

UXO Hybrid Rocket Engine Static Fire 1

Static Fire Test Operations Procedures

Static Fire Test Operations Procedures

Contents

This document contains three procedures:

- The *Fill System Check* procedure comprises steps for validating the integrity of the system plumbing and correct operation of the test data acquisition system, using carbon dioxide.
- The Static Fire Test Remote Control procedure comprises steps for operating the fill system using the electrical control system and motorized ball valves.

	• The Static Fire Test Manual Control procedure comprises steps for operating the fill system using manually operated ball valves.	
	Personnel Required	
	The test operations team consists of seven personnel:	
1	\Box The Operations Director [OPS] directs operations procedures and communicates with the other test personnel.	
2	☐ The Primary Fill Operator [PRIMARY] is the main system operator. PRIMARY operates all manual valves as well as the test control system.	
3	☐ The Secondary Fill Operator [SECONDARY] is the backup for PRIMARY, and communicates with OPS. If PRIMARY becomes incapacitated, SECONDARY is responsible for removing them from danger.	
4	☐ The DAQ Technician [DAQ] monitors and operates the test data acquisition system.	
5	☐ The Heating Technician [HEAT] operates the valves for the tank heating system.	
6	□ Perimeter Guard 1 [P1] and Perimeter Guard 2 [P2] ensure that no unauthorized personnel enter the testing area during test operations.	
	Sign-Off	
	To be completed by all test personnel after reading and familiarization with procedures	
1	□ Operations Director [OPS]	
2	☐ Primary Fill Operator [PRIMARY]	
3	□ Secondary Fill Operator [SECONDARY]	
4	□ DAQ Technician [DAQ]	
5	☐ Heating Technician [HEAT]	
6	□ Perimeter Guard 1 [P1]	
7	□ Perimeter Guard 2 [P2]	

Prior	to	Start

1	\square Ensure that the following procedures are complete:
2	☐ Combustion Chamber Assembly procedure
3	☐ Oxidizer Tank Assembly procedure
4	☐ Plumbing Setup procedure
5	☐ Oxidizer Tank Stand Setup procedure
6	☐ Tank Heating Setup procedure
7	\square Test Stand Setup procedure
8	☐ Data Acquisition Setup procedure
9	☐ Test Control System Setup procedure
10	\Box Ensure that all technicians as defined above are available and have completed the sign-off.
11	$\hfill\Box$ Ensure that the following personnel have walkie-talkies and communication is functional:
12	□ OPS
13	□ PRIMARY
14	□ SECONDARY
15	□ DAQ
16	□ HEAT
17	□ P1
18	□ P2
19	\square Ensure that all spectators and test personnel are wearing safety glasses and hearing protection.
20	☐ Ensure that PRIMARY and SECONDARY are wearing face shields and have no exposed skin.
21	☐ Ensure that PRIMARY is wearing thermal gloves.
22	☐ Ensure that SECONDARY is in possession of the system control key.

Fill System Check Procedure

1	□ PRIMARY: Confirm that the following valves are initially closed:
2	☐ Cylinder Valve
3	☐ Remote Fill Valve
4	☐ Parallel Fill Valve
5	☐ Tank Vent Valve
6	☐ Pressure Relief Valve
7	☐ Line Vent Valve
8	\square Injector Valve
9	□ PRIMARY: Confirm that the following valves are initially open:
10	☐ Series Fill Valve
11	\square DAQ: Confirm that all pressure transducers are reading atmospheric pressure.
12	□ DAQ: Confirm that all load cells are reading the determined zero point.
13	\square OPS: Confirm that all personnel in the testing area are aware of the test.
14	\square P1 and P2: Close the perimeter and do not allow any further personnel to enter the testing area.
15	$\hfill \square$ SECONDARY: Confirm that no personnel are present in the testing area other than PRIMARY and SECONDARY.
16	□ PRIMARY: Remove all plastic plugs and covers from the plumbing:
17	☐ Tank Vent Valve
18	☐ Pressure Relief Valve
19	☐ Line Vent Valve
20	□ Nozzle
21	☐ PRIMARY: Remove the cap from the carbon dioxide supply cylinder.
22	□ PRIMARY : Connect the fill line to the supply cylinder, hand tighten, and then tighten with a wrench. Do not force the connection.
23	\square PRIMARY : Slowly open the Cylinder Valve through $\frac{3}{4}$ of a turn.
	• If leaks are observed:
24	☐ PRIMARY: Close the Cylinder Valve.
25	□ PRIMARY: Slowly open the Line Vent Valve.
26 27	 PRIMARY: Slowly open the Parallel Fill Valve. DAQ: Confirm that the Fill Pressure Transducer is reading atmospheric pressure.
28	□ OPS: Abort test procedures and revisit plumbing setup.
29	□ PRIMARY: Communicate the supply cylinder pressure as visible on the Pressure Gauge.
30	□ DAQ: Communicate the supply cylinder pressure as read by the Fill Pressure Transducer.
31	□ DAQ: Confirm that the two pressure measurements are in agreement.
32	□ SECONDARY: Give the system control key to PRIMARY.
33	□ PRIMARY: Engage the key switch and power on the control boxes.

