

# Pathfinder Technology Demonstrator

## “Enabling the Next Generation of CubeSat Missions”

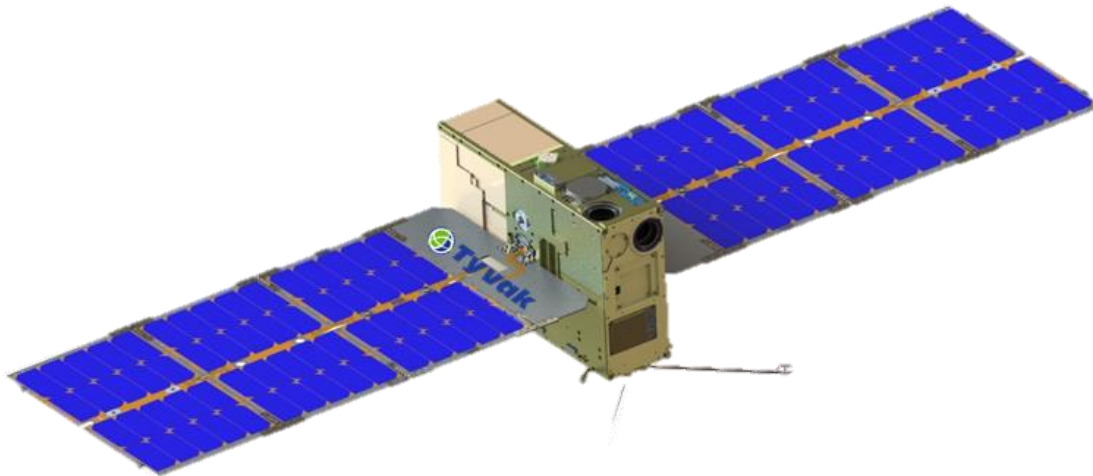
CubeSat Developer’s Workshop

April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019

*NASA Space Technology Mission Directorate*

*NASA Small Spacecraft Technology Program*

NASA Ames Research Center | NASA Glenn Research Center





# PTD Management and Governance



## NASA Management

Program Executive: Christopher Baker, NASA HQ

Program Manager: Roger Hunter, NASA ARC

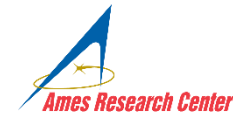
Deputy PM: Elwood Agasid, NASA ARC

Project SE: Darin Foreman, NASA ARC

Project Eng: John Hanson Ph.D., NASA ARC

Payload Lead: Fred Elliot, NASA GRC

Payload Lead: John Marmie, NASA ARC



## Tyvak Management

Charles Player

Todd Mosher

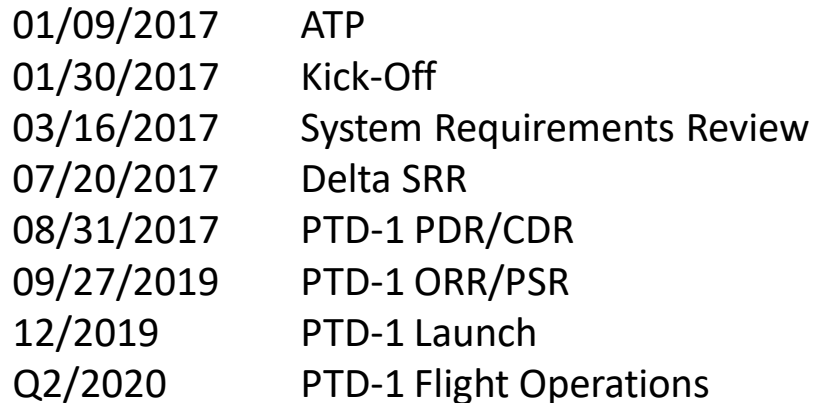


## PTD Governance

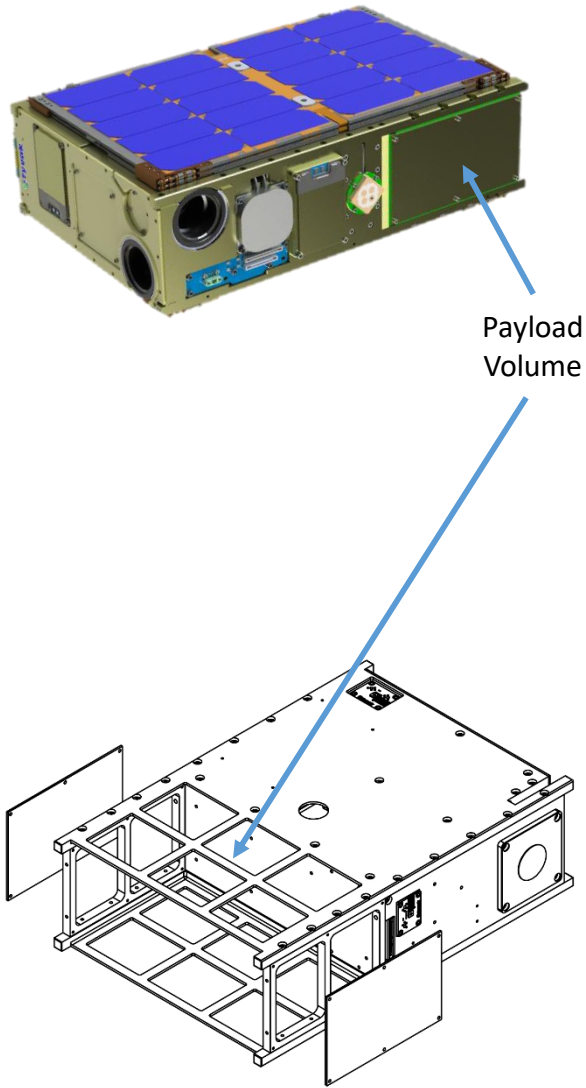
PTD is being managed under NPR 7120.8.

## NASA Research and Technology Program and Project Management Requirements

- 7120.8 supports development and demonstration of enabling technologies that will be infused in future NASA missions.

