Design of Electrical Systems for Rocket Propulsion Test Facilities at the John C. Stennis Space Center

Space Shuttle Main Engine Test @ A2 Test Stand

RS-68 650 klbf @ B1 Test Stand

Fastrac 60 klbf @ B2 Test Stand

RELEASED - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
**Design of Electrical Systems for Rocket Propulsion Test Facilities at the John C. Stennis Space Center**

- NASA/SSC’s Mission in Rocket Propulsion Testing Is to Acquire Test Performance Data for Verification, Validation and Qualification of Propulsion Systems Hardware
  - Accurate
  - Reliable
  - Comprehensive
  - Timely

- Data Acquisition in a Rocket Propulsion Test Environment Is Challenging
  - Severe Temporal Transient Dynamic Environments
  - Large Thermal Gradients
  - Vacuum to 15k psi pressure regimes

- SSC Has Developed and Employs DAS, Control Systems and Robust Instrumentation that Effectively Satisfies these Challenges

- The Following Presentation Reviews SSC’s Data Acquisition and Controls Architectures
Agenda

- Background – SSC EE Org & Test Facilities
- High/Low Speed Data Acquisition Systems
- Control Systems
- Data Acquisition and Control Systems Lab
- Unique Sensor Development Activities
Stennis Space Center

**Design & Analysis Division**

- **Mechanical and Component Systems**
  - Cryogenic Propellant Systems
  - Storable Propellant Systems & HPIW
  - Hydraulics/pneumatics Systems
  - Press Gas/Purge Systems (TBA)
  - Components
  - Materials
  - Ancillary Systems
    - TMS, Measurement Uncertainty
    - Standards & Specifications

- **Electrical Systems & Software**
  - Data Acquisition
  - Instrumentation & Signal Conditioning
  - Controls & Simulation
  - DACS Lab Management
  - Data Systems Management
  - Ancillary Systems/Electrical Power

- **Systems Analysis & Modeling**
  - Modeling and Analysis development and integration into RPT
  - Fluid Mechanics/Thermal Analysis of Propellant Systems
    - Liquid
    - Gas
  - CFD
  - Structures/Loads Analysis
  - Thermal/Heat Transfer Analysis

**Organization Goal:**

- Develop and maintain propulsion test systems and facilities engineering competencies
  - Unique and focused technical knowledge across respective engineering disciplines applied to rocket propulsion testing. e.g.,
    - Materials selection and associated database management
    - Piping, electrical and data acquisition systems design for cryogenic, high flow, high pressure propellant supply regimes
    - Associated analytic modeling and systems analysis disciplines and techniques

**Release Note:** Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
SSC Test Facilities

AB-Complex

A-1 Full Scale Engine Devt. & Cert

A-2

J-2X

SSME

B-1/B-2 Full Scale Engine/Stage Devt. & Cert

RS-68/ARES

Components …Engines … Stages

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E-Complex

E-1
Cells 1, 2, 3
High Press., Full Scale
Engine Components

E-2
Cell 1
High Press.
Mid-Scale
& Subscale

E-2
Cell 2
Low Press. Mid-Scale
& Subscale, Stage

E-3
Cell 4
High Press. Small-Scale
Subscale

J-2X

TGV

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Stennis Space Center

Test Facility Layout

Facility S/C: PSC 9355, MFA 70A, PCB 481A and Dynamics 6163 Amps

 released - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
Test Control Centers

A2 TCC

E2 TCC

Test Conductor's Station
Signal Conditioning Buildings (SCB)

E1 SCB
Signal Conditioning Rack

E2 Cell 1
SCB 1
Controls Racks

E2 SCB's
1 & 2

RELEASED - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
Typical Test Articles

Integrated Powerhead Demonstrator

LR-89
Test Facility Electrical Systems

- Communications System
- **Control System**
- Facility Fire Alarm System
- Fire & Gas Leak Detect System
- Grounding System
- **High Speed Data Acquisition System**
- Lighting System
- Lightning Protection System
- **Low Speed Data Acquisition System**
- Oral Warning System
- Power Distribution System
- Uninterruptible Power System
- Video System

**DACS Lab/Sensor Development**
High Speed Data Acquisition Systems (HSDAS)

Mark Hughes
High Speed Data Acquisition System

- The High Speed Data Acquisition System is used to record rocket engine or component data from a variety of dynamic sensors.

