

Propelling the Small Satellite Revolution with **Electric Propulsion**

Aurora

Affordable, Reliable, Mass-produced EP for Small Satellite Missions

The Orbion Plasma Propulsion System - Aurora is based on the most reliable, well-known form of electric propulsion (EP) in existence—Hall-effect thruster (HET) technology.

Commonly used in spacecraft propulsion for over 30 years, HET is a type of ion thruster which accelerates propellant via an electric field. Trapped within an intense magnetic field, electrons ionize the propellant—in the case of the Aurora, inert xenon gas—creating ionized plasma. The resulting exit velocity of the plasma of up to 15,000 meters per second produces the thrust needed to maneuver small spacecraft 70kg and larger.

Orbion's Aurora EP Solution Enables All of the Following for Smallsat Missions:

- Maintains very low earth orbit (VLEO)
- Raises orbit to higher altitudes
- Enables cislunar and interplanetary missions
- Allows for constellation deployment from a single launch vehicle
- Avoids collisions
- De-orbit at end of life



Aurora Propulsion System

Hall thrusters provide significant propellant savings over chemical propulsion-based systems. And of course, the less propellant needed translates to more payload for your mission.

| Specification | Value |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Input voltage from spacecraft | 28 V unregulated (acceptable range: 24 – 35 V) |
| Dry mass of system | 8.3 kg |
| Data interface with spacecraft | RS-422 |
| Radiation | Both LEO and GEO/Cislunar options available |
| Total impulse | > 200 kN-s |



Propelling the Small Satellite Revolution with **Electric Propulsion**

Aurora

Reliable, Affordable Electric Propulsion for Small Satellite Missions

Performance Data (Xenon)

| Discharge Power (W) | Anode Flow (mg/s) | Thrust (mN) | Total I _{sp} (s) |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| 100 | 0.53 | 5.7 | 950 |
| 150 | 0.72 | 8.8 | 1110 |
| 200 | 0.92 | 12 | 1220 |
| 250 | 1.1 | 15 | 1320 |
| 300 | 1.3 | 19 | 1370 |



Xenon is a colorless, odorless, nontoxic gas present in the atmosphere. Decades of development experience prove that Xe is the highest-performing EP propellant in the periodic table. Xe is immune from freeze damage, will not contaminate nor damage spacecraft surfaces, has a high storage density (2kg/liter - 2x greater than liquid water), and is easily metered with proven techniques. Xe is trusted by the most demanding customers.

Our Design

Aurora is a complete integrated system, including thruster, power processing unit, propellant management assembly, and electrical harnessing that was designed from the ground up to be an affordable, reliable, mass-producible product. We didn't just design a new thruster; we instead designed an entirely new process. Orbion's production approach leverages the speed, efficiencies, and reliability of robotics and automated test facilities, replacing small teams of lab technicians in white coats. Our manufacturing process can produce one to two units per run, or 1,000 units per run—all of them enjoying the same low price and high reliability.

Visit our website for more information.

Aurora's Spec Sheet: orbionspace.com/downloads

Online Configurator: orbionspace.com/thruster-configurator

Coming soon, The 'El Matador' collision avoidance feature: orbionspace.com/resilience



Stay Tuned for Our Next Product... Nova.

For direct communications, please contact: Greg Orndorff • greg.orndorff@orbionspace.com • 301.356.4704