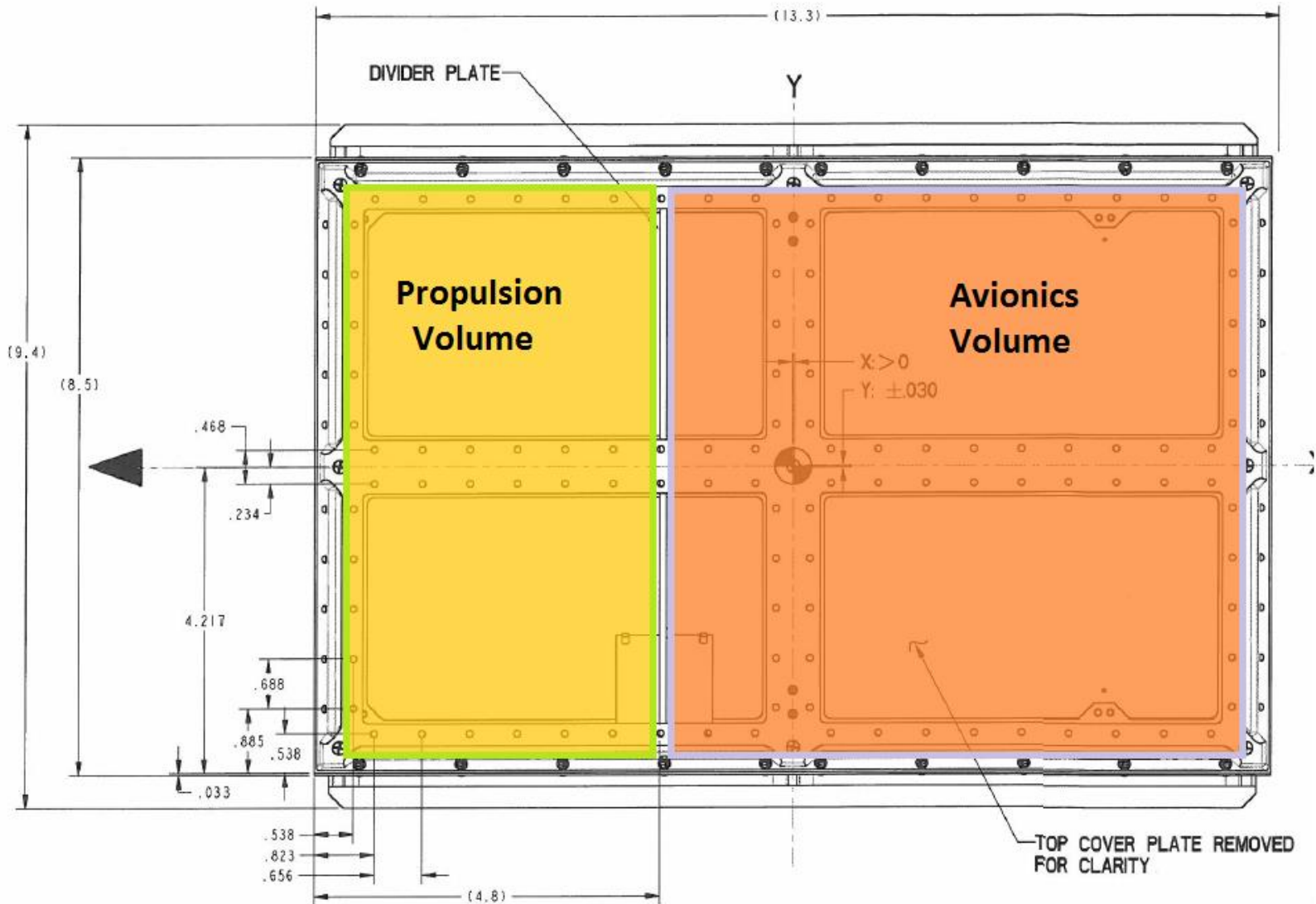


# Spacecraft Characteristics



System Characteristics	
Size	6U (10 X 20 X 30 cm)
Mass	12 kg (includes 3kg for payload)
Payload Power	180 W Peak Power 45W Orbit Average Power 5W Survival Power
Communications	UHF/S-band
ADCS	3-Axis Stabilized 120 arcsec Pointing 5 arcsec Knowledge
C&DH Heritage	PROPCUBE
Payload Volume	209.5 mm (W) x 96 mm (H) x 145 mm (D) (~ 2.4 U)
Payload Comms	RS-422 Asynchronous

# PTD Geometric View



\*Notional design, TBS after RFP award



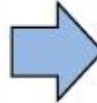
# PTD-1: Operational Concept

## ❖ Spacecraft Checkouts

- Mix of automatic and manual checkouts
- Star tracker alignment verification
- GNC system performance verification
- Solar Array performance verification

