

20th SYMPOSIUM ON SMALL SATELLITE MISSIONS (B4)
Generic Technologies for Small/Micro Platforms (6A)

Author: Mr. Alex da Silva Curiel
Surrey Satellite Technology Ltd (SSTL), United Kingdom, a.da-silva-curiel@sstl.co.uk

LOWERING THE COST OF SPACE ACCESS – A NEW GENERATION OF LOW COST SSTL
PLATFORMS

Abstract

After more than twelve years and 25 implementations of its current small satellite architecture, on missions and satellites such as the DMC constellation satellite, the RapidEye Constellation Satellites and most recently the NigeriaSat-2 and Sapphire Platforms, SSTL will in 2013 release to the market the first of a new breed of mass efficient, low cost satellite platforms. This paper will describe the architecture, design and production approach for the new platforms along with details such as the platform performance, lifetime and expected recurrent price. Levering off the recent advances in SSTL capabilities in production, automated testing and new technologies, as well as the innovative approaches applied to the STRaND project, this will represent the biggest jump (upwards) in performance and the biggest step (downwards) in platform cost since the SSTL-100 platform was first introduced in the early 2000s