- Sampling rates normally range from 5.12K to 204.8K samples per second (For Comparison, the Low Speed Data Acquisition System ranges from 1 to 250 samples per second.)

- High speed data provides the Analyst with information about the dynamic environment/condition of a test article. The data feeds models that characterize the performance of the test article or allows the analyst to help determine the health of the hardware.

- Challenges to recording good high speed data include the environment (high temperatures, vibration, high flow, cryogenic temperatures, high pressure), proper cabling, appropriate sensor election, and numerous other considerations.

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High Speed Data Acquisition Systems

- **RACAL (Obsolete)** - 100,000 Samples Per Second *(Decimal Sampling)*
  - AB-Complex (SSME)
  - E-Complex (TGV)

- **MIDDAS (SSME Only)** - 51,200 Samples Per Second *(Binary Sampling)*
  - A Complex (SSME Only)

- **DataMAX II (New)** - 204,800 Samples Per Second *(Binary & Decimal Sampling)*
  - AB Complex (RS-68, J-2X)
  - E Complex

NOTE: This System is being replaced.

RELEASED - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
Typical HSDAS Bandwidth Usage

MIDDAS
Data MAX
HSDAS BANDWIDTH USAGE (102.4K SPS)

0 dB
-3 dB
-20 dB
-40 dB
-60 dB
-80 dB
-96 dB
5 KHz 10 KHz 20 KHz 25 KHz 26 KHz 28 KHz 30 KHz 36 KHz 40 KHz 50 KHz

-3 dB Down @ 40 KHz

Normal SSME Frequencies
Recent SSME Frequencies
Max WSTF Frequencies
Accelerometer Natural Frequencies

REleased - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
RACAL HSDAS

- **Obsolete** - Being Replaced by DataMAX II HSDAS
- Decimal Sampling Only
- AB-Complex Use Ends in 2007, E-Complex by 2010

**Specifications**
- 128 Channels
- 100K Samples Per Second
- 45.5 KHz Bandwidth
- 16 Bit Delta-Sigma A/D Conversion
- .5, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 50 Volts Peak

**Diagram**

SCB
- SPU-32
- SPU-32
- SPU-32
- SPU-32

TCC
- TTU-32
- TTU-32
- TTU-32
- TTU-32

F/O

RELEASED - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
MIDDAS HSDAS

• SSME Use Only
• Binary Sampling
• Backed up by a DataMAX II
• Used for Quick Turnaround Data

Specifications

- 128 Channels
- 51.2K Samples Per Second
- 23 KHz Bandwidth
- 16 Bit Delta-Sigma A/D Conversion
- .1, .2, .5, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 Volts Peak

No SCB Hardware
Results in Cable Lengths of around 1700 FT

RELEASED - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
DataMAX II HSDAS

- Mirrored Data Recording
- Binary & Decimal Sampling
- Rates up to 204.8 K SPS
- Fast Turnaround and Archive Data

Specifications
- 192 Channels
- 204.8K Samples Per Second
- 90 KHz Bandwidth
- 16 Bit Delta-Sigma A/D Conversion
- 1, 4, 10, 40 Volts Peak

SCB

Recorder 32
Recorder 32
Recorder 32
Recorder 32

F/O

F/O

Mirror PC

Mirror PC

TCC

Redundant Data Storage

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DataMAX II HSDAS

32 Channel Recorders

Mirrored Drives in the TCC
DataMAX II
Planned for B2 Test Complex

Stennis Space Center
Gigabit Gear

DataMAX Playback
DataMAX Recorders

Test Facility

LCD
KVM
Keyboard/mouse drawer
Rack PC
UPS

192 Channels

RELEASED - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
DataMAX II
Planned for B2 Test Complex

KVM
USB HDD’s
Rack PC

Test Control Center

Gigabit Gear
DataMAX Remotes

Stennis Space Center

RELEASED - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
Typical High Speed Data Acquisition
System Instrumentation

