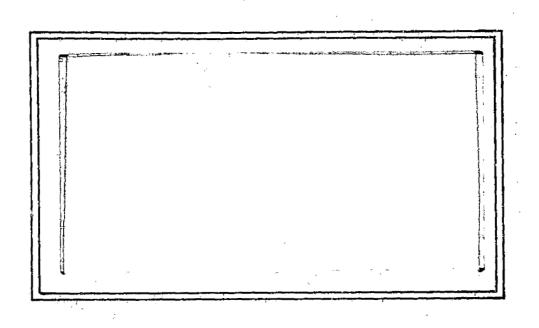
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Unidynamics oenis,inc. PHOENIX, ARIZONA



(NASA-CR-161703)DEVELOPMENT,N81-21144QUALIFICATION, AND DELIVERY OF A HYDROGENBURNOFF IGNITER Final ReportUnclas(Unidynamics/Phoenix)37 p HC A03/MF A01UnclasCSCL 21B G3/2542066



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24 March 1981

ynamics boenie, inc.

phoenix, arizona

UNIDYNAMICS DOCUMENT NO. DTR-149

FINAL REPORT ON DEVELOPMENT, QUALIFICATION, AND DELIVERY OF A HYDROGEN BURNOFF IGNITER

(NASA Contract No. NAS8-34195) (Unidynamics Account No. C35-780)

Prepared For:

National Aeronautics and Space Administration George C. Marshall Space Flight Center Marshall Space Flight Center, Alabama 35812

Attention: Donald W. Cor vius Contracting Officers' Representative

Prepared by: D. Ray Development Engineer

Approved by Cox

Project Manager

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#### INTRODUCTION

Under Marshall Space Flight Center Contract NAS8-34195, Unidynamics/ Phoenix, Inc. desiged, fabricated, and qualified the hydrogen burnoff igniter illustrated on the next page to MSFC-SPEC-541. This item is a pyrotechnic device used to burn off excess hydrogen gas near the Space Shuttle Main Engine (SSME) nozzle.

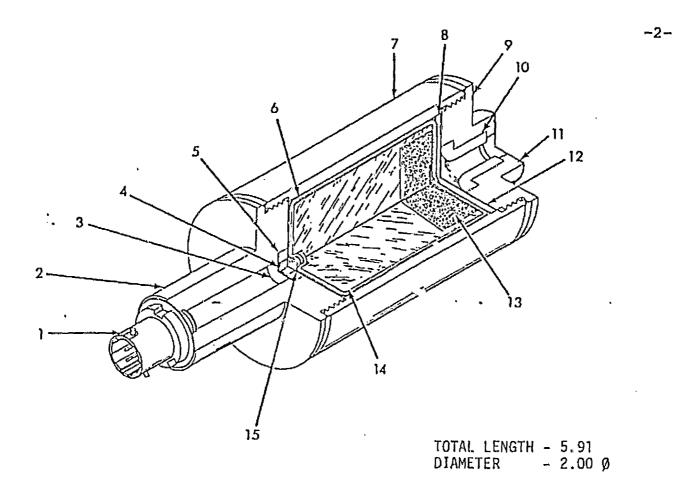
As set forth in the statement of work, the program was to be completed in four phases:

- Phase I Material Study and Prototype Design
  - Phase II Prototype Fabrication, Development Testing, and Final Design
- Phase III Fabrication
- Phase IV Qualification Testing

MSFC-SPEC-541 specified that the burnoff igniter was to have a function time of  $8 \pm 2$  seconds, a minimum three-foot flame length at maximum output, and hot particles projected 15 feet when fired directly into or perpendicular to a 34.5-knot wind. The three-foot flame requirement was considered to be of questionable importance, since the hot particles are the media for igniting the hydrogen. Flame temperature was to be greater than 1500°F. As shown by the qualification report\*, all of these specifications were met.

Additional details are provided in subsequent sections.

<sup>\*</sup>Unidynamics Document No. 51-1151-QTR-03.



