

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

George C. Marshall Space Flight Center
Marshall Space Flight Center, AL 35812



Reply to Attn of:

SD40 (01-02)

01/02/02

TO: DA01/A.G. Stephenson
THRU: AD33/Amanada Rasco

FROM: SD40/Thomas N. Stinson

SUBJECT: Request for Deviation/Waiver

Deviation/Waiver Number: MWI 511301-WAV02

In accordance with MPG 1410.2, SD40 requests approval for waiver from requirements specified in MWI 5113.1, paragraph 6.6, Special Limitations Regarding the Use of Credit Cards, which states that credit cards may be used to purchase "commercial items", which are products and services available on the open market and "off-the-shelf".

Define the Proposed Departure from Requirements:

It is requested that the Delta-L project, specifically SD44, Experiments Project Management Group, be permitted to use the following Printed Wire Board procured via Government credit card per MWI 5113.1 in order to complete fabrication and verification testing of the Delta-L flight hardware in support of the scheduled launch readiness date of June 01, 2002.

- Fabrication of Printed Wiring Board per MSFC Drill & Trim Drawing 96M32061

Justification for the Deviation/Waiver:

MWI 5113.1, paragraph 6.6.2 states that credit cards shall not be used for flight hardware except in an "emergency", a situation that requires immediate action. For such emergencies, this paragraph goes on to list the procedures to be followed by the cardholder. We are in complete compliance with all these listed procedures.

The DELTA-L project is a Biotechnology investigation selected with a very short development schedule and with a limited budget to be performed in the Microgravity Science Glovebox (MSG). To this end, a small in-house team was formed to design, fabricate, and test the flight hardware in preparation for integration into the MSG. The project's design was an enhancement from an earlier MIR/GBX apparatus, from which the design team built a high fidelity breadboard using credit card procurements, which were primarily "off the shelf" items. Following the successful Critical Design Review (CDR) and the Phase 2 Flight Safety Review, fabrication and assembly of the flight unit proceeded with the same philosophy of sustaining the short schedule and the limited budget. Since the MSFC ED37 fabrication shop does not fabricate printed wire boards, this board was procured with the credit card along with the other "off the shelf" items. The board fabrication was a standard services provided by an approved vendor, and on a commercial basis on the open market. To perform these services they required definition of the desired product (i.e., released drawings and quality requirements) from the customer. All applicable quality requirements were provided, and all MSFC quality inspections and project testing will be performed. Discarding this board and re-procuring through another MSFC procurement venue will not support our current schedule for verification testing and subsequent launch readiness of the flight hardware.

Mission Success Starts with Safety

Applicability, Impacts, and Conditions of Deviations/Waivers:

This waiver request applies to the subject component to be used for the DELTA-L, which will perform a Biotechnology investigation within the MSG. Impact of approval may affect refund ability of non-conforming items.

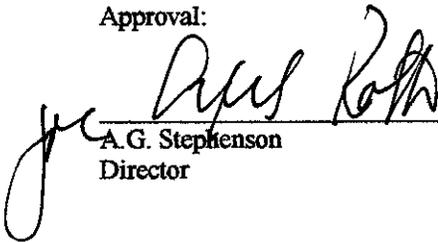
Alternate Plan to meet any ISO 9001 Requirements:

None. All other ISO requirements met.



Thomas N. Stinson
Deputy Manager
Microgravity Science and Applications Department

Approval:



A.G. Stephenson
Director

2/3/02
Date