

2U CubeSat Structure

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Production Guide

LC-2102a 2U CubeSat Structure Production Guide

Document change log

Rev.	Date	Author	Pages	Description
0	2014-07-11	Artur Scholz	All	Initial release



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1 Introduction

This document provides the necessary information for production and assembly of the product as shown in Illustration 1



Illustration 1: Fully assembled product

2 Hardware

2.1 Hardware preparation

The product consists of mechanical parts, screws, a few other components, and a PCB for the antenna deployment mechanisms.

Structural parts and the PCB must be manufactured, using the information provided in the product package. Screws and the components can be bought off the shelf.



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2.2 Assembly overview

Prepare a clean, bright, spacious and flat work desk for the assembly. When doing the flight integration of other satellite parts (in particular the electronic systems) ensure ESD protection and adherence to cleanliness requirements. Prepare all parts, screws, tools and put in convenient reach.

Do not use excessive force when mounting the screws. Recommended values for bolt torque (according to VDI 2230) are shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Recommended bolt torques

Thread	M2	M2.5	M3
Bolt torque [Nm]	0.36	0.73	1.3

2.2.1 Parts

- 2x Frame A
- 2x Frame B
- 1x Frame C
- 1x Antenna Ring
- 1x Front Panel (Panel 1)
- 3x Side Panel (Panel 2)
- 1x Top Panel (Panel 5)
- 1x Bottom Panel (Panel 6)
- 8x Mounting Blocks (2x FLU, 2x FRU, 1x BRU, 1x BLU, 1x BRD, 1x BLD)
- 2x Separation Springs
- 2x Deployment Switches

2.2.2 Screws

4x	M2x10	Hexagon socket head screw
16x	M2.5x5	Hexagon socket head screw
16x	M3x10	Hexagon socket head screw
10x	M3x16	Hexagon socket head screw
44x	M2.5x4	Hexagon socket head screw

2.2.3 Tools

Hex key screwdriver 1.5 mm	for M2 hex socket screws
Hex key screwdriver 2 mm	for M2.5 hex socket screws
Hex key screwdriver 2.5 mm	for M3 hex socket screws



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2.3 Component assembly

The following sections describe the preparations that shall be carried out before the standalone integration.

2.3.1 Assembly of Frame A

The preparation of each Frame A is identical. See Illustration 2 and Illustration 3 for details.

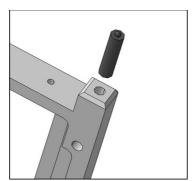




Illustration 2: Screw the Separation Spring into the frame until only the tip shows out



It is recommended to apply screw lock (such as Loctite) to permanently fix the Separation Spring onto the frame.

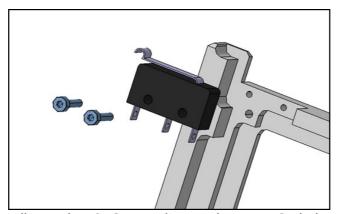


Illustration 3: Screw the Deployment Switch to the frame with 2x M2x10 screws

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2.4 Product assembly

Ensure that each Frame A has been prepared according to the instructions given in the previous section. Although both are identical, one shall be declared as the front frame (in -X direction). (Later during the integration this front frame will be equipped with the front panel.)

Take the Frame A that is designated as the front frame. Mount Frame B to Frame A with 4x M3x10 screws (Illustration 4). Do not fasten the screws tightly and allow for some play. Mount the other Frame B to Frame A with 4x M3x10 screws. Again, do not fasten the screws tightly and allow for some play.

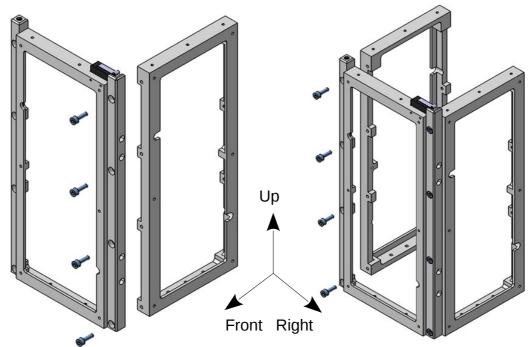


Illustration 4: Mount both Frame B to Frame A

Mount the other Frame A to the assembly with 8x M3x10 screws (Illustration 5). Do not fasten the screws tightly and allow for some play.