## ❖ Payload Checkouts

- Power and verify connectivity
- Enable Payload Self-Tests (if available)



## ❖ Payload Operations

- Slews to fixed orientation in local velocity frame
- Maintains constant orientation
- Enable Collection of payload data
  - GPS data for propulsive payload maneuvers

## ❖ Secondary Mission

- Communicate using Globalstar system



## ❖ Launch

- Spacecraft powered off for launch, contained within deployer
- Uncertainties in orbital insertion expected

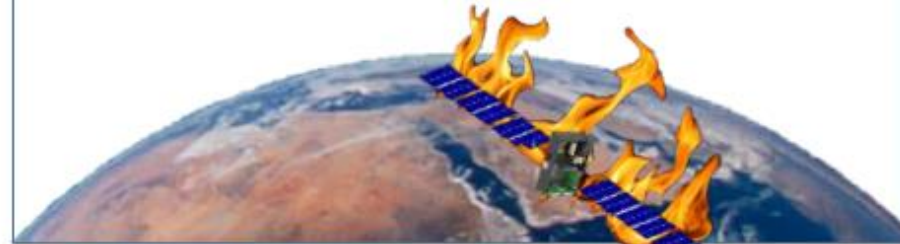
## ❖ Deployment from Dispenser

- Spacecraft boots up when physical inhibit switches are released
- Significant body spin rates from deployer springs and Upper state rotation
- UHF antenna and solar array deployment
- ADCS-managed automatic detumble



