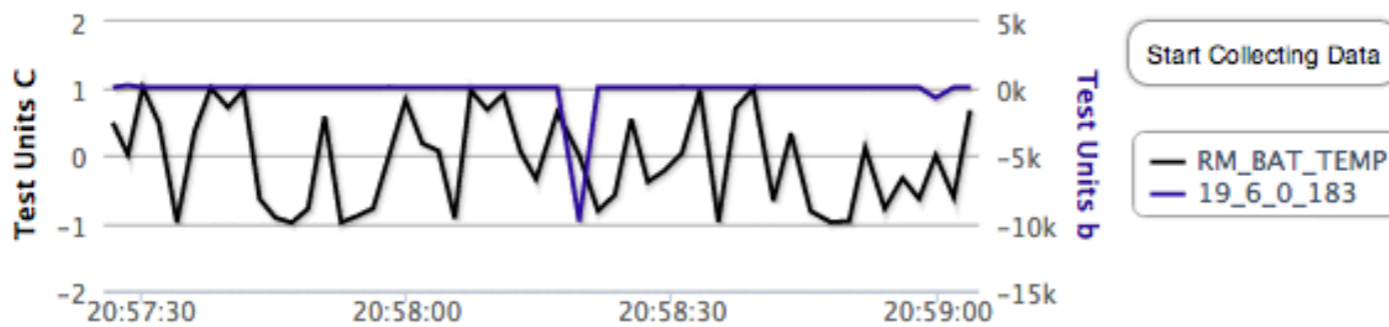
Parameter Lists

Select Parameters

Data Display

Plot

Group



Selected Parameters

Parameter List:

AnotherTest

Plot Selected Parameters

Delete Selected Parameters

Save List

Update List

Select all

Deselect all

Search:

Parameter Name

No Group Assigned

FC_BAT_TEMP FC_BAT_TI

FE_BAT_DISC_1

"47_1_0_1398"

"19_1_0_186"

"19_6_0_186"

"19_1_0_185"

"19_6_0_185"

Batteries

RM_BAT_TEMP

19_6_0_183

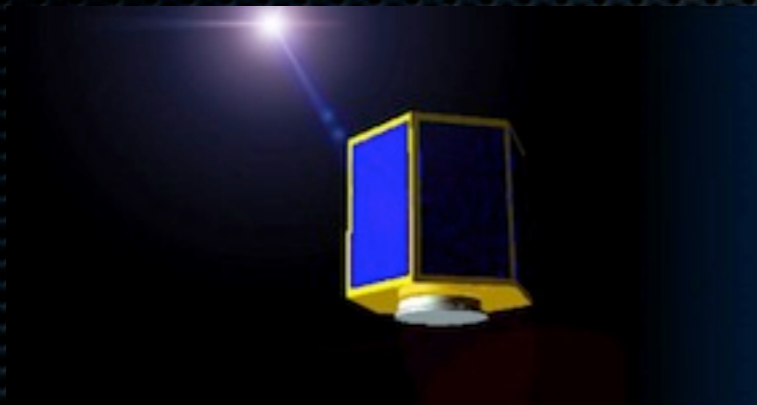
Extra Systems

Road Map To Flight Heritage

- Enhanced *QuickSAT/VMS* with *LinkStar* Support: Spring 2015
- *BeagleSpace* on GitHub: August 2015
- *CubieSpace* on GitHub: August 2015
- *QuickSAT/VMS* on GitHub: September 2015
- *RADSat*: Fall 2015
- *EarthScan*: Fall 2016

QuickSAT

Take your satellite from idea to flight!



