

**FAILURE MODES EFFECTS ANALYSIS (FMEA) -- CIL HARDWARE**

NUMBER: 03-1-0228 -X

SUBSYSTEM NAME: MAIN PROPULSION

REVISION: 2 08/22/00

**PART DATA**

	<b>PART NAME</b>	<b>PART NUMBER</b>
	<b>VENDOR NAME</b>	<b>VENDOR NUMBER</b>
LRU	:LH2 PREVALVE CLOSING SOLENOID UNITED SPACE ALLIANCE - NSLD	MC284-0404-0041, -0051 13110-6, 13110-7

**EXTENDED DESCRIPTION OF PART UNDER ANALYSIS:**

VALVE, SOLENOID NORMALLY CLOSED 3-WAY 3/8 INCH. LH2 PREVALVE CONTROL, CLOSING

VALVE WAS ORIGINALLY DESIGNED AND MANUFACTURED BY WRIGHT COMPONENTS (NOW PERKIN ELMER) BUT IS NOW MANUFACTURED BY UNITED SPACE ALLIANCE-NSLD AS AN ALTERNATE PRODUCTION AGENCY.

**REFERENCE DESIGNATORS:** LV19, 21, 23

**QUANTITY OF LIKE ITEMS:** 3

**FUNCTION:**

CONTROLS PNEUMATIC PRESSURE TO CLOSE THE LH2 PREVALVE. VALVE MUST DEACTUATE TO ALLOW PREVALVE ACTUATOR TO VENT WHEN PREVALVE IS OPENED. OPENING SOLENOID (LV18,20,22) (REFERENCE FMEA/CIL 03-1-0227) MUST DEACTUATE TO ALLOW VALVE TO CLOSE.

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**LRU: LH2 PREVALVE CLOSING SOLENOID (LV19, 21, 23)**

**CRITICALITY OF THIS**

**ITEM NAME: LH2 PREVALVE CLOSING SOLENOID (LV19, 21, 23)**

**FAILURE MODE: 1R2**

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**FAILURE MODE:**

FAILS TO ACTUATE (PREVALVE FAILS TO CLOSE, REFERENCE FMEA/CIL 03-1-0402-04) WHEN LH2 PREVALVES ARE COMMANDED CLOSED AT SSME SHUTDOWN.

**MISSION PHASE:**

PL PRE-LAUNCH  
LO LIFT-OFF

**VEHICLE/PAYLOAD/KIT EFFECTIVITY:**

102 COLUMBIA  
103 DISCOVERY  
104 ATLANTIS  
105 ENDEAVOUR

**CAUSE:**

PIECE PART STRUCTURAL FAILURE, BINDING, ELECTRICAL SOLENOID FAILURE, INLET FILTER CLOGGED.

**CRITICALITY 1/1 DURING INTACT ABORT ONLY? YES**

AOA ABORT ONCE AROUND  
ATO ABORT TO ORBIT  
PAD PAD ABORT  
RTLS RETURN TO LAUNCH SITE  
TAL TRANS-ATLANTIC LANDING

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**REDUNDANCY SCREEN**

A) PASS  
B) PASS  
C) PASS

**PASS/FAIL RATIONALE:**

A)

B)

C)

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**- FAILURE EFFECTS -**

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**(A) SUBSYSTEM:**

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NO EFFECT FOR FIRST FAILURE. FAILURE OF SOLENOID TO ACTUATE CAUSES FAILURE OF PREVALVE TO CLOSE. AT MECO, RESULTS IN LEAKAGE PAST THE PREVALVE, BUT SSME MAIN FUEL VALVE IS ALREADY CLOSED. ALSO NO EFFECT FOLLOWING DUMP/INERT. DOWNSTREAM SYSTEM IS ISOLATED BY CLOSED SSME MAIN FUEL VALVE.

**(B) INTERFACING SUBSYSTEM(S):**

SAME AS A.