- FACILITY
- SPECIAL TEST EQUIPMENT
- TEST ARTICLE

Typical Instrumentation not always in the Catalog
- Special Ranges
- Temp Compensation
- Special Materials

Accelerometer
Strain

Dynamic Pressure
Accelerometer
Strain
Proximity
Speed

Typical High Speed DAS Instrumentation

RELEASED - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
Typical High Speed Data Acquisition System Instrumentation

- Strain
- Dynamic Pressure
- Speed
- Accelerometer
E-Complex High Speed Data Processing System

Stennis Space Center

Printer
HP 9000N

Processor HP J6750
Operating HP-UX
Application PV-Wave

RACAL Storeplex Playback Unit

SCSI II

Processor HP J6750
Operating HP-UX
Application PV-Wave

Internet (Secure FTP)

Printer
HP 9000N

SCSI II

Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
E-Complex High Speed Data Processing System

HP J6750 Unix Workstations

- Twin 875 MHz RISC Processors
- 4 GB RAM
- 72 GB Storage
Low Speed Data Acquisition Systems

Dawn Davis
SSC's Low Speed

Data Acquisition Systems

- Data acquisition, recording, real time display
  - **Data types:** Low frequency Analog Data, Discrete (event) Data, Pulse Data from flow meters and speed sensors
    - **E-Complex Tustin** - 250 samples per second
    - **AB-Complex PreSys 1000** - 250 samples per second

RELEASED - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
E-Complex Low Speed Data Acquisition System Architecture
The E-Complex consists of three test stands

- **E1**
  - Contains four separate data systems: facility, Cell 1, Cell 2, Cell 3
  - Each system contains 512 analog input channels and 320 discrete channels
  - Two systems run during a test: Facility and cell

- **E2**
  - Contains two separate data systems: Cell 1 and Cell 2
  - Each system contains 400 analog input channels and 420 discrete channels
  - Systems include both facility and test cell measurements

- **E3**
  - Contains one data systems for both cells
  - System contains 400 analog input channels and 312 discrete channels
E-Complex
Low Speed Data Acquisition System

Stennis Space Center

Tustin Data System

- Fully populated analog box
  - 128 analog input channels

- Fully populated discrete box
  - 320 digital input channels
E-Complex
Low Speed Data Acquisition System

Pacific Instruments Signal Conditioners

- Model 9355
  - Programmable
    - Gain, filter, excitation
  - Automated Calibration
    - Voltage Insertion
    - Shunt
    - Rcal
  - Various Completion Cards
    - Full Bridge, Half Bridge
    - Internal or external shunt resistors
    - ICP
  - Measurements
    - RTD’s
    - Pressure Transducers
    - Strain Gauges

RELEASED - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
E-Complex
Low Speed Data Acquisition System

Pacific Instruments Amplifiers

Model 70A

- **Manual Settings**
  - Gain, filter

- **Calibrations**
  - Automated through use of additional hardware

- **Measurements**
  - TC’s
  - Transmitters
  - Require no excitation

RELEASED - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
E-Complex
Low Speed Data Acquisition System

Calibration Bus

Test Control Center
- GPIB Bus Extender
- System Controller (PC)
- Tustin CCIS

Signal Conditioning Building
- GPIB Bus Extender
- Programmable Signal Conditioner
- Voltage Standard
- Function Generator
- Programmable Relay
- Programmable Relay
- Manual Filter Amplifier

Cables:
- GPIB Cable
- Fiber Cable
- Multi-conductor Cable

RELEASED - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
All of the E-Complex Low Speed DAS software is developed in LabVIEW:

- LSDAS Control Software
- Display Screens
- Calibration Software
- Measurement System Analysis (MSA’s) Software

RELEASED - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
E-Complex
Low Speed Data Acquisition System

Software

- Low Speed DAS Control Software
  - Used for operation and configuration of the LSDAS Hardware
  - Capability to place system in various modes: Standby, Test, Pre-test, Post-test, Display
  - Saves data to hard-drive
  - Distributes data for remote display
E-Complex
Low Speed Data Acquisition System

