

HITCHHIKER

CUSTOMER ACCOMMODATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS SPECIFICATION (CARS)

Add the following:

2.6 Hitchhiker Ejection System

The Hitchhiker Ejection System (HES) (figures 2.6.1 - 2.6.5) provides small spacecraft from the Shuttle payload bay. The ejected payload is user supplied 9.375 inch diameter plate interface which is clamped to a clamp mechanism. Payload and ejection system are mounted in a canister motorized door which can contain an air or inert atmosphere prior to orbit with the Orbiter in the requested attitude the clamp is released payload is ejected. The system does not provide for rotation (spin) ejection. Orbital lifetime of ejected objects in typical Shuttle orbit one year.

There is no electrical power or signal connection to the spacecraft.

The user must provide means for lifting the spacecraft during installation. Following installation of the payload and launcher into the top of the payload will be accessible through the open door for service.

Vibration and shock environment is the same as for other canister payload.

Spacecraft must be designed to avoid contact with the canister under during ejection.

The ejection system and door mechanism are considered zero fault tolerance failure which would cause inability to eject or inability to close the spacecraft design must satisfy Shuttle safety requirements for a landing the door open.

Spacecraft which have appendages which deploy or other hazardous function occurs after ejection must provide adequate safety inhibits to prevent activation.

Ejection attitude must be such that there is no possibility of collision during the portion of the mission following ejection. JSC will perform analysis to insure that no recontact occurs.

Table 2.6.1 shows the characteristics of the Hitchhiker Ejection System

TABLE 6.1

Hitchhiker Ejection System Characteristics

Maximum Spacecraft weight	150 lb (68 Kg)
Maximum spacecraft height re separation plane	20.5 in (52 cm)
Maximum spacecraft diameter	19 in (48 cm)
Canister inside diameter	20 in (50 cm)
Maximum CG location re canister centerline	5 in (1.27 cm)
Maximum CG location re separation plane	10.25 in (26 cm)
Ejection velocity (at 150 lb.)	2 - 4 fps (.6 - 1.2 mps)
Maximum rotational impulse at ejection	TBD
Minimum payload resonant frequency	TBD Hz