**(C) MISSION:**

NO EFFECT FOR NOMINAL MISSIONS.

FOR ABORTS, PREVALVE FAILS TO ISOLATE A SHUTDOWN ENGINE WITH UNCONTAINED DAMAGE CAUSING POSSIBLE AFT COMPARTMENT OVERPRESS AND FIRE/EXPLOSION HAZARD.

LAUNCH SCRUB IF FAILURE OCCURS AT INITIATION OF LH2 RECIRCULATION (LOADING). RESULTS IN LCC VIOLATION.

**(D) CREW, VEHICLE, AND ELEMENT(S):**

SAME AS C.

**(E) FUNCTIONAL CRITICALITY EFFECTS:**

1R/2 2 SUCCESS PATHS. TIME FRAME – ANY SSME SHUTDOWN

- 1) ENGINE SHUTDOWN WITH UNCONTAINED DAMAGE (ASSUMES ENGINE IS DAMAGED ONLY TO THE EXTENT THAT ISOLATION OF THE DAMAGE WILL SAFE THE SYSTEM) - FOR PAD ABORTS A PARTIALLY OPEN MAIN FUEL VALVE.
- 2) PREVALVE CLOSING SOLENOID (LV19,21,23) FAILS TO ACTUATE.

PREVALVE WOULD FAIL TO ISOLATE THE AFFECTED ENGINE. RESULTS IN LH2/GH2 LEAKAGE IN AFT FUSELAGE LEADING TO OVERPRESS, FIRE/EXPLOSION HAZARD, AND POSSIBLE LOSS OF CRITICAL ADJACENT COMPONENTS DUE TO CRYO EXPOSURE. MAIN FUEL VALVE LEAKAGE AFTER A PAD ABORT RESULTS IN HAZARDOUS OVERBOARD LEAKAGE OF LH2. POSSIBLE LOSS OF CREW/VEHICLE.

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**-DISPOSITION RATIONALE-**

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**(A) DESIGN:**

VALVE IS DESIGNED FOR A PRESSURE FACTOR OF SAFETY OF 2.0 PROOF, 4.0 BURST. THE CLOSURE DEVICE IS A 430 CRES BALL ACTING UPON EITHER OF TWO VESPEL SEATS. THE VALVE FEATURES A BALANCED LOAD ON THE BALL BY APPLYING INLET PRESSURE

**FAILURE MODES EFFECTS ANALYSIS (FMEA) -- CIL FAILURE MODE  
NUMBER: 03-1-0228-01**

(750 PSIG NOMINAL) DIRECTLY TO THE BALL AT THE INLET SEAT AND INDIRECTLY (VIA A BELLOWS) THROUGH THE VENT SEAT. THE BELLOWS IS ASSISTED BY A SPRING, THE FORCE OF WHICH INSURES THE BALL IS HELD SECURELY AGAINST THE INLET SEAT WHEN THE SOLENOID IS DEENERGIZED. UPON BEING ENERGIZED THE SOLENOID DEVELOPS THE FORCE TO OVERCOME THE SPRING LOAD AND SEATS THE BALL ONTO THE VENT SEAT TO ALLOW HELIUM FLOW. TOTAL POPPET MOVEMENT (STROKE) IS LESS THAN 0.040 INCH.