## ❖ Spacecraft Disposal

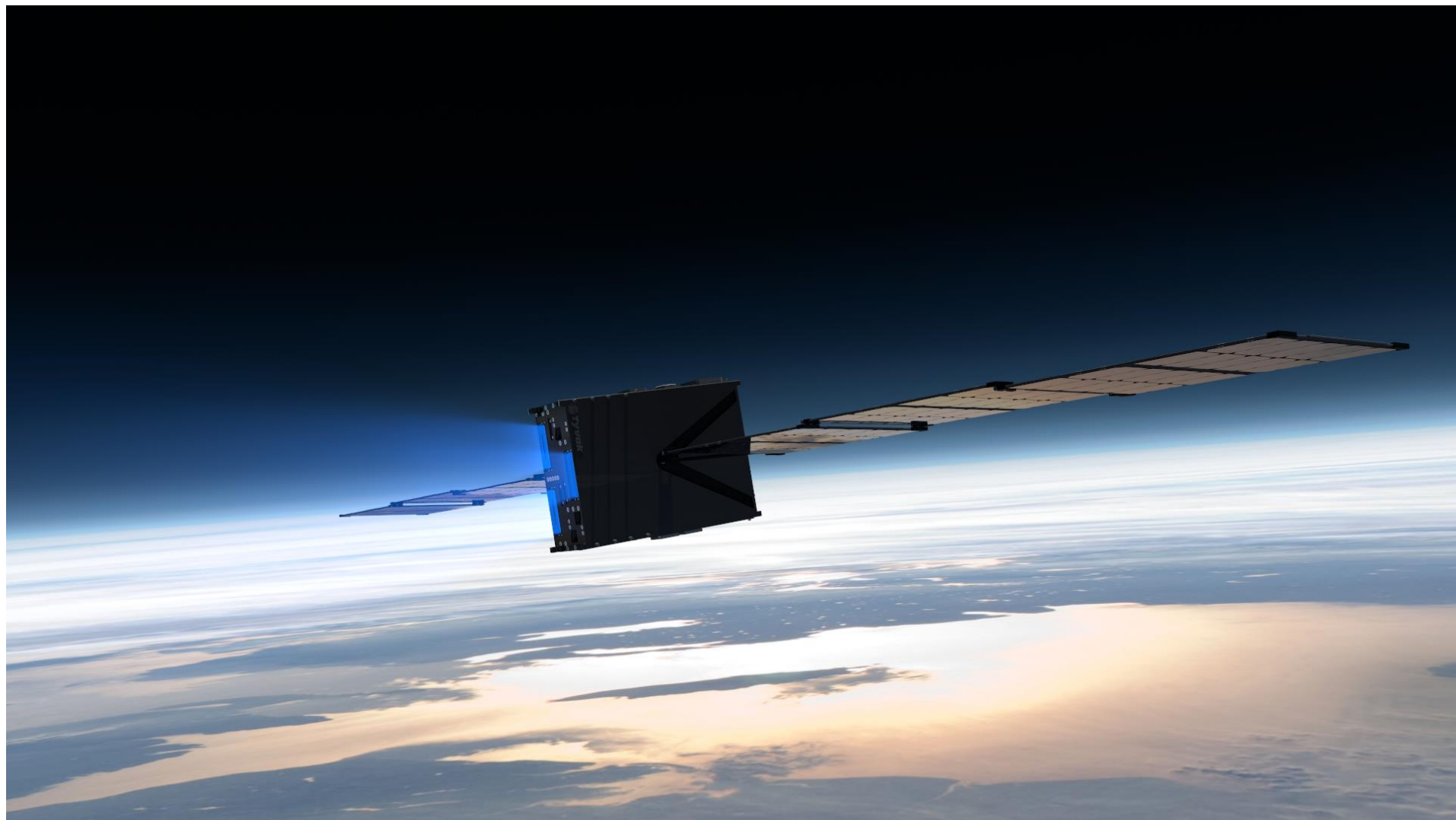
- Inhibit charging & solar array motion once all operations are completed
  - End of mission fuse
- Consume / Vent all remaining propellant
- Discharge all energy storage devices
- Spacecraft reenters within L-25 years





