SORCE July 2001 Project Summary

The SORCE program is on schedule and within budget. Launch is scheduled for July 31, 2002. SORCE will consist of three instruments each designed and built by NASA Headquarters and the GSFC, respectively. SORCE is a core mission that has maintained schedule for 3 years. Highly desired thanks to all of the SORCE team members who have continued to work through the schedule.

Much progress was made on the SORCE mission during the past month. At LASP the XPS and TIM instruments were integrated into the satellite observatory. The integration of the XUV (microparticle unit) to the satellite observatory was also completed. At Orbital/CESI (central electronics unit), fuse box and harnesses were integrated with the instrument rack. Initial backlighting tests and SOLSTICE instrument flight configuration builds were found to be successful and environmental test are now complete. The TIM pre-environmental characterization tests have begun and the SOLSTICE SURF (Solar Ultraviolet Radiation Facility) pre-environmental tests are also complete. The SOLSTICE solar verification has been done. The first solar spectrum through the SOLSTICE flight instrument has been obtained. All environmental test have been done and light leak testing is complete. SORCE is not planning any disbursements but removal of the FOV "green" ALS component from the SOLSTICE unit is still under conception. A review was held June 28, 2001 at Orbital to evaluate the potential launch. Orbital has submitted an ECP (engineering change proposal) for the removal of the green foil from the SORCE spacecraft along with a plan for the environmental testing of the SOLSTICE unit. The ECP was approved for the removal of the green foil. SORCE is currently studying the resulting issues with the SOLSTICE unit. SORCE is also in the process of deciding the robustness of the SORCE satellite without the green. SORCE and the Aerospace Corporation will present their findings in a study at a PAMC program management meeting.

SORCE Science

June was smooth for the SORCE scientists.

1. Papers and talks pertaining to SORCE were presented at the AGU/AGU/SPD meeting in Boston, at the "International Climate Cycle Health" meeting in Longmont, and at the "Evolving Sun and its Influence on Planetary Environments" Meeting in Grenoble.

2. Longmont and Boulder meetings in early June brought a number of visitors, including Gerhard Brown from the University of Bremen, Switzerland, Gerhard Thaller from France, and Judith Lean from NRL.

3. Co-Investigator, Dimitriuk Cretan competition has been held for the "300 million.

4. The SORCE Science Team Meeting that had been scheduled for July 2001 has been postponed until after Observatory delivery to Orbital, possibly November. As our interest in the program was rekindled, the SORCE Science Team Meeting per year and we planned to start in May and continue through the Winter. The summer 2001 meeting was originally scheduled for July 9 to 11, in Boulder. This meeting was pushed back to August 7 to 9. The SORCE Science Team meeting is now scheduled for late October.

5. The reason for the July delay is the SORCE time line, not the observatory. The part of the instrument team would have an adverse impact on the observatory team. Unfortunately, SORCE has learned that preparation.

6. The ECP delivery schedule is new by current in early November. As soon as a date is confirmed, this meeting will be scheduled. The part that is dedicated to the beginning of the meeting will be the most careful examination of all deliverables. The enabling meeting will be the primary meeting for this purpose. The meeting will be made to the SORCE Science Team meeting will be now scheduled to early 2002.

7. Some of the key meetings include those with SORCE scientists and earth system research.

8. SORCE has received some disappointing news. NASA announced that most of the funding for the satellite will be turned off as of September 30, 2001. This decision has major negative impact on the "Sun, Lawrence and Koop on the TIM characterization.

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