AGILE LOGISTICS
TRANSPORTATION & INTEGRATION OF SMALL SATS

OVERVIEW

PLANET’S MISSION ONE is to image the whole world every day, making change visible, accessible and actionable.

Planet has designed and built more than two hundred highly capable Earth-imaging nano satellites, and today operates the largest Earth-imaging fleet in history. To get there, Planet had to develop new agile aerospace processes and methods for handling delivery and transportation of flight hardware. Our approach and processes are centered around quick design validation on the ground and frequent access to space.

SMART SHIPPING CONTAINERS

COST-EFFECTIVE — packaging crates have been designed to be inexpensive to build and easily modified for a given launch delivery.

FLEXIBLE TRANSPORTATION — so that crates are compatible with any means of transportation by land, sea or air.

STURDY SECURE — design of the crates ensure that the hardware will arrive safely at destination.

ENVIRONMENTAL FRIENDLY — means easy on-site recycling of shipping materials & prevents unnecessary returns.

ADVANCED PLANNING

HOLISTIC THINKING — allows our schedule to be adjusted on a day-to-day basis to account for launch delays; and our streamlined, in-house production activities help us avoid unnecessary shipment holds on our end.

OPTIMIZED FOR INTEGRATION — means that our spacecraft integration procedure is tailored to minimize the number of handling steps upon delivery and maximize efficiency from reception to integration inside the deployers.

MAXIMIZING IN-HOUSE ACTIVITY

IT’S ALL IN-HOUSE — meaning all in-lab activities are controlled and safer. We work to minimize launch/integration site activity.

TOOLING — and fixtures have been developed to minimize mechanical fit check anomalies during integration.

BUILT-IN FEATURES

DESIGNED FOR MASS PRODUCTION — our Dove satellites feature mechanical attributes that facilitate handling and ground operations including assembly on the production line to spacecraft integration.

NEAT HANDLING — features used on the production line are the same ones used for packing/unpacking, transportation and integration.

MINIMALIST — approach lowers the number of tools required for assembly and ground support. This reduces equipment needed on the launch site.

FLOCK DELIVERY

From left to right: Planet San Francisco Team members and Flock 2P delivery of 12 Doves satellites.

Flock 3P delivery of 88 Doves satellites.

Flock 2K delivery of 48 Doves satellites.