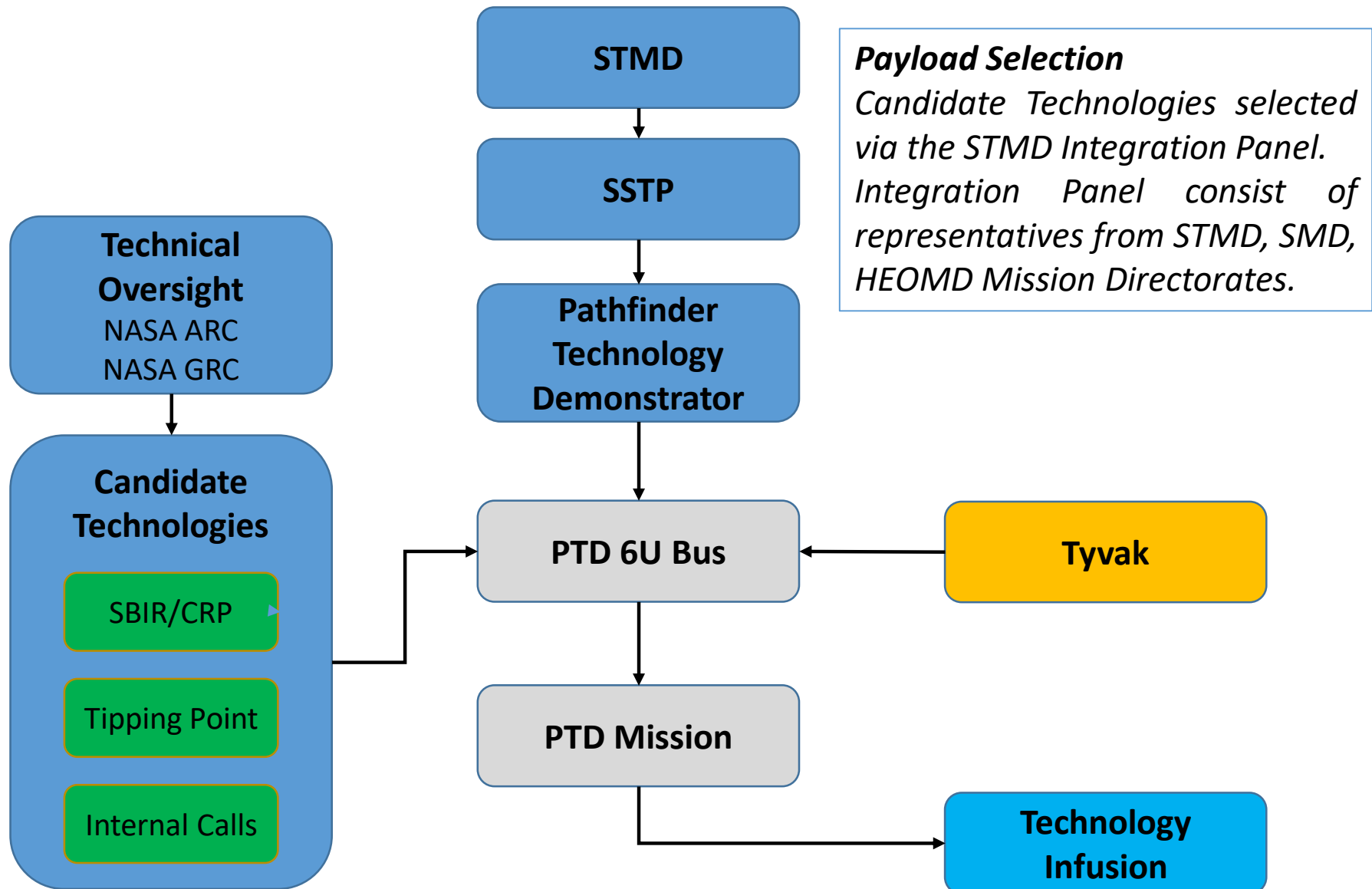
# PTD – 1 PAYLOADS

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration





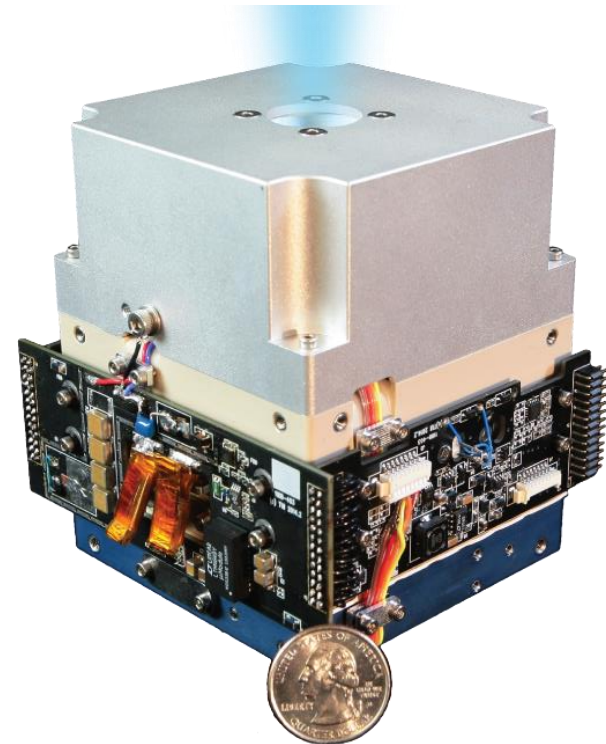
# PTD Mission Development





# TUI HYDROS H<sub>2</sub>O THRUSTER

Metric	Accommodation Interface Goal
Thrust	1 N
I <sub>sp</sub>	300s
Power	7 W Orbit Averaged Power
Mass	1 kg (Dry)
Volume	1000 cc (1U)
Conditioning	6-36V unregulated DC
Communications	RS422 / SpaceWire
Environment	Qualified to GEVS
Location	Face Mounted / CG-Aligned