34	□ PRIMARY: Open the Tank Vent Valve.
35	□ PRIMARY: Open the Remote Fill Valve.
	• If leaks are observed:
36	☐ PRIMARY: Close the Remote Fill Valve.
37	☐ PRIMARY: Close the Cylinder Valve.
38	☐ PRIMARY: Slowly open the Line Vent Valve.
39	☐ PRIMARY: Slowly open the Parallel Fill Valve.
40	☐ PRIMARY: Open the Remote Fill Valve.
41	□ DAQ: Confirm that the Fill Pressure Transducer is reading atmospheric pressure.
42	□ OPS: Abort test procedures and revisit plumbing setup.
	• If the Remove Fill Valve fails to open:
43	\square OPS: Abort test procedures and revisit control system setup.
44	□ DAQ: Confirm that the oxidizer tank mass is increasing.
45	□ DAQ: Confirm that the oxidizer tank pressure is increasing.
46	□ PRIMARY: Close the Remote Fill Valve
47	□ PRIMARY: Open the Line Vent Valve.
48	$\hfill \Box$ DAQ: Confirm that the Oxidizer Tank Pressure Transducer is reading atmospheric pressure.
49	□ PRIMARY and SECONDARY: Approach the test plumbing.
50	□ PRIMARY: Close the Cylinder Valve.
51	□ PRIMARY: Open the Remote Fill Valve.
52	□ DAQ: Confirm that the Fill Pressure Transducer is reading atmospheric pressure.
53	☐ PRIMARY: Disconnect the fill line from the supply cylinder.
54	☐ PRIMARY: Replace the cap on the carbon dioxide supply cylinder.
55	□ OPS : Wait for at least 3 minutes before proceeding.
56	□ P1 and P2: Open the perimeter.
57	□ OPS : Proceed with teardown and disassembly.

$\underline{\sf Static\ Fire\ Test\ -\ Remote\ Control\ Procedure}$

1	☐ SECONDARY: Confirm that the ignition wires are not connected to the engine.
2	☐ PRIMARY: Confirm that the following valves are initially closed:
3	☐ Cylinder Valve
4	☐ Remote Fill Valve
5	☐ Parallel Fill Valve
6	☐ Pressure Relief Valve
7	☐ Tank Vent Valve
8	☐ Line Vent Valve
9	☐ Injector Valve
10	□ PRIMARY: Confirm that the following valves are initially open:
11	☐ Series Fill Valve
12	\square DAQ: Confirm that all pressure transducers are reading atmospheric pressure.
13	□ DAQ: Confirm that all load cells are reading the determined zero point.
14	□ PAUSE POINT
15	\square P1 and P2: Close the perimeter and do not allow any further personnel to enter the testing area.
16	$\hfill \square$ SECONDARY: Confirm that no personnel are present in the testing area other than PRIMARY and SECONDARY.
17	□ PRIMARY: Remove all plastic plugs and covers from the plumbing:
18	☐ Tank Vent Valve
19	☐ Pressure Relief Valve
20	☐ Line Vent Valve
21	□ Nozzle
22	\Box SECONDARY: Confirm that the impedance across the ignition coils is between 2.5 Ω and 3 Ω :
23	\Box Primary ignition coil
24	\square Secondary ignition coil
25	☐ SECONDARY: Connect the ignition connectors to the ignition box.
26	☐ PRIMARY: Remove the cap from the nitrous oxide supply cylinder.
27	\Box PRIMARY : Connect the fill line to the supply cylinder, hand tighten, and then tighten with a wrench. Do not force the connection.
28	\square PRIMARY : Slowly open the Cylinder Valve through $\frac{3}{4}$ of a turn.
	• If leaks are observed:
29	□ PRIMARY: Close the Cylinder Valve.
30	□ PRIMARY: Slowly open the Parallel Fill Valve.
31	□ PRIMARY: Open the Line Vent Valve using the ropes.
32	□ DAQ: Confirm that the Fill Pressure Transducer is reading atmospheric pressure.
33	□ OPS : Abort test procedures and revisit plumbing setup.

