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Applied Technology Associates Completes Key Role on U.S. Air Force's Modular Space Vehicle for Rapid Access to Space

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ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Applied Technology Associates (ATA) recently completed assembly, integration, and functional testing of the Department of Defense's first Modular Space Vehicle (MSV) bus hardware at its facility in Albuquerque, N.M., and has begun "day-in-the-life" testing of the spacecraft bus.

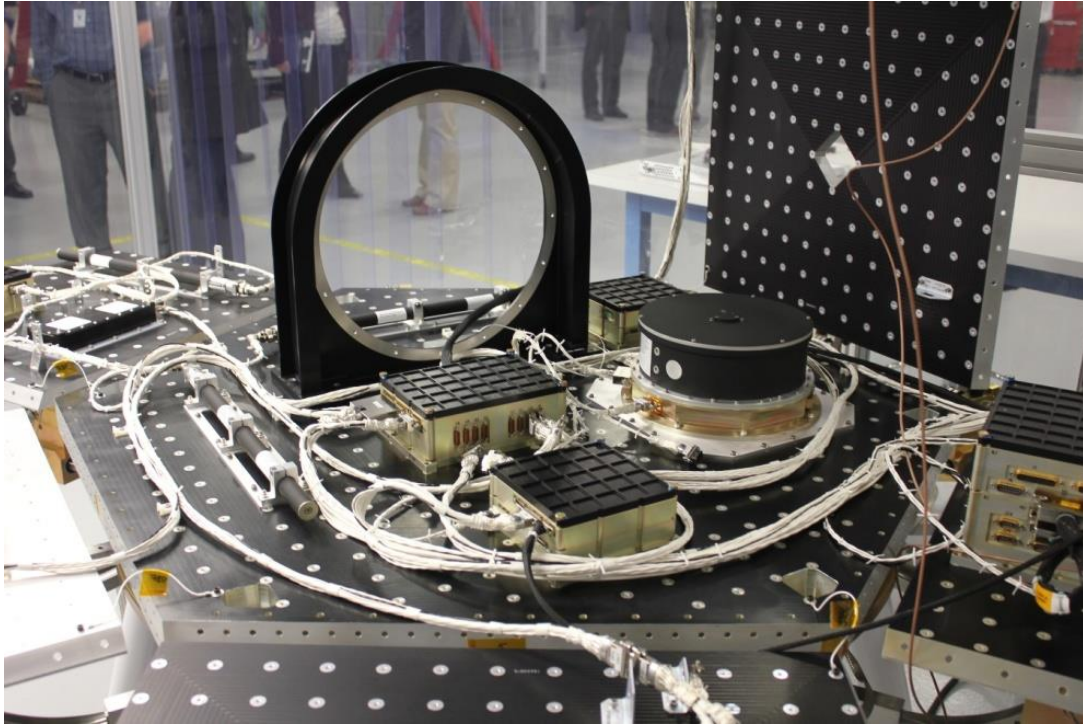
Completion of this phase of ATA's work was marked with a formal "gate review" at the company's facilities in the Sandia Science and Technology Park with Air Force personnel and representatives from MSV prime contractor Northrop Grumman Aerospace Systems, Redondo Beach, Calif.

Northrop Grumman's MSV spacecraft design is the first to implement a modular, rapidly reconfigurable architecture using open standards developed by an industry consortium in conjunction with the Air Force Research Laboratory and the Air Force's Operationally Responsive Space (ORS) Office at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M.

The MSV bus addresses the challenges of fast turnaround, rapid prototyping and development, and lower costs, providing responsive space capabilities that fit more immediate military needs.

Northrop Grumman performs the bus development under a five-year contract awarded in November 2010 by NASA's Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, Calif., supporting the Department of Defense ORS Office.

For more information about ATA, the MSV and Northrop Grumman, please visit http://www.atacorp.com/success_stories_msv.html and www.ngc.com.



The rapidly reconfigurable architecture of the MSV spacecraft design was demonstrated at ATA's facilities on May 9, 2013. (Photo courtesy of ATA)

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