### LEGEND

1 - NSI	8 – PAD
2 – ADAPTER	9 - NOZZLE HOUSING
3 - ALUMINUM FOIL	10 - NOZZLE
4 - 107-PPR-02	11 - WELDED CLOSURE DISK
(LOOSE LOAD)	12 – PAPER DISK
5 – TRANSFER PELLET	13 - GRAIN
6 – FITCO	14 – INHIBITOR
7 – CASE	15 - ALUMINUM FOIL

# 51-1151 HYDROGEN BURNOFF IGNITER

#### PHASE I - MATERIAL STUDY

Since it was deemed desirable to eliminate all corrosive halides from the combustion products of the hydrogen burnoff igniter, the most promising propellant composition was a composite of potassium nitrate, a hydrocarbon fuel-binder, a high-combustiontemperature metal powder of appropriate particle size, and necessary ballistic additives to enhance ignition or modify burn rates.

Potassium nitrate was selected as the best candidate because of its relatively non-hygroscopic nature and established history of use in halogen-free propellants and ignition materials. It was felt, however, that the most widely used solid propellant oxidizers, such as ammonium perchlorate, should not be eliminated from this program even though they do produce small amounts of corrosive halides in the combustion process. Therefore, the potassium nitrate formulations and the ammonium perchlorate formulations were evaluated simultaneously.

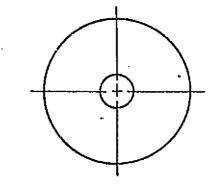
The oxidizer/fuel binder/ballistic additive combination functions as a propellant base to generate a controlled mass flow of hot gases to form a high velocity jet in the exit plume of the nozzle. This flow of high temperature, high velocity gases contains a flux of entrained burning particles of the metal fuel additive. These particles are ejected into the plume while still burning and continue on their respective flight paths for distances which are determined principally by their initial velocity, particle sizes, burning rates in air and the effects of wind velocities.

The NASA requirements of  $8.0 \pm 2$  seconds burn time, spark projection of 15 feet minimum when fired directly into or perpendicular to a 34.5-knot wind, and particle temperature of 1500°F were all met under this program. Total cartridge burn time was controlled by grain web thickness, length of grain and nozzle opening. Several nozzle opening diameters and shapes were evaluated during the program in an effort to control the particle plume. The nozzle shaping configurations proved to be ineffective due primarily to the fact that the resulting nozzle opening was relatively small. Two of the tested nozzle configurations are illustrated on the next page.

Since it was still desirable to be able to reduce or eliminate errant sparks which traveled above the 28-inch height as measured from the centerline of the unit, a spark deflector which could easily be attached to the nozzle was designed. This deflector effectively controlled the errant sparks.

A series of small laboratory-size batches of propellants using various metals for the sparks were blended as a means of quickly evaluating spark characteristics. Zirconium, aluminum, iron and magnesium were evaluated. Zirconium proved to be the best candidate. Essentially two particle-size zirconiums were evaluated; the finer particles produced undesirable anomalies. Coarser grade zirconium, approximately 400-micron, produced good spark characteristics and was selected for the final design.

The computer analysis reproduced on the following pages was conducted for the final propellant system. The potassium nitrate and the ammonium perchlorate compositions evaluated during Phase I are discussed more thoroughly in the following sections.



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# STRAIGHT

# NOZZLE CONFIGURATIONS

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2.00 05 0013 1.5E=05 0	1.29885 CO .15040 H20 5.1E-03 FECL 1.5E-04 ZRCL 3.3E-05 NO 8.7E-06 CL2 2.2E-06 NH	2.2E~05 C 7.6E⊷06 F	EUL 8.3 30 2.0 EO 5.1	5637 2802\$ 1945 CO2 E-03 FL E-05 CNH E-05 28CL4 E-06 CH20
T(K)·T(F) P( 1593.2409.	ATM) P(PSI) EN 1.00 14.70	THALPY ENTROP -80,16 217,0		GAS RT/ 3.729 .
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3.5E=04 FE 5.6E=04 /RC1 3 8.1F=05 /RC1 /L E. 6F=05 /CC2	3.3E-04 CNH 1.4E-04 WH3 4.8E-05 CHO 2.1E-05 CH20
2.0E-05 NO 1.16-05 CH4	9.5E-06 CL2 6.8E-06 FECL3 2.6E-06 NH
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1.56664 H2 1.25499 CO	.48111 HCL .25760 ZRU25
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#### POTASSIUM NITRATE COMPSITIONS EVALUATED IN PHASE I

Table I summarizes this series of evaluations, and the individual compositions are discussed below.