QuickSAT/Designer

*Design and Mission Planning from
idea to flight!*



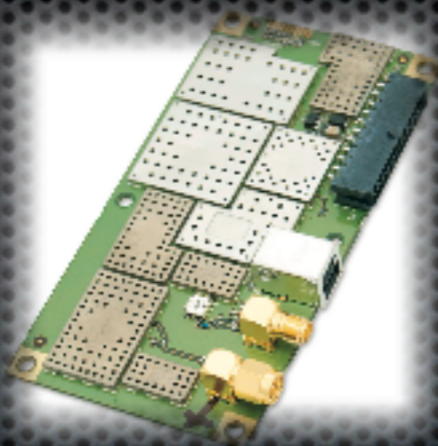
QuickSAT/Xen

*Security, Reliability and
Software Rad-Hardening!*



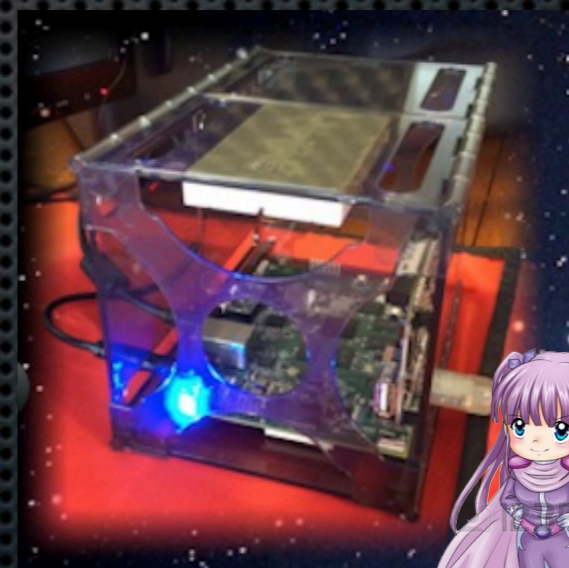
QuickSAT/VMS

Talk to your satellite!



LinkStar

*Communications
for the Rest of us!*



FRNCS

*ARM Computing
for the Future!*

sci_Zone, Inc.

www.quick-sat.com

Next STEP - Join the Fun!

✦ email: andrew_santangelo@sci-zone.com

✦ web: www.quick-sat.com

ADCS
Group: Primary Satellite Bus
Total Mass: 20.15
Average TRL: 8

Part Name	Part Number	Multiplier	Vendor	Mass	Avg Power (Watts)	TRL
Aerojet MR-103G (GEO)	Aerojet MR-103G (GEO)0001	1		0.33	8.25	8
Coarse Sun Sensor	29450	2	Adcole/Spaceworks/A FRL	0.524	1.3	7
Coarse Sun Sensor	29450	1	Adcole/Spaceworks/A FRL	0.524	1.3	7
IMU	imu	1	Analog Devices/Microcosm/SpaceWorks	0.36	1.5	6
PnP GPS Receiver with Antenna	pnpgps	2	Design/AeroAntenna/SpaceWorks	0.696	2.3	6
PnP GPS Receiver with Antenna	pnpgps	1	Design/AeroAntenna/SpaceWorks	0.696	2.3	6
PnP Magnetometer	MAG 101	1	Southwest Research Institute	0.48	3.5	8

Selected Part Information
Part Name: Coarse Sun Sensor
Part Type: Sun Sensor
Part Number: 29450
Vendor ID: Adcole/SpaceWorks/Da
Entered By: null
Description:
Comment:
Flight History:
TRL: 7
Mass (kg): 0.524
Average Power (W): 1.3
Length (m): 0.11979
Width (m): 0.0762
Height (m): 0.11062
Min Operating Temperature (C): -24
Max Operating Temperature (C): 61
Min Survival Temperature (C): -50
Max Survival Temperature (C): 100
Radiation Tolerance (kRad): 0

Subsystem Mass Summary Chart

Subsystem	Mass (kg)	TRL
ADCS	10.80	8
Antenna	20.16	8
Experiment 3	3.64	8
Experiment 4	3.47	8
Experiment 5	0.85	4
Experiment 6	42.90	5
Power	18.00	7
Propellants	48.75	4
Structure	9.29	6
Thermal	3.38	7

Satellite Mass Summary
Satellite Mass, Dry (kg): 146.25
Mass Propellants (kg): 18.00
Satellite Mass (Dry + Propellants, kg): 164.25
Margin: 15%
TOTAL Satellite Mass w/Margin (Mass + Mass Margin, kg): 182.25