TO FAIL TO ACTUATE MEANS THE FORCE TO MOVE THE BALL TO THE VENT SEAT IS NOT DELIVERED TO THE BALL. THE VALVE PARTS INVOLVED ARE THE SOLENOID, THE SOLENOID PLUNGER, THE SOLENOID STOP, TWO PUSHRODS AND A SPRING. THE PUSHRODS ARE ALIGNED IN SERIES, SEPARATED BY THE SPRING FOR CHATTER PREVENTION. THE PUSHRODS ARE MADE OF CRES AND CARRY ONLY AXIAL LOADS. IF THE RODS WERE TO FAIL STRUCTURALLY, THEY WOULD CONTINUE TO PERFORM THEIR FUNCTION BECAUSE THEY ARE TOTALLY CONTAINED IN THE STOP (THE ROD OD IS 0.125 INCH AND THE STOP ID IS 0.126 INCH). THE ROD, IN CONTACT WITH THE BALL, IS GUIDED BY THE SOLENOID STOP FOR OVER 28% OF ITS LENGTH. BECAUSE OF THE CLOSE TOLERANCES IN THE SOLENOID ASSEMBLY, BINDING DUE TO CONTAMINATION IS A DESIGN CONCERN. TO PRECLUDE BURRS, THE SOLENOID BORE IS HONED. TO PREVENT BINDING, THE PLUNGER IS COATED WITH A DRY-FILM LUBRICANT. THE STOP IS MADE OF A MUCH HARDER MATERIAL THAN EITHER OF THE PUSHRODS TO PREVENT GALLING, AND THE PUSHROD SPRING NOT ONLY CONTROLS CHATTER, BUT REDUCES THE POTENTIAL FOR FRETTING.

CLOGGING OF THE 20 MICRON NOMINAL, 40 MICRON ABSOLUTE, RATED INLET FILTER IS PROTECTED AGAINST BY THE USE OF MULTI-FILTERED HELIUM IN THE ORBITER PNEUMATICS SYSTEM. THE HELIUM IS FILTERED BY THE GROUND SYSTEM BEFORE PRESSURIZING THE VEHICLE PNEUMATICS BOTTLE. IT IS AGAIN FILTERED (25 MICRONS, ABSOLUTE) BEFORE IT ENTERS THE VALVE ACTUATION SYSTEM. ALSO, TO INCREASE THE INLET FILTER'S EFFECTIVE SURFACE AREA THE FILTER IS OF A PLEATED DESIGN.

THE SOLENOID STRUCTURE IS CONSTRUCTED OF CRES AND IS EB WELDED. THE COIL IS VACUUM IMPREGNATED (POTTED). THE UNIT IS PRESSURE AND LEAK TESTED AT MAJOR ASSEMBLY POINTS.

THE -0031 CONFIGURATION WAS ADDED DUE TO A BELLOWS ASSEMBLY DESIGN CHANGE (P/N 24340 TO P/N 24340-1) TO ELIMINATE THE "SQUIRMED" CONDITION WHICH SOME OF THE ORIGINAL BELLOWS ASSEMBLIES EXPERIENCED DURING PROOF PRESSURE TESTING AT ATP. THE DESIGN CHANGE WAS MADE TO STRENGTHEN THE BELLOWS. BECAUSE THE DAMAGE OCCURRED DURING ATP, VALVES ALREADY IN THE FLEET (-0021 CONFIGURATION) WERE X-RAY TESTED AND ONLY VALVES WHICH HAD SQUIRMED BELLOWS WERE UPGRADED TO THE -0031 CONFIGURATION.

THE -0041 AND -0051 CONFIGURATION SOLENOID VALVES ARE IDENTICAL TO THE -0021 AND -0031 CONFIGURATION SOLENOID VALVES (RESPECTIVELY) WITH THE EXCEPTIONS OF ADDING THE FILTER (10 MICRON NOMINAL, 25 MICRON ABSOLUTE) IN THE VENT PORT OF THE SOLENOID VALVE AND REDESIGN OF THE VENT PORT CHECK VALVE. THIS FILTER WAS ADDED TO PREVENT CONTAMINATION AND METALLIC PARTICLES GENERATED DURING THE REMOVAL OF THE VENT PORT CHECK VALVE DURING OMRSD LEAKAGE MEASUREMENTS FROM ENTERING THE SOLENOID VALVE.

