



Robotics Ground Procedure Management and Requirements

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Category: Computer Science/IT







I. Restore-L Mission Overview

The Restore-L Mission's goal is to perform in-space servicing of the Landsat 7 satellite. This servicing is required because the Landsat 7 satellite is almost out of the fuel needed to maintain a proper orbit. This will be the first effort by NASA to refuel a satellite that was not created to be refueled. This servicing includes performing an autonomous rendezvous, docking the Landsat 7 satellite on the Restore-L Payload, and performing tele-operated robotic operations that include the transfer of propellant. On the servicing payload there are two seven degrees of freedom robotic arms each equipped with a multi-function tool drive system and tool cameras.

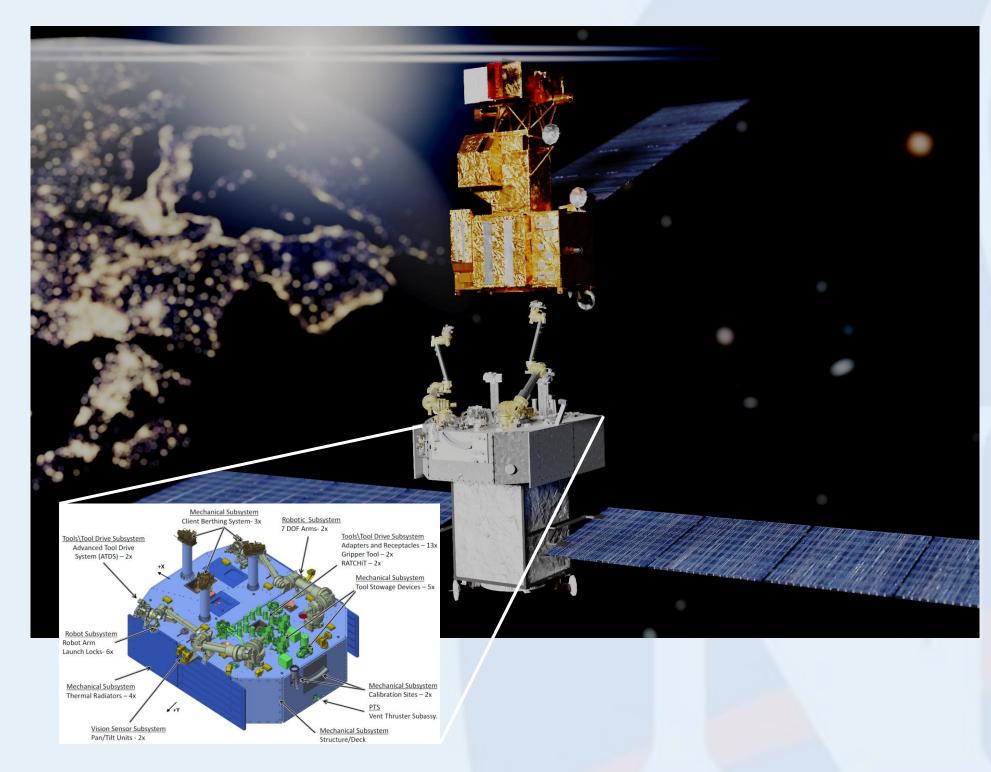


Figure 1. Artist's concept of Restore-L autonomous rendezvous and docking (AR&D) Inset: Detailed diagram of the Restore-L robotic payload.

II. Restore-L Robot Ground System Overview

The Restore-L Robot Ground System (Robot GS) is one of seven systems that make up the Restore-L Ground Element (RGE). This system is responsible for the command and control of the robot arms, tool drive system, and tool cameras. The Robot GS also includes video systems used during runtime operations and provides simulation support for planning and contingency operations.