34	□ PRIMARY: Communicate the supply cylinder pressure as visible on the Pressure Gauge.
35	$\hfill \Box$ DAQ: Communicate the supply cylinder pressure as read by the Fill Pressure Transducer.
36	$\ \square$ DAQ: Confirm that the two pressure measurements are in agreement.
37	□ PRIMARY and SECONDARY: Retreat to the test control area, behind the blast shield.
38	☐ PRIMARY: Confirm that all actuator controls are in the "off" position:
39	☐ Remote Fill Valve
40	\square Tank Vent Valve
41	☐ Injector Valve
42	☐ Primary Ignition
43	☐ Secondary Ignition
44	□ PAUSE POINT
45	\square OPS : Poll the following personnel for GO/NO GO status:
46	□ P1
47	□ P2
48	□ HEAT
49	□ DAQ
50	□ PRIMARY
51	□ SECONDARY
52	☐ SECONDARY: Give the system control key to PRIMARY.
53	☐ PRIMARY: Engage the key switch and power on the control boxes.
54	□ PRIMARY: Open the Tank Vent Valve.
55	□ PRIMARY: Open the Remote Fill Valve.
	If leaks are observed:
56	□ PRIMARY: Close the Remote Fill Valve.
57 58	 □ PRIMARY: Open the Line Vent Valve using the ropes. □ SECONDARY: Proceed only when the oxidizer tank has fully vented.
59	□ PRIMARY and SECONDARY: Approach the test plumbing.
60	□ PRIMARY: Close the Cylinder Valve.
61	☐ PRIMARY: Open the Remote Fill Valve.
62	$\hfill \square$ DAQ: Confirm that the Fill Pressure Transducer is reading atmospheric pressure.
63	□ OPS : Abort test procedures and revisit plumbing setup.
	• If the Remote Fill Valve fails to open:
64	□ OPS : Proceed to the Manual Control procedure.
65	☐ SECONDARY: Proceed only when a white plume is visible from the Tank Vent Valve.
66	□ PRIMARY: Close the Tank Vent Valve.
67	□ PRIMARY: Close the Remote Fill Valve.
	If the Remote Fill Valve fails to close:
68	☐ PRIMARY and SECONDARY: Approach the test plumbing.

69 70	 □ PRIMARY: Close the Series Fill Valve. □ PRIMARY and SECONDARY: Retreat to the test control area, behind the blast shield.
71	☐ HEAT : Open the Tank Heating Valve.
72	□ DAQ: Proceed only when the oxidizer tank pressure is at least 750 psi.
	• If the oxidizer tank pressure does not reach 750 psi:
73	☐ HEAT : Close the Tank Heating Valve.
74	☐ PRIMARY: Open the Line Vent Valve using the ropes.
75	☐ SECONDARY : Proceed only when the oxidizer tank has fully vented.
76	☐ PRIMARY and SECONDARY: Approach the test plumbing.
77	☐ PRIMARY: Close the Cylinder Valve.
78	☐ PRIMARY: Open the Tank Vent Valve.
79	☐ PRIMARY: Open the Remote Fill Valve.
80	□ DAQ: Confirm that the Oxidizer Tank Pressure Transducer is reading atmospheric pressure.
81	□ OPS: Abort test procedures and revisit water jacket setup.
82	☐ HEAT: Close the Tank Heating Valve.
83	□ PAUSE POINT
84	□ PRIMARY: Perform engine startup procedure:
85	\square Arm the Primary Ignition switch.
86	\square Hold down the Fire button until black smoke is observed.
	 In the event of a failed ignition (smoke not observed within 1 minute):
87	☐ PRIMARY: Disarm the Primary Ignition switch.
88	□ PRIMARY: Arm the Secondary Ignition switch.
89	□ OPS: Revisit ignition procedure.
0.0	• In the event of a second failed ignition (smoke not observed within 1 minute):
90	□ PRIMARY: Open the Line Vent Velve using the range
91 92	PRIMARY: Open the Line Vent Valve using the ropes.OPS: Proceed only when the oxidizer tank has fully vented.
93	☐ PRIMARY and SECONDARY: Approach the test plumbing.
94	□ PRIMARY: Close the Cylinder Valve.
95	☐ PRIMARY: Open the Remote Fill Valve.
96	☐ PRIMARY: Open the Tank Vent Valve.
97	□ DAQ: Confirm that the Oxidizer Tank Pressure Transducer is reading atmospheric pressure.
98	□ OPS : Abort test procedures and proceed to teardown.
99	☐ PRIMARY : Start the engine by opening the Injector Valve.
100	□ PRIMARY: Observe the plume:
	• If any unexpected events occur during the engine firing:
101	☐ PRIMARY: Open the Line Vent Valve using the ropes.
102	☐ PRIMARY: Wait for 3 seconds.
103	☐ PRIMARY: Close the Injector Valve.
104	□ PAUSE POINT
105	□ OPS: Wait for at least 3 minutes before proceeding.

