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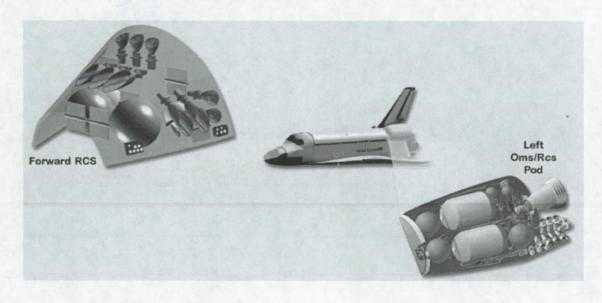
Reaction Control Systems (RCS)

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What is RCS?

- **Provides the thrust on the space shuttle for:**
 - Attitude maneuvers pitch, yaw, and roll
 - Small velocity changes along the orbiter axis
- **Comprised of three systems:**
 - Forward RCS
 - Aft RCS (right and left)

Locations of RCS

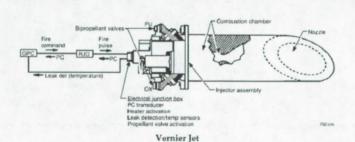


Reaction control systems are used for:

- **Attitude control during re-entry**
- **Station keeping in orbit**
- **Close maneuvering during docking procedures**
- Control of orientation
- ❖ As a backup means of de-orbiting

Each RCS System Consists of:

- * High-pressure gaseous helium storage tanks
- **❖** Pressure regulation and relief systems
- ❖ A fuel tank (MMH)
- ❖ An oxidizer tank (N₂O₄)
- * A distribution system
- ***** Electrical heaters
- ***** Thrusters



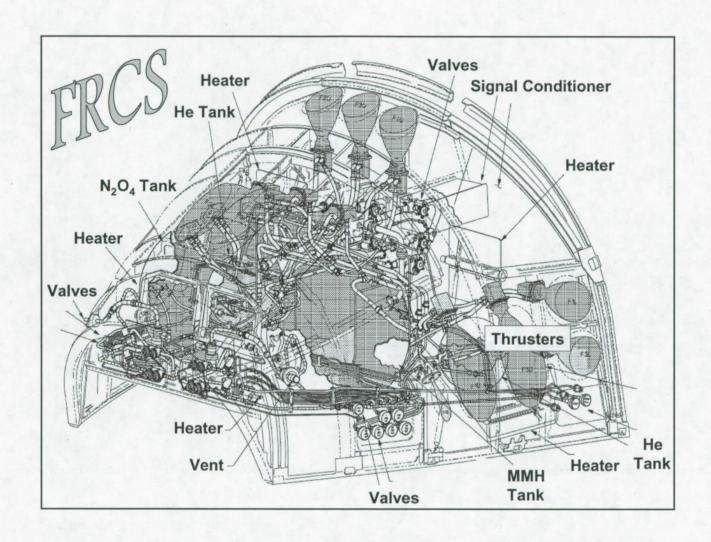


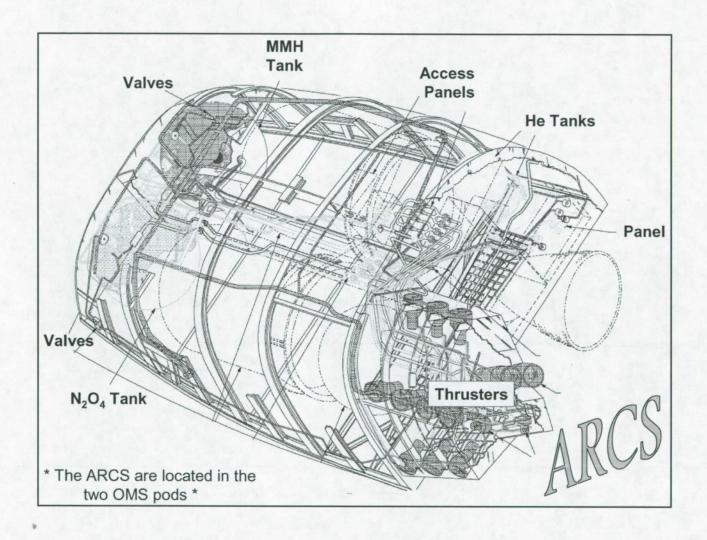
Oxidizer / Fuel Tank

Iso Valve



Manual Valve





Distribution System

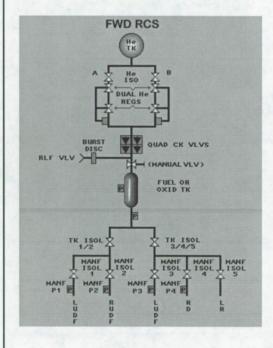
- **❖** Tank and manifold isolation valves, crossfeed valves, regulators, and distribution lines
- **❖** Valves open / close through pressure gradients
- **❖** Oxidizer and fuel are supplied under pressure to the RCS jet thrusters where they atomize, ignite, and produce a hot gas and thrust

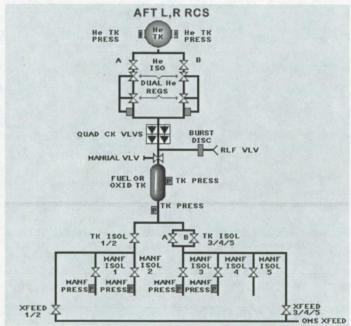
Engine Specs

- ❖ Primary ~ 14 in FRCS and 12 in each ARCS pod
 - 870 lbs thrust each
- ❖ Vernier ~ 2 in FRCS and 2 in each ARCS pod
 - 24 lbs thrust each
- * N₂O₄ to MMH ratio for each engine is 1.6 to 1

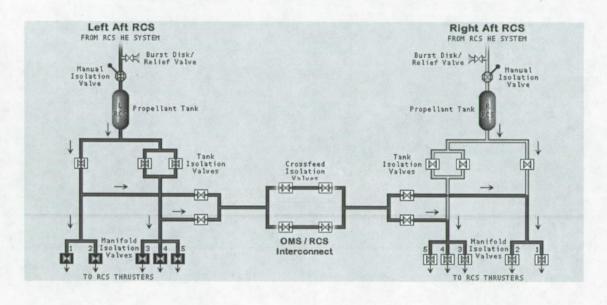


RCS Block Diagrams





RCS Block Diagrams cont.



References

- * www.nasa.gov
- http://science.ksc.nasa.gov
- **United Space Alliance**

REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

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