**FAILURE MODES EFFECTS ANALYSIS (FMEA) -- CIL FAILURE MODE  
NUMBER: 03-1-0228-01**

THE VENT PORT CHECK VALVE (P/N 11107-5) WAS REDESIGNED (P/N 11107-7) TO PREVENT THE POPPET FROM BEING EJECTED DUE TO SHEARING OF THE RETAINING NUT THREAD. A PIN WAS ADDED TO THE CHECK VALVE HOUSING, WHICH RETAINS THE POPPET WITHIN THE CHECK VALVE HOUSING. A NEW ALUMINUM NUT, WHICH PROVIDES A MINIMUM ENGAGEMENT OF THREE THREADS, WAS UTILIZED TO INCREASE RELIABILITY. THE -0031 CONFIGURATION WAS ADDED DUE TO A BELLOWS ASSEMBLY DESIGN CHANGE (P/N 24340 TO P/N 24340-1) TO ELIMINATE THE "SQUIRMED" CONDITION WHICH SOME OF THE ORIGINAL BELLOWS ASSEMBLIES EXPERIENCED DURING PROOF PRESSURE TESTING AT ATP. THE DESIGN CHANGE WAS MADE TO STRENGTHEN THE BELLOWS. BECAUSE THE DAMAGE OCCURRED DURING ATP, VALVES ALREADY IN THE FLEET (-0021 CONFIGURATION) WERE X-RAY TESTED AND ONLY VALVES WHICH HAD SQUIRMED BELLOWS WERE UPGRADED TO THE -0031 CONFIGURATION.

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**(B) TEST:**

ATP

AMBIENT TEMPERATURE TESTS:

PROOF PRESSURE (1560 PSIG); EXTERNAL LEAKAGE (850 PSIG); ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS AND RESPONSE; INTERNAL LEAKAGE (740 PSIG, ENERGIZED AND DEENERGIZED).

REDUCED TEMPERATURE TESTS (-160 DEG F):

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS AND RESPONSE; INTERNAL LEAKAGE

ELECTRICAL BONDING TESTS

SOLENOID SUBASSEMBLY TESTS:

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS; ENCLOSURE LEAKAGE (ONE ATMOSPHERE).

CERTIFICATION

TWO UNITS -

PORT AND FITTING TORQUE

SALT FOG EXPOSURE FOLLOWED BY ELECTRICAL AND LEAKAGE CHECKS

**FAILURE MODES EFFECTS ANALYSIS (FMEA) -- CIL FAILURE MODE  
NUMBER: 03-1-0228-01**

AMBIENT VIBRATION TESTS: TOTAL 13.1 HOURS BOTH AXIS FOR TWO VIBRATION LEVELS PLUS TRANSIENT VIBRATION SWEEP - RUN WITH ONE SPECIMEN ENERGIZED AND ONE DEENERGIZED - FOLLOWED BY ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS AND LEAKAGE CHECKS

HANDLING SHOCK TEST

ENERGIZED AND DEENERGIZED FLOW TESTS

FIFTY HOUR CONTINUOUS CURRENT TEST AT 130 DEG F

AMBIENT TEMPERATURE ENDURANCE (4500 CYCLES FOLLOWED BY ELECTRICAL AND LEAKAGE CHECKS); 130 DEG F ENDURANCE (500 CYCLES FOLLOWED BY ELECTRICAL AND LEAKAGE CHECKS); OPERATION CYCLES (REPEATED 20 TIMES); REPEAT OF AMBIENT TEMPERATURE ENDURANCE ; -160 DEG F ENDURANCE ( 500 CYCLES FOLLOWED BY ELECTRICAL AND LEAKAGE CHECKS)

DISASSEMBLY AND INSPECTION

BURST PRESSURE (3400 PSIG)

GROUND TURNAROUND TEST

ANY TURNAROUND CHECKOUT IS ACCOMPLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH OMRSD.

**(C) INSPECTION:**

RECEIVING INSPECTION

RAW MATERIALS ARE VERIFIED BY INSPECTION FOR MATERIAL AND PROCESSES CERTIFICATION. BODY HOUSING BAR STOCK IS ULTRASONICALLY INSPECTED.