106	□ DAQ: Confirm that the Oxidizer Tank Pressure Transducer is reading atmospheric pressure.
107	□ PRIMARY: Open the Tank Vent Valve.
108	□ PRIMARY and SECONDARY: Approach the test plumbing.
109	□ PRIMARY: Close the Cylinder Valve.
110	□ PRIMARY: Open the Remote Fill Valve.
111	\square DAQ: Confirm that the Fill Pressure Transducer is reading atmospheric pressure.
112	☐ PRIMARY: Disconnect the fill line from the supply cylinder.
113	□ PRIMARY: Replace the cap on the nitrous oxide supply cylinder.
114	□ OPS : Wait for at least 3 minutes before proceeding.
115	□ P1 and P2: Open the perimeter.

 $\ \square$ **OPS**: Proceed with teardown and disassembly.

116

Static Fire Test - Manual Control Procedure

1	☐ SECONDARY : Confirm that the ignition wires are not connected to the engine.
2	□ PRIMARY: Confirm that the following valves are initially closed:
3	☐ Cylinder Valve
4	☐ Remote Fill Valve
5	☐ Parallel Fill Valve
6	☐ Pressure Relief Valve
7	☐ Line Vent Valve
8	☐ Injector Valve☐ Series Fill Valve
10	□ PRIMARY: Confirm that the following valves are initially open:
11	☐ Tank Vent Valve
12	□ DAQ: Confirm that all pressure transducers are reading atmospheric pressure.
13	□ DAQ: Confirm that all load cells are reading the determined zero point.
14	□ PAUSE POINT
15	□ P1 and P2: Close the perimeter and do not allow any further personnel to enter the testing area.
16	☐ SECONDARY: Confirm that no personnel are present in the testing area other than PRIMARY and SECONDARY.
17	☐ PRIMARY: Remove all plastic plugs and covers from the plumbing:
18	☐ Tank Vent Valve
19	☐ Pressure Relief Valve
20	☐ Line Vent Valve
21	□ Nozzle
22	$\hfill\Box$ SECONDARY: Confirm that the impedance across the ignition coils is between 2.5 Ω and 3 Ω :
23	☐ Primary ignition coil
24	\square Secondary ignition coil
25	☐ SECONDARY : Connect the ignition connectors to the ignition box.
26	☐ PRIMARY: Remove the cap from the nitrous oxide supply cylinder.
27	\square PRIMARY : Connect the fill line to the supply cylinder, hand tighten, and then tighten with a wrench. Do not force the connection.
28	\square PRIMARY : Slowly open the Cylinder Valve through $\frac{3}{4}$ of a turn.
	• If leaks are observed:
29	□ PRIMARY: Close the Cylinder Valve.
30	□ PRIMARY: Slowly open the Parallel Fill Valve.
31	□ PRIMARY: Open the Line Vent Valve using the ropes.
32 33	 DAQ: Confirm that the Fill Pressure Transducer is reading atmospheric pressure. OPS: Abort test procedures and revisit plumbing setup.