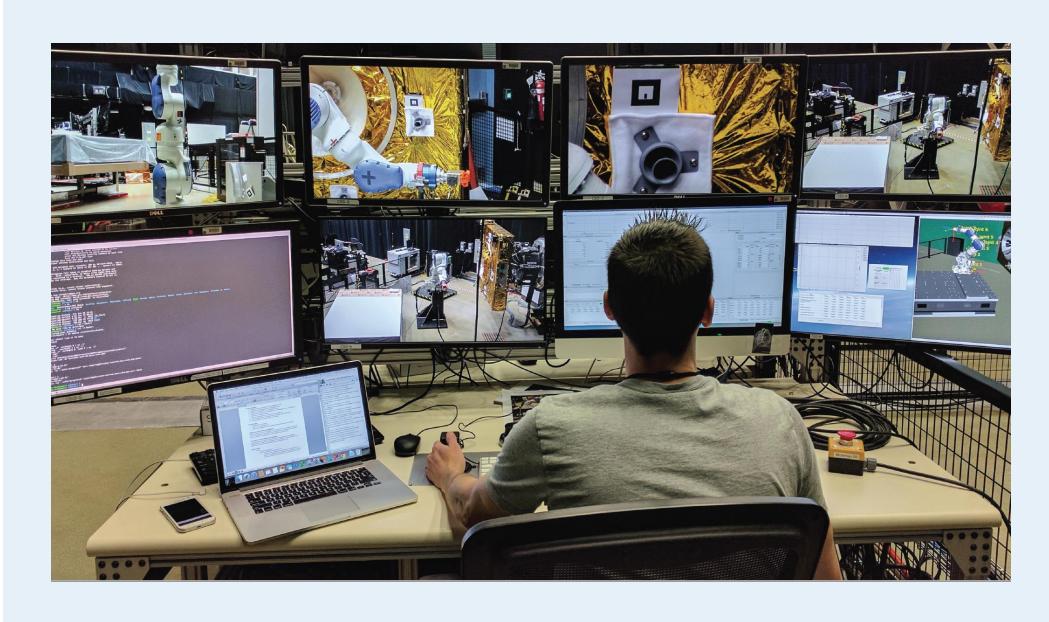


Figure 2. An operator at a robotic console controlling a Motoman robot arm.

III. Verification and Validation (V&V) of Requirements Overview

Product Verification demonstrates that an end-product complies with a regulation, requirement, specification, or imposed condition. Product validation confirms a verified end-product that has been integrated into the system fulfills its intended use and meets the needs of the customer and other identified stakeholders. There are 4 levels of requirements:

- Level 4 is closest and most relevant to the Robot GS, consisting of subsystem requirements. Factory Acceptance Testing (FAT) is used to verify end-to-end functionality for operational use.
- Levels 3.5 and 3 deal with system and element requirements. Site Acceptance Testing (SAT) in the Mission Operations Center and Ground Readiness Testing (GRT) are conducted to confirm satisfaction of these requirements.
- Level 2 requirements are verified by Mission Readiness Testing (MRT) and End-to-End Testing (ETE).

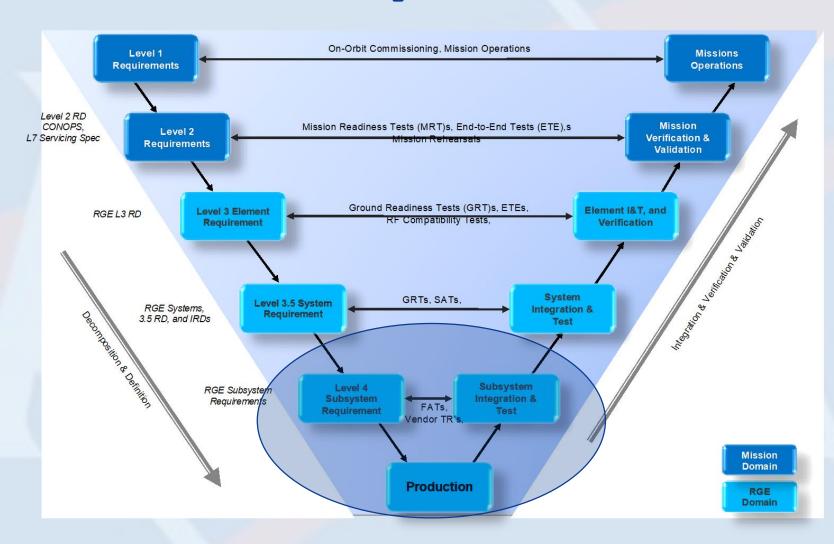


Figure 3. V&V Diagram with Requirement Levels.

IV. Media Wiki

MediaWiki is open-source software that is used for documentation of a number of things including robot procedures. It is well-known for powering Wikipedia. Its benefits include:

- Easy navigation with a visual editor
- Security control and accessibility through user management
- Creating templates with parameters,
- Built in search
- Ability to use plugins and extensions.