Test No. 1 involved the following composition:

- 64.0% Potassium Nitrate
- 11.4% Hydroxyl-Terminated Polybutadiene (HTPB)
- 14.0% Zirconium (30-44 Micron)
- 6.0% Boron
- 2.5% Dimethyl Diisocyanate (DDI-1410)
- 2.0% Ferric Oxide
- 0.1% Antioxidant (CAO-14)

This composition was pressed into a pellet at 1500 psi. The pellet was then inhibited with a mixture of Epon 828 (50 percent) and Versamid 140 (50 percent). When fired, the propellant overpressurized in the test unit using a nozzle diameter of 0.200-inch ( $K_n$ 49). The nozzle assembly was expelled.

Test No. 2 used the following composition:

- 56.0% Potassium Nitrate
- 20.0% Powdered Sugar, commercial grade
- 16.0% Zirconium (-200/+325)
- 6.0% Polyester Resin
- 2.0% Ferric Oxide

This composition was pressed into a pellet at 10,000 psi and inhibited with a mixture of 50 percent Epon 828 and 50 percent Versamid 140. Overpressurization occurred in the test unit using a nozzle diameter of 0.200-inch ( $K_n$  49). The nozzle was expelled.

	Grain	Grain	Diameter	Ignition Loose	Ignition	Nozzle I.D.	Nozzle		Disk Th	FITCO k Dia.	Time	Dist.	Flame Length	·				
"Test No.	Comp.	[Inches	(Inches)	<u> </u>		(Inches)	Config.	<u>Xn</u>	(Inches	)(Inches	Disec)	(Feet)	(Feet)		CONN	·		
1	EL48832*		1.40	50 mợ	lg v/lg buttertd	0.230	(1)	- 49	2.002	0.030					nozzle			
2	EL48837				460mg v/1g buttered	0,200	(1)	49	0.001	0.030					d nozzle			
8	E146843	1.030	1.344	50 mg	la buttered	0,200	(2)	45	0.001	0.030	23.35				few spar			
10	EL48043	1.032	1:344	50 mg	19 buttarer	0.200	(2)	45	0.001	0.030	22.76	<u></u>		Stable	fev spar	1		l
27	:-8857	1.170	1.40	50 mg	lg buttered	0.200	(2)	69	0.001	0.055	6.89	40-45'	1-2"	Stable	good spa	***		
30	EL48857	1.174	1.40	50 prg	lç buttered	0.150	(2)	87	0.001	0.055	3.45	45-50	1-2	Stable	good spa	ks		
ננ	E148961	1.90	1.397	50 mg	ly buttered	0.150	(2)	87	0.001	0.055				Expelled	nozzle	43sembly		
34	EL48861	1.48	1.398	50 mg	ig buttered	0.189	(2)	55	0.001	0.055	7,20	bunker*		Stable	good spa	ks		
35	E148861	1.51	1.396	50 mg	19	0.189	(2)	55	0.001	0,055				Expalled	norrie	455 cm 51 y		
38	EL48851	1.402	1,345	50 mg	400 mg	0,250	(2)	29	0.001	0.055	10.60	bunker*		Stable	good spa	ka		
40	EL4BB61	1.430	1.345	50 mg	400 mg	0.250	(2)	29	0.001	0.055	10.60	25-30'	1-2'	Stable	-good spa	KB .		
41	EL40561	1.451	1.346	50 mg	400 mg	0.250	(2)	29	0.031	0.055	10.60	25-30*	1-2'	Stable	sqa boop	ks		
42	E148861	1.450	1.344	25 mg	400 mg	0.238	(2)	32	0.001	0.055	10.50	bunker*		Stable	good spa	hs		
43	EL48061	1.450	1.345	25 mg	400 mg	0.230	(2)	32	0.001	0.055	10.60	bunker*			1303 503			
45	EL46861	1.400	1.342	25 mg	400 mg	0.250	(2)	29	0.001	0.055	30.30	15-20'	1-2*				aflection	
46	CL48861	1.401	1.323	25 mg	400 mg	0.250	(2)	29	0.001	0.055	10.36	15-20'	1-2'				flection	
50	EL48861	1.447	1.344	25 .27	400 mg	0.250	[2]	29	0.001	0.055	10.60	15-25'	1-2*	J8 pph w	nd6-10	spark d	eflection	
52	E148961	1.400	1.342	25 mg	400 mg	0,250	(2)	29	0.001	0.055	10.00	20-25*	1-2*	20 mph w	nd2-6'			
53	1148861	1.490	1.342	25 mg	400 mg	0.250	(2)	29	0.001	0.055	10.90	20-25'	1-2'		nd2-6		eflection	
54	EL48461	1.100	1.350	25 mg	400 mg	0.221	(2)	29	0.001	0.055	7.57	bunker*			19000 pp3			
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# TABLE I - POTASSIUM NITRATE PROPELLANT TESTS