Software

- Low Speed DAS Display Software
  - Tabular and numerical display of measurements
  - Analog and digital data
E-Complex
Low Speed Data Acquisition System

Software

- **Calibration Software**
  - Voltage insertion, shunt calibration
  - Calibrate to a tolerance
  - All or subset of channels
  - Generates Report

- **Additional Functions**
  - Setup of programmable amplifiers: gain, filter, excitation
  - Auto-balance
  - Single Channel Diagnostics
Software

◆ Calibration Software

Main Page

Single Channel Operations

RELEASED - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
E-Complex
Low speed Data Acquisition System

Software
- Calibration Software

Channel Diagnostics
Report

RELEASED - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
Software

- **Measurement System Analysis Software**

  - Purpose is to quantify a system precision for the LSDAS by evaluating the drift over time of the data system.

  - It consists of a two point calibration performed every hour during an eight hour time span. This is to simulate the maximum time between a pre-test calibration and a test.

  - MSA is performed every thirty days.

  - Reports are generated and data is stored in database.

  - Data from previous runs are used to generate the system precision and to maintain a history of the data system’s response.
E-Complex
Low Speed Data Acquisition System

Software

- Measurement System Analysis Software

Main Screen
# E-Complex

**Low Speed Data Acquisition System**

## Software

- **Measurement System Analysis Software**

## Measurement System Analysis

In progress

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**Hourly Report**
E-Complex
Low Speed Data Acquisition System

Software

- Measurement System Analysis Software

RELEASED - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
AB-Complex Architecture
Low Speed Data Acquisition System

INNER CORE of TEST STAND

INTER-CONNECT CABLEING RBs & PATCH PANELS

PRESTON 8300AU SIGNAL CONDITIONER RS & AMPLIFIERS

SENSORS TRANSDUCERS

IRIG-B TIME SOURCE

HIGH LEVEL INPUTS (+/- 10V)

PRIMARY PRESYS MULTIPLEXER

 PRIMARY EVENT LOGGER

 PRIMARY DATA LOGGER

IEEE 488

ETHERNET

FIBER OPTIC

HUB

INNER CORE of TEST STAND

PRIMARY PRESYS EVENTS

 PRIMARY DAS PC

 PRIMARY DISPLAY PC

IEEE 488

ETHERNET

HUB

OUTER CORE of TEST STAND

SECONDARY PRESYS MULTIPLEXER

SECONDARY EVENTS PC

SECONDARY DISPLAY PC

IEEE 488

ETHERNET

HUB

SECONDARY EVENTS PC

SECONDARY DAS PC

SECONDARY DATA LOGGER

SECONDARY EVENT LOGGER

PRIMARY EVENTS PC

SECONDARY EVENTS PC

SECONDARY DATA LOGGER

SECONDARY EVENT LOGGER

SECONDARY DISPLAY PC

Outer Core - Test Stand

Primary Difference with E-Complex
Redundant Data Recording (2nd A/D)

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AB-Complex Architecture
Low Speed Data Acquisition System

The AB-Complex consists of four test stands

- A1, A2, B1, B2 (B1/B2 one structure with two distinct sides)
  - Systems contain 512 analog input channels and 736 digital input channels
  - Each system contains a primary and secondary system for redundancy. Data from the secondary system is only processed if a problem occurs on the primary system.
AB-Complex Architecture
Low Speed Data Acquisition System
Stennis Space Center

PreSys 1000

- Fully populated analog box
  - 256 analog input channels

- Fully populated discrete box
  - 480 digital input channels
Preston Amplifiers

- **Model 8300**
  - **Programmable**
    - Gain, filter, excitation
  - **Automated calibration**
    - Voltage Insertion
    - Shunt
    - Rcal
  - **Various Mode Cards**
    - Strain Gauge
    - Full Bridge, Half Bridge
    - RTD
    - Thermocouple
  - **Measurements**
    - Strain Gauges
    - Pressure Transducers
    - RTD’s
    - Thermocouples
AB-Complex Architecture
Low Speed data acquisition System