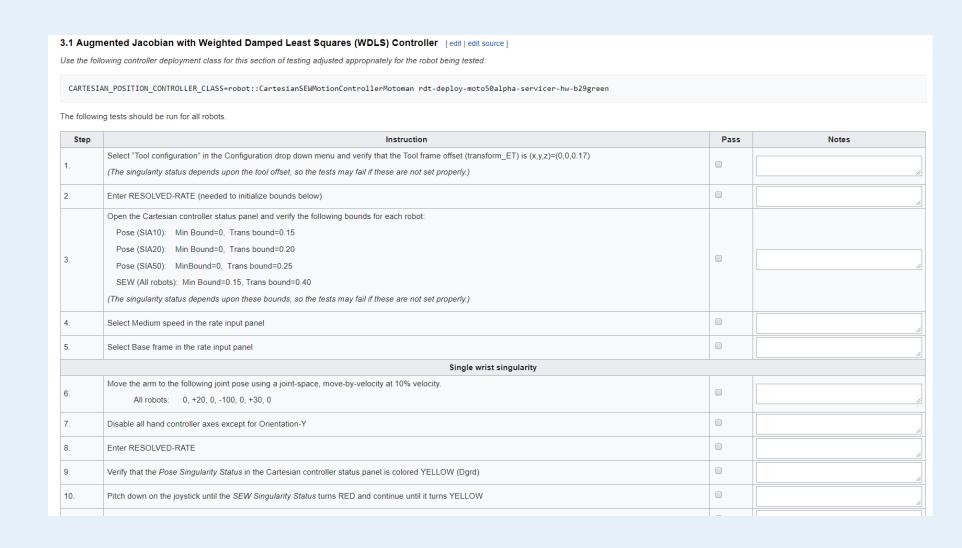


Figure 4. An example Procedure for a SAT of the ADP Software in MediaWiki format.

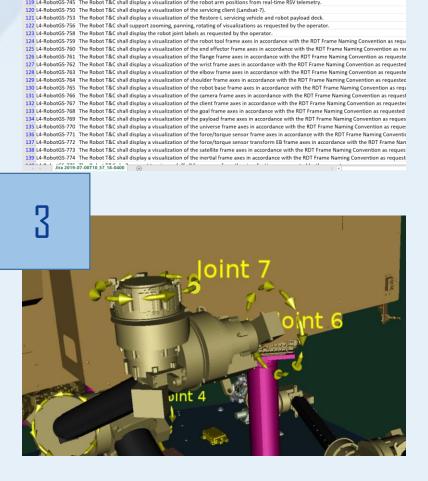
V. Robot Ground System Procedural Development

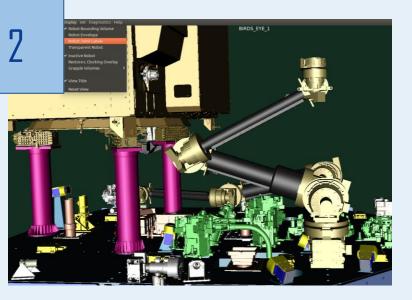
The goal of this project was to create procedures that will test the capabilities required by the Restore-L Robot Ground System. The procedures need to thoroughly test all Restore-L Robot Ground System requirements. The requirements pertained to the SSPD Robot Team Algorithm Development Platform (ADP) software, which is used to provide the telemetry and command (ADP GUI) and visualization (ADP VIZ) of the robot system.

VI. Method of Procedural Development

The level 4 V&V requirements are categorized by the specific part of the Robot GS they apply to. One test procedure can verify a number of requirements within a specific category. The method used for developing a procedure is:

- Group a number of requirements together that can most efficiently be tested together.
- Run the corresponding part of the ADP software (Either the Visualization or GUI) to what requirements need to be tested.
- Formulate a way to test the requirement, and take note of each step in doing so.
- Create a MediaWiki page with the procedural steps noted using the ADP software.





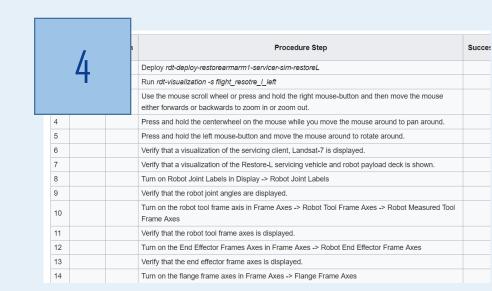


Figure 5. Method of development steps

VII. Acknowledgment

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