

SHUTTLE CRITICAL ITEMS LIST - MSBLS GROUND STATION

SUBSYSTEM: GROUND STATION - MSBLS FMEA NO.: 05-2SW-00003 Rev: 9 April 90
 ASSEMBLY : PRI Shelter ABORT: CRIT. FUNC: 1R
 P/N : 517070 CRIT. HDW: 2
 QUANTITY : 1 VEHICLE 102 103 104 105
 EFFECTIVITY: X X X X
 PHASE(S) PL LO OO DO X LS
 REDUNDANCY SCREEN: A-pass B-pass C-pass

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ITEM: PRI Shelter

FUNCTION: Provides Azimuth and DME guidance RF beams to Orbiter.

FAILURE MODE: No Azimuth and/or DME guidance RF is radiated to Orbiter from Shelter.

CAUSE(S): A Shelter LRU (AZ or DME subsystem) fails due to piece part electrical failure. The LRU's which can cause this failure mode (05-2SW-00003) are listed below, with LRU Designator No., LRU P/N, and LRU Name:

LRU No.:	LRU P/N:	LRU Name:
140	501808	Transmitter, Azimuth/DME
160	501825	Power Supply
301	502156	Air Conditioner (two of two failures required)
322	517076	Panel, Entrance, Signal
324	517079	Cables, Interconn, Interior (inside Shelter)
325	517081	Harness, Rack
430	517082	Control Monitor
519	513479	Digital Unit, Azimuth
521	511219	Antenna, Azimuth
550	502332	Field Monitor Circuits, Azimuth/DME
580	502146	DME Unit
630	501771	Scanner, Azimuth
640	502541	Assy, Waveguide (AZ)
641	502232	Antenna, DME
705	502544	Assy, Waveguide (DME)
707	513888	Radome, Azimuth
710	517080	Cables, Interconn, External (to/from Shelter)
862	513274-1	Temperature Control Assembly
863	513455	Panel, Entrance, Power
864	513456	Assy, Filter Box
920	518007	Assy, RF (Switching)

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EFFECT(S): (A) SUBSYSTEM (B) INTERFACES (C) MISSION (D) CREW/VEHICLE

(A/B) All RF output from the PRI Shelter ceases, but RF guidance is immediately (within one second) replaced by RF guidance from the B/U Shelter. However, redundancy has been lost, and the next failure (if in B/U Shelter) will cause loss of good RF guidance.

(C) Not applicable.

(D) No effect beyond momentary (less than one second) loss of AZ/DME RF guidance signals at the Orbiter. Possible loss of crew/vehicle after second failure (loss of PRI and B/U) due to loss of good AZ/DME RF guidance signals at the Orbiter.

DISPOSITION AND RATIONALE:

(A) DESIGN (B) TEST (C) INSPECTION (D) FAILURE HISTORY (E) OPERATIONAL USE

(A) - DESIGN

The MSBLS design was structured from existing/proven ground-based landing systems and upgraded to meet MIL-E-4158, MIL-STD-454 and all subsidiary specifications in effect at the time of manufacture. Military and standard NASA approved parts, materials and processes were used.

The design evolved from a timely and in-depth internal design review process culminating in an optimum reliability/maintainability/performance end-item product. The design review process included studies such as FMEA, electrical and thermal analysis, sneak circuit analysis, worst case studies, tolerance analysis, etc. which resulted in direct impact of the design.

The design was approved via the formal NASA-CSD PDR, CDR, PCA, FCA and certification process.

(B) - TEST

The MSBLS program consists of an equipment confidence build-up approach starting from 100% screening of components (burn-in and environmental test). Environmental testing of SRU's and 100% temperature/vibration tests at the LRU and equipment rack-level.

In plant ATP for functional performance verification and workmanship will be performed and witnessed by CSD, NASA and DCAS on all LRUs and again at system level.

Site testing and certification will be performed on each system after installation. Annual flight tests are conducted to demonstrate continued system compatibility.

Ground Turnaround Test - Verify operation of the MSBLS Ground Station prior to each Orbiter landing.

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(C) - INSPECTIONReceiving Inspection

Receiving inspection verifies all incoming parts and materials, including the performance of visual and dimensional examinations. All electrical, mechanical and raw material records that certify materials and physical properties per drawing/specification requirements are retained by receiving inspection as required by contract.

Assembly/Installation

All detailed inspections are planned out by the methodization department for all new builds, spares and repairs for the MSBLS Programs. Inspection points are designated to permit inspection before the applicable portions of the assembly become inaccessible and prior to the next assembly operation.

Critical Processes

All processes and certifications are monitored and verified by inspection. The critical processes are soldering, conformal coating, torquing and boresiting, application of adhesives/sealants and application of chemical film.

Testing

All parts of the ATP are observed and verified by QA.

Handling/Packaging

All parts and assemblies are protected from damage or contamination from the point of receiving inspection to final shipment, through methods detailed in a documented procedure. This handling procedure is in effect for all newly built hardware as well as for repair units. QA audits conformance to this procedure in accordance with its internal audit schedule, and all areas are considered under continuous audit by QA with respect to material handling. The maintenance of electrostatic discharge prevention methods is verified by QA through periodic audits. All hardware items are packaged and protected according to contract requirements and are verified by inspection. Evidence of inspection of packaging is recorded on the applicable shipping document.

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(D) - Failure History

All field and flight failures were reviewed. The failures identified occurred in circuitry identical to the current hardware configuration; MSBLS-GS and MSBLS-JR failures are included. There have been 7 failures in the power entrance panel resulting in the loss of power to the shelter. There have been 55 failures resulting in the loss of output from the shelter. Due to limitations in the current repair contract, no failure analysis results are available for the 48 reported transmitter failures. From the problem descriptions it is felt that nearly half of the transmitter failures were due to end of life conditions on the magnetron tubes. In addition, there have been 6 power supply failures, 1 intermittent waveguide switch problem, and 1 failure caused by a defective weld in a directional coupler. There have been 11 single air conditioner failures which resulted in the potential shutdown of the shelter, if 2 air conditioners had failed in a single shelter. Loss of output failures typically are detected at systems power up, and generally do not occur during system operation. Since MSBLS Ground Stations are powered up daily beginning 4 or 5 days prior to a mission, and again 4 hours before a landing, a loss of output failure most likely would be detected and corrected before a Shuttle landing.

(E) - OPERATIONAL USE

For lower ceilings (8,000 to 10,000 feet) or night operations, redundant MSBLS (single fault tolerance) is required for night landing on a concrete runway. MSBLS is also mandatory for daylight landings on the lakebed with reduced ceilings, but is not required to be redundant. Deorbit is not attempted if the ceiling is less than 8,000 feet to ensure good visibility at low altitude. If radar tracking data (available at Edwards, KSC, and Northrop only) and ground communications are available, the MCC can attempt to resolve a MSBLS dilemma. Remote control operators are trained to evaluate system health and recognize probable failure modes from the Remote Control Unit Display. The Remote Control Operators will verify the back-up switching transition has occurred properly or take action to force the system into back-up. The Remote Control Unit Display is monitored to determine a malfunction and advise the chain of command on the status.