Calibration Control

Cal Control PC

Voltage Standard

Function Generator

Digital MultiMeter

Preston 8300 Master Controller

Analogic ANDS5400

Or

Neff 470

Selector Control Panels

GPIB Cable

PreSys Events

PreSys MUX

Annadex Cal Relays

Test Stand Select Relay

Test Control Center

Cal Control PC

Voltage Standard

Function Generator

Digital MultiMeter

Analogic ANDS5400

Or

Neff 470

Selector Control Panels

GPIB Cable

PreSys Events

PreSys MUX

Annadex Cal Relays

Test Stand Select Relay

Test Control Center
Software

Software consists of:

- Signal Conditioning Setup
- Measurement Calibration
- Data Acquisition and Real-time Display
- Measurement System Analysis
Software

- **Software written in Microsoft Visual Basic** provides computer controlled setups and calibration of the Preston signal conditioners and amplifiers.

**Signal Conditioning Setup – **Set8300
- Select gain, filter
- Setup and adjustment of individual signal conditioners and amplifiers

**Calibration – **CalMon
- Automatic calibrations on any number of selected signal conditioners
- Calibrate all active measurements pre-test
- Calibration Types
  - Shunt Calibration
  - Voltage Substitution
  - Excitation Power Supply Calibration
  - External Calibration
Software

- **Data Acquisition and Real-time Display – DDAS**
  - Provides for the control of the data acquisition process and the distribution of data for real-time display
  - Combines both the analog and discrete data

- **Measurement System Analysis**
  - Software originally developed by Rocketdyne
  - Purpose is to quantify a system precision for the LSDAS by evaluating the drift over time of the data system.
  - It consists of a two point calibration performed every hour during an eight hour time span. This is to simulate the maximum time between a pre-test calibration and a test.
Typical Low Speed Data Acquisition System Instrumentation

**FACILITY**
- Static Pressure
- Radiometer
- Temperature
  - Flow
- LVDT
- Level
- Load Cell

**SPECIAL TEST EQUIPMENT**
- Static Pressure
- Temperature
  - Flow
- LVDT
- Strain

**TEST ARTICLE**
- Static Pressure
- Temperature
  - Flow
- LVDT
- Strain
- Proximity
- Speed

- **Standard Instrumentation - Not always in the Catalog**
  - Special Ranges (Cryogenics, Hundreds of Degrees F)
  - Special temperature compensation circuits
  - Special Materials
  - Extremely High Pressures

RELEASED - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
Typical Low Speed Data Acquisition System Instrumentation

- Pressure
  - Transmitter
  - Delta P
  - Transmitter

- Temperature
  - Thermocouples
  - RTD’s

- Flow
  - Venturi Flowmeter
  - Turbine Flowmeter

- Speed
  - Transmitter

- Strain
  - Strain Gauges

*RELEASED - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.*
Control Systems
John Bakker
Control Systems

- The Control System manages the test complex and rocket engine or component systems during day-to-day operations and testing while maintaining a safe environment allowing for orderly test shutdown and making facility systems safe in emergency situations.

- Programmable Logic Controllers (PLCs) form the backbone of the SSC Control Systems.

- PLCs primary functions are to sequence rocket engine or component tests and maintain daily operations.

- Hard-wired controls are provided as a backup to the PLCs.
Control Systems Functions

Day to Day Operations

- Unloading cryogenics/propellants (Oxygen, Hydrogen, Nitrogen, Methane, etc.)
- Propellant transfers from storage to run tanks
- Pumping up bottle pressures (Nitrogen, hydrogen, helium etc.)
- Gas leak and fire detection.
- Engine drying
- Facility Readiness Test (FRTs)
- Redline cut checks (Redlines are measurements that are monitored by the PLC for the purpose of initiating an immediate shut down when out of tolerance.)
Control Systems Functions

Test Day Operations

- Propellant Transfers
- Engine chill down and prep
- Greenline monitoring (Permissives to start test.)
- Test stand valve sequencing and control during hot fire test
- Redline monitoring during hot fire test
- Performs a controlled shutdown of the engine
  - Critical valves are also wired to a backup PLC or relays
E1 Test Stand Control System