-11-

Tests 8 and 10 employed the following composition:

- 54.0% Potassium Nitrate (15.4-micron)
- 24.0% Powdered Sugar, commercial grade
- 14.0% Zirconium (Type I, Class 1) (approximately 400 micron)
- 8.0% Flucrel

Test Unit No. 8 was fabricated using a 0.200-inch diameter nozzle,  $(K_n 45)$ , and it burned for 23.35 seconds. The burn was stable, but spark output and projection were poor. Number 10 also had a 0.200-inch diameter nozzle  $(K_n 45)$ . This unit also produced poor sparks. Burn time was 22.78 seconds.

Tests 27 and 30 used the following composition:

- 41.39% Potassium Nitrate (15.4 Micron)
- 31.03% Zirconium (Type I, Class 1) (approximately 400 micron)
- 8.62% Magnesium
- 8.62% Powdered Sugar, commercial grade
- 8.62% Fluorel (10% solution in MEK)
- 1.72% Boron

The propellant was pressed at 10,000 psi and then inhibited using a mixture of 50 percent Epon 828 and 50 percent Versamid 140. Test Unit No. 27 had a 0.200-inch diameter nozzle ( $K_n$ 49). A stable burn with good spark output was sustained for 6.89 seconds. Test Unit No. 30 had a 0.150-inch diameter nozzle ( $K_n$ 87). A 3.45-second stable burn produced good spark output. A total of 14 tests were conducted using the following propellant composition:

41.0% Potassium Nitrate
30.0% Zirconium (Type I, Class 1)(approximately 400 micron)
9.0% Magnesium
9.0% Powdered Sugar, commercial grade, with 3.0% cornstarch
9.0% Fluorel

2.0% Boron

All propellants in this series were inhibited using a mixture of 50 percent Epon 828 and 50 percent Versamid 140. Test No. 33 had a 0.150-inch diameter nozzle,  $(K_n 87)$ , and the nozzle assembly was expelled during functioning.

Test Units 34 and 35 had 0.189-inch diameter nozzles. Test No. 34 had a 7.2-second burn with good spark output. The nozzle expelled on Unit 35 during functioning. As a result of the expulsion of nozzles, a brief analysis of the cause was conducted. It was felt that the reuse of hardware more than twice resulted in thread fatique, thus causing the nozzle howsing to blow out. This problem was eliminated when new hardware was used exclusively for testing.

Tests 38, 40, 41, 45, 46, 50, 52, and 53 were conducted as above but with 0.250-inch diameter nozzles. All units produced good sparks with stable burns for the durations as listed below:

Unit No.	Burn Time (seconds)	Unit No.	Burn Time (seconds)
38	10.6	46	10.3
40	10.6	50	10.6
41	10.6	52	10.0
45	10.3	53	10.9

-13-

On October 24, 1980, Unidynamics conducted a series of tests for MSFC and Rockwell International. The tests were conducted in cross winds of 40 miles per hour and 20 miles per hour to evaluate the effects of the wind upon the sparks. Basically, the units performed very well under the effects of the wind. Units 45, 46, 50, 52 and 53 of the above group were fired into a cross wind with the following results:

<u>Unit No</u> .	Cross Wind Velocity	Spark Deflection
45	40 mph	6 to 10 feet
46	42 mph	6 to 12 feet
50	38 mph	8 to 10 feet
52	20 mph	2 to 6 feet
53	20 mph	2 to 10 feet

Although the cross wind did deflect the sparks, a significant number passed through a target placed seven feet away. Spar' projection was in excess of 15 feet.

Test Units 42 and 43 using the same propellant composition had 0.238-inch diameter nozzles and produced stable burns with good spark output. Test Unit. No. 42 had a burn time of 10.5 seconds, and Unit No. 43 burned for 10.6 seconds.

Test Unit No. 54 using the same propellant composition had a 0.221-inch diameter nozzle. It produced good spark output and burned for 7.57 seconds.

