

Product Development Specification

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Customer requirements

The Portland State Aerospace Society (PSAS) needs a device that can be used for command, control, communications between a **CubeSat** and a **ground station**. A **CubeSat** is a miniature satellite that can be used for scientific research in space. It has a volume of one liter (10cm cube), and has a mass of no more than 1.33kg. A **ground station** is a radio station located on earth that is designed for communication with spacecraft. Development of such a device is not trivial as it will need to eventually be "space ready" and will require multiple phases of development.

The first phase of development will involve finding and de-risking a microcontroller that is capable of handling command, control, and communications. Therefore, the device will be a communications module "breakout board" that will allow easy access to the features of the microcontroller like UART, I2C, SPI, GPIO, ADCs/DACs, etc. Access to these features will rely on miscellaneous connectors such as .1 inch pin headers, USB, 6-pin JTAG, etc. Furthermore, as project that is sponsored by PSAS it should adhere to their open source standards, while obeying governmental regulations.

Requirements

Must

- Have a transceiver for RF communications
- Have an antenna capable of 435 - 438MHz frequency band transmission
- Have visible indication of communication (*such as LEDs*)
- Have a bidirectional amplifier for RF communication
- Be able to fit within the CubeSat form factor
(*no bigger than 10cm x 10cm x 10cm*)
- Be a breakout board
- Have access to UART
- Have access to I2C
- Have access to SPI
- Have access to GPIO
- Have access to ADCs/DACs

Should

- Use USB for interfacing
- Be able to send/receive data packets via RF communication
- Be capable of RF communication at a distances greater than 6 feet
- Be battery powered
- If battery powered, utilize USB for recharging
- Comply with ETSI and FCC regulatory requirements
- Use a GNU GPL v3 license for all design work and software

May

- Be capable of long distance communication (*Across campus for example*)
- Be capable of sending/receiving data packets
- Be capable of operation in space (*e.g. really low temperatures*)
- Comply with FAA regulatory requirements