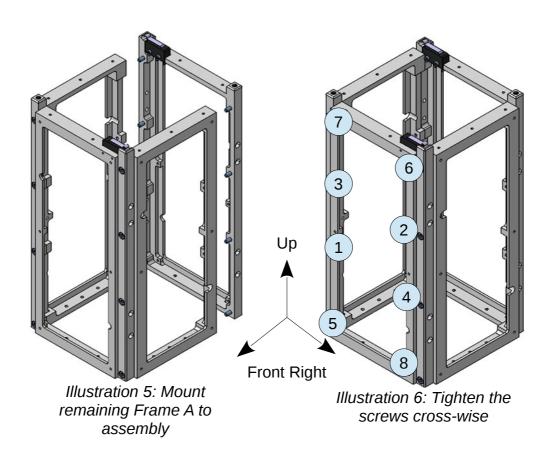
Erect the assembly on a flat surface in upright position, ensure that the frame is aligned correctly, and fasten all screws. When tightening the screws proceed in a cross-wise fashion and start from inside and then mount outside screws (Illustration 6).



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Mount Antenna Ring and Frame C loosely onto the assembly using 10x M3x16 screws (Illustration 7). Align all rail surfaces and fix screws cross-wise (Illustration 8).

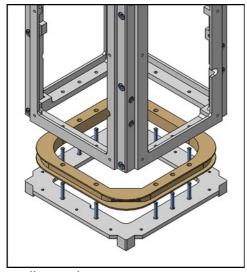


Illustration 7: Mount Antenna Ring and Frame C to assembly

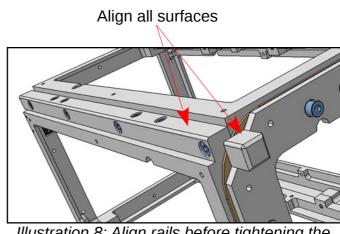


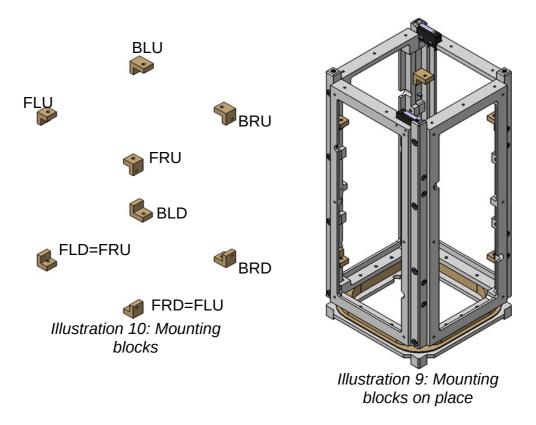
Illustration 8: Align rails before tightening the screws

With the frame being assembled, the mounting blocks can now be installed. These blocks are used for mounting the internal boards during the satellite integration.



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Each mounting block is installed with an M2.5x5 screw. The naming of the blocks corresponds to their position within the frame and is according to the following convention: [F(ront)/B(ack)][R(ight)/L(eft)][U(p)/D(own)].



Then mount the Top Panel (Panel 5) with 10x M2.5x4 screws (Illustration 12). Mount Bottom Panel (Panel 6) with 10x M2.5x4 screws (Illustration 11). When mounting, observe the orientation of the panel to match the openings (as used for the solar cell harness).



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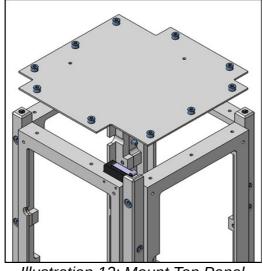


Illustration 12: Mount Top Panel

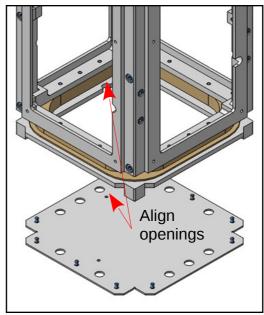


Illustration 11: Mount Bottom Panel

Mount all side panels, each with 6x M2.5x4 screws, with the Front Panel on the designated front frame. For each panel, pay attention to match the openings, and align the side panels when mounting.

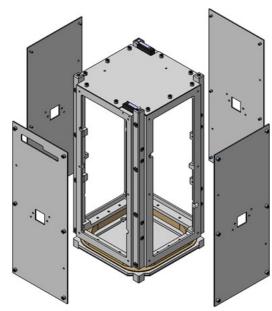


Illustration 13: Mount Side Panels

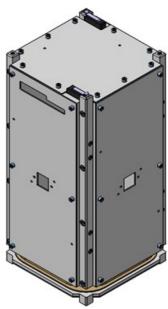


Illustration 14: Finished assembly