CONTAMINATION CONTROL

CLEANLINESS LEVEL VERIFIED TO 100A. CORROSION PROTECTION IS VERIFIED BY INSPECTION.

ASSEMBLY/INSTALLATION

ALL PARTS ARE PROTECTED FROM DAMAGE AND CONTAMINATION. MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION OF ALL DETAIL PARTS IS MADE PRIOR TO ASSEMBLY. ALL SURFACES REQUIRING CORROSION PROTECTION ARE VERIFIED. MANDATORY INSPECTION POINTS ARE INCLUDED IN THE ASSEMBLY PROCEDURE. MECHANICAL SURFACE FINISH AT 125 RMS IS INSPECTED AND VERIFIED WITH A PROFILOMETER. SURFACE FINISHES SMOOTHER THAN 125 RMS ARE INSPECTED USING A COMPARATOR AT 10X MAGNIFICATION. ALL CRITICAL DIMENSIONS ARE VERIFIED BY INSPECTION.

CRITICAL PROCESS

HEAT TREATMENT AND PARTS PASSIVATION VERIFIED BY INSPECTION. POTTING OF SOLDER CUPS, ELECTRICAL WIRE STRIPPING, AND SOLDERING OF CONNECTORS ARE VERIFIED BY INSPECTION. DRY FILM LUBRICATION APPLIED TO THE PLUNGER IS VERIFIED BY INSPECTION.

NONDESTRUCTIVE EVALUATION

**FAILURE MODES EFFECTS ANALYSIS (FMEA) -- CIL FAILURE MODE  
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WELDS VISUALLY EXAMINED & VERIFIED BY X -RAY, DYE PENETRANT, AND EDDY CURRENT. THE SOLENOID ASSEMBLY IS SUBJECTED TO LEAKAGE VERIFICATION USING RADIOACTIVE TRACER TECHNIQUES. THE VALVE BODY, PRIOR TO FINAL MACHINING, IS SUBJECTED TO ETCH AND DYE PENETRANT INSPECTION. BELLOWS ASSEMBLY IS PROOF PRESSURE TESTED AND LEAK CHECKED.

TESTING  
ATP VERIFIED BY INSPECTION.

HANDLING/PACKAGING  
PACKAGING FOR SHIPMENT VERIFIED BY INSPECTION.

**(D) FAILURE HISTORY:**

A NUMBER OF ELECTRICAL CONNECTORS WERE BROKEN AT NSTL DUE TO EXCESSIVE PHYSICAL FORCE APPLIED TO THE CONNECTOR BY TECHNICIANS WORKING IN THE CONFINED AREA (CAR'S AB1813, AB1613, AND AB1208). CORRECTIVE ACTION RESULTED IN THE INSTALLATION OF PROTECTIVE COVERS TO PREVENT CONNECTOR DAMAGE IN HIGH TRAFFIC AREA. ALSO, CONNECTORS WERE WELDED TO THE VALVE BODY IN LIEU OF SOLDERING.

THE SOLENOID VALVE EXPERIENCED ERRATIC BUT ACCEPTABLE PERFORMANCE AT KSC DUE TO EXCESSIVE SLIDING FRICTION CAUSED BY BURRS, AND SHARP EDGES ON THE ARMATURE (CAR AC1181). THE CONTROLLED PNEUMATIC VALVE OPERATION WAS ACCEPTABLE. THE CORRECTIVE ACTION RESULTED IN THE REDESIGN OF THE VALVE TO ELIMINATE THE BURRS AND SHARP EDGES. INSPECTION WAS IMPROVED AND AN OMRSD REQUIREMENT FOR CURRENT SIGNATURE TRACE WAS IMPOSED.