◆ Three Independent Test Cells
  • Can support three different test programs simultaneously
  • All test cells share the same propellant run tanks, high pressure bottles, Control System etc.
  • Control system must be flexible enough to switch between test cells in twenty four hours

◆ Most Generic PLC (Ladder Logic) of Any Test Facility
  • System is configured entirely through Excel
  • Excel tables can be configured in advance and downloaded on test day.
  • Excel tables can be archived for historical reference
E1 Control System Layout

Facility S/C: PSC 9355, MFA 70A, PCB 481A and Dynamics 6163 Amps

Tustin LSDAS

Racal HSDAS

Control Consoles Includes PLC Racks

PLCs

A-B SLC 500 & Control Logix

CABLE TERM. ENCL.

Disc Vlv

Instruments Analog Vlv

Facility S/C

Tustin

Racal

FEED THROUGH CABLE COMPRESSION BOX

DRAG-ONS

CABLE BOX (RB, TEB)

STE/TA Instruments STE Valves

RELEASED - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
E1 PLC Network Design

Stennis Space Center

Eplex 100BaseT Switcher
E1 TCC 100BaseT Switcher
100Mb F.O.
Workstations

E1 SCB 100BaseT Switcher

10BaseT Hub

PLCs

DH-485

Control Room

Deluge Pump Station

SCB

RELEASED - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
E1 A-B SLC PLC Cabinet

- Dedicated STE PLC for Cell 2
  64 DO  80 AI
  12 AO  128 DI

- Shared Display PLC
  80 AI
  32 DI

Typical E1 SLC Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) Installation

Stennis Space Center

Released - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
E1 PLC Architecture with Parallel SLC Input/Output (I/O) Cards

Advantage: Fast Throughput
- Multiple Processors

Disadvantages:
- Only three racks of I/O per processor
- Parallel cables are short

RELEASED - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
Test Stand E2 Cell 1 Signal Conditioning Bldg 1 Controls I/O

Stennis Space Center

PLC I/O Cards

RELEASED - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
A/B/E2 PLC Architecture

Advantages: One Processor
Much larger I/O count
Using greater distances

Disadvantages:
Throughput slowed by serial communications

PLC-5/80 & I/O
Remote I/O
Remote I/O
Controlnet
Remote I/O
Remote I/O
Remote I/O
Controlnet
Remote I/O
Remote I/O
Remote I/O
Controlnet
Remote I/O
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Remote I/O

67

RELEASED - Printed documents may be obsolete; validate prior to use.
SSC PLC Architecture Changes

- Migration to faster PLCs in a Distributed Architecture outside the E1 Test Facility
  - A-Complex Redline System
  - A-Complex Fire & Gas Leak Detect System
  - B-Complex Redline System
  - B-Complex Fire & Gas Leak Detect System in design
  - E3 Redline System

Control Logix 5000 PLC
Test Control Center with Human Machine Interface (HMI) Screens

Stennis Space Center

Hard Wired Controls

Controls HMI
Data Acquisition & Control Systems Lab (DACS Lab)

Scott Jensen
The DACS Lab is a facility designed to provide an off-stand capability for developing data acquisition and control systems in support of testing.

- Safe and controlled environment allows verification and development without impacting project schedules or compromising pre-existing test hardware, software, networks or configurations.
- Useful in the identification and resolution of significant issues with equipment and configuration functionality prior to activation.
- Servo valve control capability and personnel’s expertise have been utilized to expedite mission critical valve integrity checks prior to field installation.
- Helps to eliminate facility downtime and test delays.
- Provides for hands-on training, qualifying spares, market evaluations, minor equipment repairs, and familiarization with data acquisition and controls equipment.
DACS Lab

Stennis Space Center

DAS Station

Controls Station

Sensor Workstation

Controls Checkout Cart

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Sensor Development
Sensors Needed to Monitor Valve Health

**High-Geared Ball Valves**
- Torsional shaft strain
- Total valve cycles
- Cryogenic valve cycles
- Inlet temperature
- Outlet temperature
- Body temperature

**Linearly Actuated Valves**
- Linear bonnet strain
- Total linear travel
- Total directional changes
- Valve preload position
- Inlet temperature
- Outlet temperature
- Body temperature
Confined Locations