34	□ PRIMARY: Communicate the supply cylinder pressure as visible on the Pressure Gauge.
35	\square DAQ: Communicate the supply cylinder pressure as read by the Fill Pressure Transducer.
36	□ DAQ: Confirm that the two pressure measurements are in agreement.
37	□ SECONDARY: Confirm that the following actuator controls are in the "off" position:
38	☐ Primary Ignition
39	☐ Secondary Ignition
40	□ PAUSE POINT
41	□ OPS : Poll the following personnel for GO/NO GO status:
42	□ P1
43	□ P2
44	□ HEAT
45	□ DAQ
46	□ PRIMARY
47	□ SECONDARY
48	□ PRIMARY: Open the Parallel Fill Valve.
	• If leaks are observed:
49	☐ PRIMARY: Close the Parallel Fill Valve.
50	☐ PRIMARY: Open the Line Vent Valve using the ropes.
51	□ PRIMARY: Close the Cylinder Valve.
52	□ PRIMARY: Open the Parallel Fill Valve.
53 54	 DAQ: Confirm that the Fill Pressure Transducer is reading atmospheric pressure. OPS: Abort test procedures and revisit plumbing setup.
55	☐ SECONDARY: Proceed only when a white plume is visible from the Tank Vent Valve.
56	□ PRIMARY: Close the Parallel Fill Valve.
57	☐ PRIMARY and SECONDARY: Retreat to the test control area, behind the blast shield.
58	☐ HEAT : Open the Tank Heating Valve.
59	□ DAQ: Proceed only when the oxidizer tank pressure is at least 750 psi.
	• If the oxidizer tank pressure does not reach 750 psi:
60	☐ HEAT : Close the Tank Heating Valve.
61	□ PRIMARY: Open the Line Vent Valve using the ropes.
62	□ SECONDARY: Proceed only when the oxidizer tank has fully vented.
63	□ PRIMARY and SECONDARY: Approach the test plumbing.
64	□ PRIMARY: Close the Cylinder Valve.□ PRIMARY: Slowly open the Parallel Fill Valve.
65 66	□ DAQ: Confirm that the Oxidizer Tank Pressure Transducer is reading atmospheric pressure.
67	□ OPS: Abort test procedures and revisit water jacket setup.
68	☐ HEAT : Close the Tank Heating Valve.
69	□ PAUSE POINT

70	□ PRIMARY: Perform engine startup procedure:
71	\square Arm the Primary Ignition switch.
72	☐ Hold down the Fire button until black smoke is observed.
	• In the event of a failed ignition (smoke not observed within 1 minute):
73	☐ PRIMARY: Disarm the Primary Ignition switch.
74	□ PRIMARY: Arm the Secondary Ignition switch.
75	□ OPS : Revisit ignition procedure.
	• In the event of a second failed ignition (smoke not observed within 1 minute):
76	□ PRIMARY: Disarm the Secondary Ignition switch.
77	□ PRIMARY: Open the Line Vent Valve using the ropes.
78 79	OPS: Proceed only when the oxidizer tank has fully vented.PRIMARY and SECONDARY: Approach the test plumbing.
80	□ PRIMARY: Close the Cylinder Valve.
81	□ PRIMARY: Open the Remote Fill Valve.
82	□ PRIMARY: Open the Tank Vent Valve.
83	□ DAQ: Confirm that the Oxidizer Tank Pressure Transducer is reading atmospheric pressure.
84	\square OPS: Abort test procedures and proceed to teardown.
85	☐ PRIMARY: Start the engine by opening the Injector Valve with the ropes.
86	□ PRIMARY: Observe the plume:
	• If any unexpected events occur during the engine firing:
87	□ PRIMARY: Open the Line Vent Valve using the ropes.
88	□ PAUSE POINT
89	□ OPS : Wait for at least 3 minutes before proceeding.
90	□ DAQ: Confirm that the Oxidizer Tank Pressure Transducer is reading atmospheric pressure.
91	□ PRIMARY and SECONDARY: Approach the test plumbing.
92	□ PRIMARY: Close the Cylinder Valve.
93	□ PRIMARY: Open the Parallel Fill Valve.
94	□ DAQ: Confirm that the Fill Pressure Transducer is reading atmospheric pressure.
95	□ PRIMARY: Disconnect the fill line from the supply cylinder.
96	□ PRIMARY: Replace the cap on the nitrous oxide supply cylinder.
97	□ OPS : Wait for at least 3 minutes before proceeding.
98	□ P1 and P2: Open the perimeter.
99	□ OPS : Proceed with teardown and disassembly.