DURING QUALIFICATION TESTING AT THE SUPPLIER (CAR AC3193), AND SUBSEQUENTLY AT KSC (CAR AC8975 AND AD0352), THE VALVES FAILED TO CYCLE (ACTUATE OR DEACTUATE) WHICH OCCASIONALLY PREVENTED PROPER OPERATION OF THE CONTROLLED PNEUMATIC VALVE. FAILURE INVESTIGATION DISCLOSED FRETTING ON THE PLUNGER AND IN THE BORE AREA. THIS GENERATED SMALL PARTICLES LEADING TO BINDING OF THE VALVES. THE FRETTING WAS THE RESULT OF A LACK OF REQUIRED LUBRICANT. THE CORRECTIVE ACTION WAS THE APPLICATION OF MICROSEAL (DRY FILM LUBRICANT) ON ALL NEW PARTS AND THE REPLACEMENT OF PLUNGERS WITH MICROSEAL WHEN VALVES WERE RETURNED TO THE SUPPLIER FOR REWORK.

AN ELECTRICAL SHORT DUE TO INCORRECT ALIGNMENT OF SOLDER CUPS (PINS "A" AND "C") WAS DETECTED AT THE PALMDALE FACILITY (CAR AC2687). THE CORRECTIVE ACTION TAKEN WAS THE ADDITION OF HEAT SHRINK TUBING TO ISOLATE THE SOLDER CUPS AND THE ADDITION OF AN INSPECTION POINT AFTER POTTING.

FOUR SOLENOID VALVES FAILED TO ACTUATE PROPERLY DURING ATP. TWO FAILED TO ACTUATE DUE TO BINDING (CARS AC0737, ACO894) AND THE OTHER TWO FAILED DUE TO INCORRECT STROKE OF THE PLUNGER (CARS ACO739, AC1469). DETAIL PARTS WERE INCORRECTLY FABRICATED/ASSEMBLED. THESE VALVE DEFECTS WERE REPAIRED AND ARE ATP SCREENABLE.

**FAILURE MODES EFFECTS ANALYSIS (FMEA) -- CIL FAILURE MODE  
NUMBER: 03-1-0228-01**

AFTER THE ACTUATION SIGNAL WAS REMOVED, TWO VALVES AT NSTL VENTED CONTINUOUSLY (CAR A7662) DUE TO BINDING OF THE PLUNGER CAUSED BY BURRS AND GALLING. DETAIL PARTS WERE INCORRECTLY FABRICATED/ASSEMBLED. THESE VALVE DEFECTS WERE REPAIRED.

CURRENT DATA ON TEST FAILURE, FLIGHT FAILURE, UNEXPLAINED ANOMALIES, AND OTHER FAILURES EXPERIENCED DURING GROUND PROCESSING ACTIVITY CAN BE FOUND IN THE PRACA DATABASE.

**(E) OPERATIONAL USE:**

FLIGHT: NO CREW ACTION CAN BE TAKEN.

GROUND: GROUND OPERATIONS SAFING PROCEDURES CONTAIN SAFING SEQUENCE OF EVENTS FOR MAJOR LEAKS IN THE HYDROGEN SYSTEM.

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**- APPROVALS -**

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S&R ENGINEERING	: W.P. MUSTY	:/S/ W. P. MUSTY
S&R ENGINEERING ITM	: P. A. STENGER-NGUYEN	:/S/ P. A. STENGER-NGUYEN
DESIGN ENGINEERING	: DAVE NEARY	:/S/ DAVE NEARY
MPS SUBSYSTEM MGR.	: TIM REITH	:/S/ TIM REITH
MOD	: JEFFREY L. MUSLER	:/S/ JEFFREY L. MUSLER
USA SAM	: MICHAEL SNYDER	:/S/ MICHAEL SNYDER
USA ORBITER ELEMENT	: SUZANNE LITTLE	:/S/ SUZANNE LITTLE
NASA SR&QA	: BILL PRINCE	:/S/ BILL PRINCE