- **Sensor Size**
  - 2½ X 3 X 4 inch

- **Wireless**
  - 35 foot transmission radius
  - Added data security
  - 902-928 MHz band
  - Compliance with FFC

- **Battery powered**
  - Two battery packs
  - with two 9 Volts supplies
Wireless Sensor Development

- No exposed cavities
- 9 Volts at 250 milliamp
- Limited operational power
- No exposed arcing points
- Shutdown 150°F
- Internal temperature monitoring
- M.G. Chemicals Blue-epoxy flame retardant 832FRB
- Enclosed in Potting
- Compliant with NEC article 501
- NEC Class I Division II B Hazards

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Wireless Sensor Development

- **Power Conservative**
  - One-Way Communications
    - Linx HP3 transmitter and receiver modules
  - Microprocessor Sleep Mode
  - Piezoelectronic Wake-Up Circuitry
    - Measurement Specialties LDT series

- **Accurate Data Synchronization**
  - IRIG-B Timing Module
    - Facility correlation
  - Communication Bus
    - Internal data correlation
Wireless Sensor Development

◆ **Automatic and Manual Data Access**
  
  • **Memory storage Network capable**
    Compact flash card memory access
    ARMA Design Inc.
  
  • **Network capable**
    Ethernet broadcast I-7188E
    ICS DataCom Inc.

◆ **Setup and Maintenance**
  
  • **Simple Human interface**
    Switch and Indicator light
  
  • **On-board programmer interface**
    Serial communications
    Software updates
The K-Type thermocouples sensor
(for inlet, outlet, and body temperature monitoring)
- Monolithic thermocouple amplifier from Analog Devices
- Uses cold junction compensation

The strain instrumentation sensor
(for bonnet and torsional strain monitoring)
- Axial Strain by a Vishay precision quarter bridge
- Biaxial Strain by a Vishay precision half bridge
- Shear Strain by a Vishay precision full bridge
Wireless Sensor Development

- **Limit switch sensor**
  
  (for monitoring number of cycle)
  
  - 6 magnetic reed switches
  - 4 input with wake-up abilities

- **Signal interface sensor**
  
  (for Linear Voltage Differential Transformer (LVDT) monitoring)
  
  - 4 to 20 milliamp current loop signal
  
  Giant Magneto Resistive (GMR) from
  
  Unobtrusively monitors magnetic fields
  
  - 0 to 10 volts Direct Current (DC) signal
  
  Basic voltage follower circuit
Developed improved bonding techniques for strain gauges and thermocouples used in cryogenic service.
Cryogenic Sensor Development

- Developed calibration curves for foil and fiber optic strain gauges at cryogenic temperatures

Fiber Optic Strain Gauge Curve

Foil Strain Gauge Curve

Fiber - Calibration Curve Run 13

\[ y = 5.132x^2 - 267.74 \]

Foil - Calibration Curve Run 13

\[ y = 0.0002966x^3 - 0.002217x^2 + 0.006x + 12.448 \]

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Developed a frequency to voltage converter for determining rotational speed of turbopumps during rocket engine testing - improved the response to complex waveforms recorded from speed sensors.

**Existing Speed Detection Logic**

**Experimental Speed Detection Logic**
Speed Sensor Signal Conditioning Development

Breadboard

Populated Board (top)

Populated Board (bottom)
Piezoelectric Sensor Health

- Developing the techniques to evaluate the health of piezoelectronic sensors

Breadboard of Piezoelectric Sensor Tester
Summary

- NASA/SSC’s Mission in Rocket Propulsion Testing Is to Acquire Test Performance Data for Verification, Validation and Qualification of Propulsion Systems Hardware
  - Accurate
  - Reliable
  - Comprehensive
  - Timely

- Data Acquisition in a Rocket Propulsion Test Environment Is Challenging
  - Severe Temporal Transient Dynamic Environments
  - Large Thermal Gradients
  - Vacuum to 15 ksi pressure regimes

- SSC Has Developed and Employs DAS, Control Systems and Robust Instrumentation that Effectively Satisfies these Challenges