

#### TechDemoSat-1

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#### **Rationale for TDS-1**





#### Changing the Economics of Space Science

# Why do it? Example: Return on the Mosaic Investment

- Government investment £7m
- Industry investment £9m
- These £16m investments in the TopSat, UK-DMC-1, and UK-DMC-2 satellites have led to mission contracts worth £245m
- A 15-fold return on investment
- The TDS-1 programme represented a similar growth opportunity



#### **TechDemoSat-1**

- Summary:
  - Funded by TSB/SEEDA in UK to provide a national platform for technology demonstration and rapid flight qualification of equipment and services
  - 8 distinct payloads + SSTL next gen avionics.
  - Payload history
    - Started with 7 payloads
    - Lost 3
    - SAR → Altimeter and merged with GNSS Reflectometry P/L
    - Added 5 new payloads
- Key Requirements:
  - Must be rapid schedule to short circuit need for ground qualification
  - Must be flexible on payload accommodation -
  - Payloads must have clear exploitation route
  - Mission must be low cost platform + s/c AIV (£3.5m), launch and operations









#### Who's involved ?





# **The External Payloads**



Payload	Supplier	Description	Illustration
MUREM	University of Surrey (Surrey Space Centre)	The Micro (µ) Radiation Environment Monitor (MuREM) is a miniature radiation environment and effects monitoring payload.	
ChaPS	Mullard Space Science Laboratory (MSSL)	The Charged Particle Spectrometer (ChaPS) is designed to measure electron and ion populations in the orbit of the host spacecraft.	
LUCID	Langton Star Centre	The Langton Ultimate Cosmic ray Intensity Detector (LUCID) allows characterisation of the energy, type, intensity and directionality of high energy particles.	A DIA
CMS	University of Oxford / RAL	The Compact Modular Sounder (CMS) is a set of compatible optical, detector, cooling and electronic sub- systems which can be used to implement miniature infrared remote sensing spectrometers or radiometers.	
HMRM	Rutherford Appleton Laboratory	The Highly Miniaturised Radiation Monitor (HMRM) is a an ultra-compact, low power radiation monitor developed for re-use on future ESA missions.	
CubeSAT ACS	Satellite Services Ltd	The CubeSAT ACS payload is a complete 3-axes attitude determination and control subsystem for Cubesats	
DOS	Cranfield University	The De-Orbit Sail (DOS) is intended to demonstrate a novel means for de-orbiting a satellite at the end of its mission lifetime through deploying a sail to increase aerodynamic drag.	
Sea State Payload	Surrey Satellite Technology Limited (SSTL)	Passively monitors ocean roughness via detecting reflected GPS signals and provides orbit determination via dual-band GPS (SGR-RESI).	

### **The Operations Plan**



- 3 year Mission
- SSTL donated use of Ground stations to support TDS free of charge for Mission duration
- TDS-1 was the first Satellite commissioned from Harwell
  - Mission Operations Centre (MOC) is located at Harwell –operation of Payloads & MPS
  - Spacecraft Operations Centre (SOC) will be at SSTL, Guildford
- Payloads Operated in an 8 day cycle 2 days are for SSTL PD
- MPS funded by UKSA and written and developed by SciSys with SSTL



### **Results from Catapult Survey**

NASA TRI

scale





### **Commercial exploitation**



- Withdrawal of some payload providers led to a more academic focus for TDS-1
- Superb for technology demonstration, created a very different exploitation story....



#### Launch



- Initial Baseline: to be launched 'free' on PSLV
- Second Baseline: Auxiliary Passenger on VEGA qualification flight
- Third Baseline: Auxiliary Passenger Soyuz from Baikonur
  - This one worked out in the end!
  - Unfortunately delays with the primary passenger and politics resulted in multiple delays to launch date
- TDS-1 was launched >12 months later than hoped, on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2014





# LEOP and Commissioning from Catapult (Harwell)





Changing the Economics of Space Science

# **LEOP and Commissioning**





- Platform commissioned and satellite handed over to Catapult on 22<sup>nd</sup> October
- 8 Day Operations Cycle now up and running.



# 8<sup>th</sup> July 2014





# **Future UK IOD Programmes?**

- If it can be achieved at an Acceptable Price Point, and at the 'right time', In Orbit Demonstration is a Uniquely Valuable Facility
- Should be an ongoing activity to get most value
  - Platform availability should have a regular cadence to allow developers to plan
  - Would decouple platform schedules from payload schedules
    - Mitigates risk of payloads going past 'sell by date
- Should look at all sizes of satellite bus including hosting on other missions
- Should address a range of orbits up to lunar





#### **Future Rationale and Benefits**



- Hosting payloads is only one benefit of an IOD mission!
- We need to also address applications and services to maximise downstream benefits
- Possible vision:
  - Thematic missions with anchor customers (government or commercial) to address future markets
  - Mission transfers to commercial operator ownership after demonstration phase
  - Payload space allocated to technology demonstrations and outreach
- This vision of IOD could become a self-sustaining reality...





# Thank you!

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