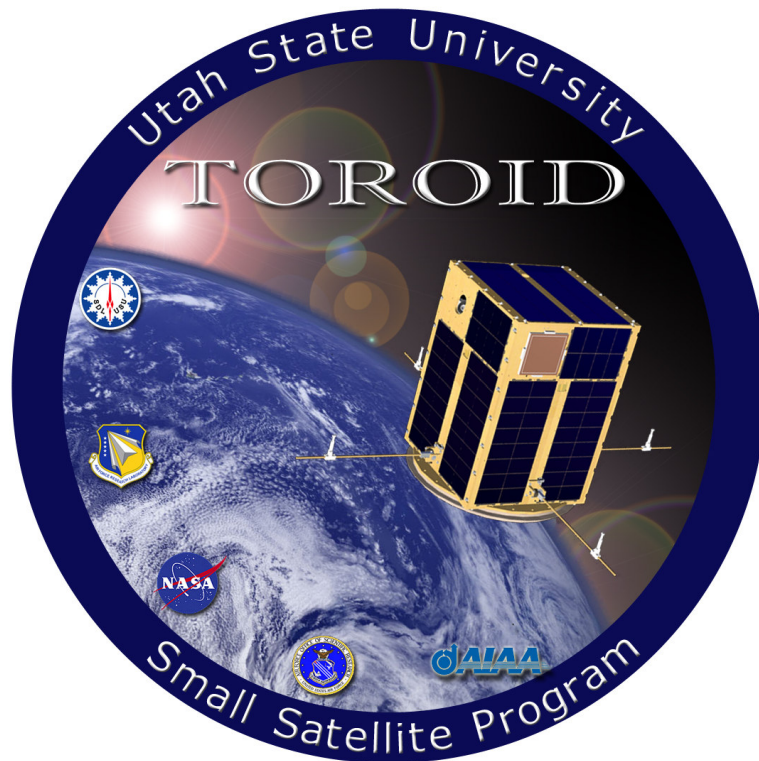


USU_{sat} III TOROID

Request for Proposals

Terminal Node Controller



University Nanosat IV Program

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1.0 Introduction

Utah State University, in conjunction with the University Nanosat 4 Program, is currently designing, testing, and fabricating a small satellite named TOROID. This spacecraft will be designed, assembled and readied for launch within a two-year period. The proposed science mission is one of interest to both NASA and the Air Force and involves a study of disturbances in the Earth's ionosphere. The proposed spacecraft, TOROID, is an evolutionary design from the USUSat, Combat Sentinel, and USUSat II programs. The primary science instrument, TOROID - TOMographic Remote Observer of Ionospheric Disturbances, is a photometer to measure the airglow due to electron and oxygen ion recombination. The data will be gathered in such a way that tomographic techniques can be used to construct an altitude profile of ionospheric density along the spacecraft trajectory. This project will not only be used to develop, explore and demonstrate new small satellite technologies, but it will also be able to gather meaningful scientific data on the fundamental parameters of ionospheric density irregularities that effect radio wave propagation for communications, navigation, and the Global Positioning System.

The University Nanosat 4 Program is a national competition sponsored by the AFRL Space Vehicles Directorate (AFRL/VS), NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC), and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA). This program is intended to promote the education of future spacecraft systems engineers, at the university level, motivate and sustain related research on targeted technologies by focusing on the development of small satellites (nanosats) or flight experiments, and inspire the interest of students, below the university level, for careers in space. The primary outcome of individual projects funded under this program is the design, fabrication and functional testing of a Nanosat. Secondary objectives are to foster research in enabling technologies for nanosats and the design of experiments that can be performed by nanosats in orbit

2.0 Eligibility

This request for proposals is limited to students currently enrolled in the Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering and Electrical and Computer Engineering departments at Utah State University. Collaborations among the different disciplines are encouraged.

3.0 Objectives

3.1 Description

The USUSat II bus uses two separate communication links to provide command and control as well as a data downlink. The command and control link operates at

amateur radio frequencies, and uses some Commercial Off The Shelf (COTS) components. This sort of system requires a Terminal Node Controller to packetize/de-packetize all data.

The protocol used shall be AX.25 version 2.0. The TNC shall be implemented in a microcontroller. A PIC18F452 microcontroller is preferred, but any microcontroller shall be used. The TNC shall also meet all requirements and specifications for the Communications subsystem of TOROID.

3.2 Cost

There is no defined cost cap for this project, but all expenses shall be approved by the USUSat Program Manager. However, costs must be kept to a minimum.

3.3 Educational Objectives

This RFP is intended to solicit proposals from students in the MAE and ECE departments at Utah State University, in order to meet requirements for a senior design project. As such, all proposals, reports and presentations shall adhere to MAE and ECE department policies regarding senior design projects.

4.0 Program Overview

All senior project associated with the Small Satellite Program are divided into four stages. First is the proposal stage, where interested parties submit proposals for each potential project. This stage is followed by the Preliminary design stage. This stage reviews the projects concept and feasibility, as well as adherence to requirements established in this document. The Critical Design Review follows next. This stage reviews the design, checks adherence to this document and to TOROID design guidelines. The final stage is the Final Design Review, where all deliverable requirements must be met. Should hardware be part of an accepted proposal, it must be delivered at this time. Below is chart showing this schedule

Design Review	Data/Hardware Item	Delivery Requirement
Proposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preliminary schedule ▪ Resource and personnel budget ▪ Overall Concept of design 	September 28, 2005
PDR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentation Slides ▪ Preliminary Drawings and 	7 Days Prior to review

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Schematics ▪ Preliminary budgets and analyses 	
CDR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentation Slides ▪ Budgets and analyses ▪ Detailed Drawings and Schematics ▪ Preliminary Test Plans and preliminary test results ▪ Assembly Plans 	<p>Drawings: 14 days prior to review</p> <p>All Else: 7 days prior to review</p>
FDR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentation Slides ▪ Complete Drawings and Schematics ▪ Budgets and Schematics ▪ Test Plans and Results ▪ Assembly Plans ▪ Protoflight Hardware/Simulation Results 	<p>Drawings: 14 days prior to review</p> <p>All Else: 7 days prior to review</p>

5.0 Submission Requirements

Two copies of the proposal should be emailed or submitted to:

Matthew D. Carney
mdcarney@cc.usu.edu

USUSat Progam
Office: Engineering Laboratory 206B
4170 Old Main Hill
Logan, UT 84322-4170

Additional copies may need to be submitted to supervising professor as well. Proposals should be submitted no later than September 28, 2005 at 7:00 am.

Address questions to: Matthew Carney, mdcarney@cc.usu.edu