# Blue Canyon Hyper-XACT

- Extension of XACT ADCS module capabilities to higher performance, lower risk posture missions requiring low jitter 3-axis reaction wheel control
- Hyper-XACT sensor/actuator suite
  - 1 Nano Star Tracker
  - 3-4 Reaction wheels
  - 3 Torque rods
  - 1 Magnetometer
  - 1 IMU
  - 1-4 Quad-diode coarse sun sensor packages
- Major enhancements from baseline XACT in the following areas:
  - Improved attitude determination error, attitude control error
  - Improved high frequency jitter performance
  - Enhanced lifetime: radiation sensitivity and mitigation
  - Multi-layer fault protection
  - Mission life
- Performs high-level commanded behaviors including multiple pointing reference frames: Inertial, LVLH, Earth-Fixed Target Tracking, Solar, Moon, etc.

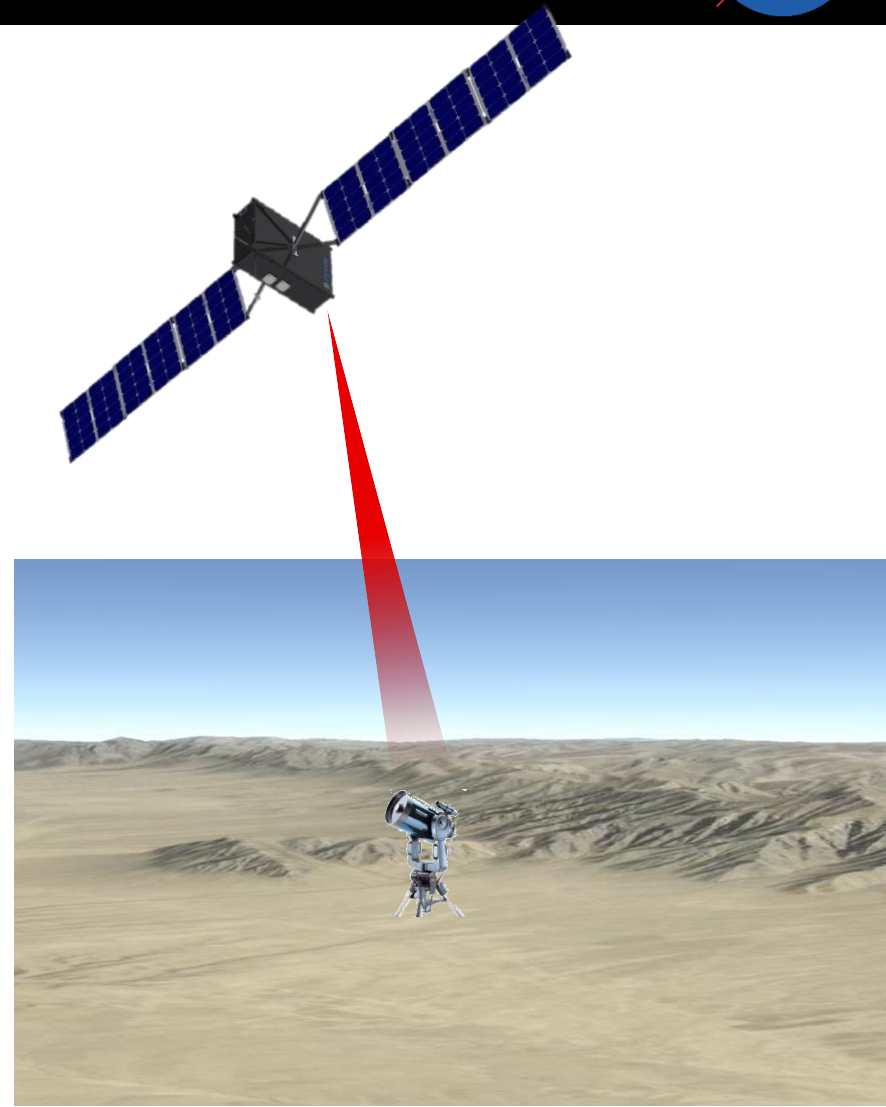


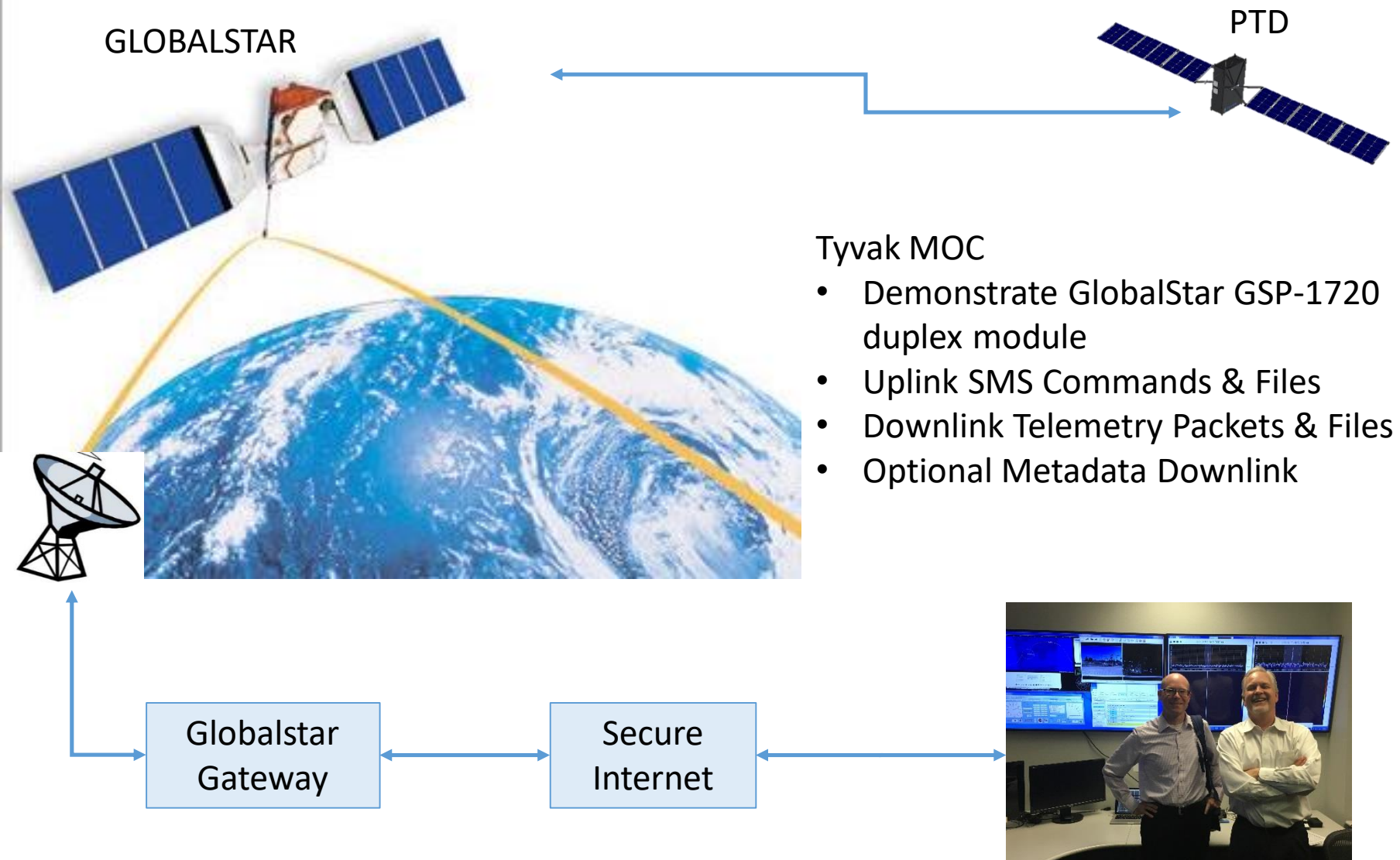
# Lincoln TBIRD Optical Terminal

Metric	Target
Form-factor	CubeSat
Data Rate	200 Gbps
Daily Data Rate	5-10 TB/day
Ground Station	Low cost 30 cm terminal
High rate buffer & transceiver electronics	

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