Project CSDI

Cube Sat Deployment from ISS

Why do we want to do this?

- Many CubeSats have been deployed successfully from various Launchers
- Most recent deployments were done using Russian launchers
- The Russian launchers all go into a long lasting orbit
 These launches are very expensive and have very long wait times and require ITAR export licenses.

Safety requirements

The safety requirements are not significantly different from those that would be required for ISS.
No RF or power prior to launch
Multiple inhibits (Velcro straps)
No electronics in release - manual release mechanism

We already have a launcher tube

A launcher tube has already been developed for these launches that could be adapted for hand launches during an EVA.
Multiple inhibits could easily be implemented.

Astronaut CubeSat Deployment





Crew Deploying CubeSats

QuickTime™ and a TIFF (LZW) decompressor are needed to see this picture.





Build on previous experience

- Previous items have been successfully launched by ISS and MIR Crew.
- This deployment can be better calibrated than just tossing the satellites as in the past.
 The orbit would be self cleaning.
 This would go a long way towards reducing current concerns of orbital debris.