

**INTERNATIONAL SMALL SATELLITE ORGANIZATION;
CONNECTING THE SMALL SPACE SYSTEMS COMMUNITY**

ABSTRACT: ISSO (International Small Satellite Organization) connects the diverse members of the low cost space systems community. The bimonthly ISSO newsletter, related ISSO activities, membership and membership services are described. The role of ISSO in the emerging small satellite/launcher industry and ISSO plans for 1989 are discussed. ISSO's first 18 months and some publication highlights are reviewed.

1) INTRODUCTION

Expansion of small satellite applications has occurred rapidly in the three years since the GLOMR and NuSat successes. Now that small satellites are promising to be an important element of both government and private space systems, launch systems catering to small, low cost payloads are being developed. Business and end user organizations are watching the low cost space movement. And the unique technical requirements of small satellite and launcher systems are stimulating new design approaches and reviving interest in simpler technologies abandoned by larger conventional systems.

ISSO was formed in this changing environment to provide a communications network in the amorphous small space systems community. The centerpiece of ISSO is the bi-monthly newsletter and its membership totaling over 500 individuals and organizations. The newsletter succinctly reports on events and milestones within and affecting its readership and contains longer feature articles of special interest.

2) ISSO AND YOU

ISSO is an organization formed to serve the communications needs of the small space systems community. To connect with ISSO, write to us:

ISSO
Dr. R. Fleeter
Defense Systems, Inc.
7903 Westpark Drive
McLean, VA 22102

or call:

703-883-1497

Your mailbox will then be graced with the ISSO newsletter and occasional requests to send money to support your membership. ISSO now costs \$18.00 per year. Multiple year subscriptions are available as a convenience.

ISSO's publications benefit from a broad information base and a variety of contributors. It's easy to have your own or your company's point of view represented in ISSO. Call the phone number above and tell us! The ISSO staff can convert a telephone interview into a news item. ISSO can edit and insert your rough written submission including figures into the publication. If getting around to writing is low on your home entertainment list, ISSO staffers can turn a telephone interview with you into a complete article. NOTE: ISSO maintains final editorial control over all publication contents.

3) WHO IS ISSO

I head ISSO as its Editor in Chief. My involvement in satellite spans work at JPL, TRW, DSI and AMSAT. When I'm not editing ISSO, I'm the Director of Space Technology at Defense Systems, Inc., McLean, Virginia. Because I am a DSI employee ISSO clearly displays its connection to DSI in its address. DSI has generously underwritten ISSO providing secretarial, publishing and mailing expenses before membership has begun to support its operation. DSI does not exercise control on ISSO content and I strive to provide the most balanced reporting possible. ISSO is now self sustaining thanks to prompt payment of dues by the membership.

The publication Managing Editor is Jason O'Neil, Manager of Satellite Programs at DSI. Jason and I write some publication feature articles and edit short news items.

Violet Ramos is ISSO's editor. The steady improvement in the publication's "look" owes to Violet's efforts.

Besides Jason, Violet and me ISSO contributors come from a variety of organizations involved in small space systems including NASA, Aerospace Corp., small satellite companies and low cost launch companies.

4) WHAT'S IN THE ISSO NEWSLETTER?

Since its first publication in July, 1987, ISSO has reported many major small satellite/launcher events. These include:

- DARPA Lightsat Conference: Monterey: 9/87 and 9/88 (KSC)
- USU Small Satellite Conference: Logan: 10/87 and 9/88
- Milcom '87: McLean: 10/87
- GAS Symposium: Greenbelt: 10/87
- AMSAT Launch: Kurou: 6/87

Reports on launcher activities have included:

- SSI (Houston)
- PALS (Redwood City)
- OSC (Fairfax)
- AMROC (Carpinteria)
- SCOUT/CTV (Dallas)
- LIGHTSAT ILV, SSLV AND ALB (Where are they now!?)
- STS Recovery and Manifesting
- Japanese Small Launches

Satellite Programs Covered Include:

- Stanford SURFER
- ISAS Ginga
- Intraspace: T-18
- MIT HETE
- AMSAT OSCAR 13
- Globesat: Atmospheric Measurements: GS 100, GS 200
- VITA Packsat
- University of Surrey UoSat Series
- Defense Systems: GLOMR, CRE, Standard GAS Sat
- USU: NUSat
- GSFC: CRESS
- Ball: BSS
- Sweden: Mailstar
- Lockheed: SRS
- Navy PGS: Orion
- Ford: ICDSP
- RCA MSSP

Plus, feature articles and data tables have been printed on:

- Small Satellite Safety Qualification (Anthony Mathews)
- Mixed Fleet Manifest (GSFC)
- ASTP Program
- University of Surrey Satellite Program
- Stanford University Satellite Program
- Small Satellite Processing at KSC
- Small Satellites in Japan: ISAS
- Alternative Launch Vehicles for Small Satellites

ISSO periodically publishes an acronym list to make all this small system-speak intelligible.

References for further information on news items and special features are also supplied.

5) WHAT'S COMING UP?

The small space systems community is active and growing. ISSO's publication grows with every issue and will continue to expand to cover the increasing level of activity. Coming issues will highlight the USU and GAS conferences, PEGASUS launch vehicle design and ops. plans and progress toward test firing of the PALS Liberty I.

More coverage will result from new developments in the small space system field and on reader inputs and suggestions. I encourage you to make ISSO work for you by calling in with your news and suggestions. ISSO is the sum of its readership's opinions, programs, ideas and vision.