Although the potassium nitrate units performed well under the wind conditions, Unidynamics also tested the ammonium perchlorate compositions under the same conditions. Both compositions performed well with the potassium nitrate producing more smoke. Since it was felt that the small amount of corrosive halides given off by the ammonium perchlorate compositions were insignificant, a decision was made to concentrate on the more widely used ammonium perchlorate system. In addition to the potassium nitrate compositions, one unit was fabricated (Test No. 28) using the following composition:

60.0% 47-PPR-01
42.0% Magnesium Powder
21.0% Halon
6.5% Fluorel
3.5% Red Lead Oxide
27.0% Tetranitrocarbazole
40.0% Zirconium (Type I, Class 1)

This unit had a 0.125-inch diameter nozzle ( $K_n$  125). Burn time was 3.91 seconds. The burn was stable but with poor spark output.

#### AMMONIUM PERCHLORATE COMPOSITIONS EVALUATED IN PHASE I

Table II summarizes this series of evaluations, and the individual compositions are discussed below.

The ammonium perchlorate compositions evaluated were formulated using a bi-modal particle distribution of ammonium perchlorate, and a ground ammonium perchlorate system. Nozzle diameter variations were also evaluated. Test No. 3 had the following composition:

- 32.0% Ammonium Perchlorate
- 32.0% Ammonium Perchlorate (approximately 11 micron)
- 13.1% R-45M
- 19.0% Zirconium (-200/325 mesh)
- 2.8% DDI-1410
- 1.0% Ferric Oxide
- 0.1% CHO-14

This mixture was readily castable and burned vigorously with good sparks. However, Unit No. 3 with a 0.200-inch nozzle  $(K_n 49)$  expelled the nozzle. This phenomena was attributed to the multiple uses of the hardware causing structural fatigue.

Test No. 4 had the following composition:

- 32.0% Ammonium Perchlorate
- 32.0% Ammonium Perchlorate (approximately 11 micron)
- 13.1% R-45M
- 12.0% Aluminum (Reynolds No. 40 30 + 5 micron)
- 7.0% Aluminum (Reynolds No. 1-842)
- 2.8% DDI-1410
- 1.0% Ferrio Oxide
- 0.1% CAO-14

est No.	Grain Cosp.	Grain Length (Inches)	Diameter	Ignition Loose Load	Ignition Pellet	Nozzle I.D. (Inches)	Nozzle Config.	ĭ.n	Closure Disk Thi (Inches)		Burn Time (sec)	Spark Dist (ft)	Plame Length (Feet)		соян	5 8 7 5	· ·	
3	EL48834 ·	1.31		50 mg	burtered	0,700	(2)	49	0.001	0.030						· .	1	
4	EL48831	1.30	1.395	50 mg	lg hutsered	0.200	(2)	49	0.001	0.030	2.0			Stable b	rnpeor	pparks		1
5	EL46839	0.950	1.334	50 =	19 buttered	0,202	(2)	44	0.001-	0.030	18,41			Stable b	rngood	sparks	ĺ	1
5	5148938		1.337	<u>50 mq</u>	13 buttered	0,200	(2)	44	0.001	0.030	30.0+			Chuffed	(ev spark	B)	ř – – –	1
7	EL48838	1.150	1.336	50 mg	lg butteres	0.200	(2)	44	9.001	0.030	30.0			Ch iffed	few spark	n)		1
2	ZL48941	1.20	1,358	50 mg	lg butteres	0.200	(2)	46	J.001	0.020	18.82			Chuffed	good spar	ks		1
11	EL45841	1.19	1,335	_50 rg	la buttered	0.207	(2)	45	0.001	0.030	19.6	50'	1-2'	Stable	;ood spar		ļ	1
12	ELAPH19	1.15	1,150	59 57	la butterer	0.200	(2)	45	0,001	0.030	21.27	30-35'	1-2'	Stable	pood apar	13		1
13	E141819	1.08	1.150	50 mg	lq buttered	0.150	(1)	81	0.001	0.030	13.9			Stable	good spar	18	i	1
14	2149841	1.18	1.325	50 mg	lg butteres	0.150	(1)	79	0.001	0.030	7.3		[	Stable	;cod spar	13		1
15	LL48641	1.13	1.335	50 mg	lg butteres	0.150	(1)	79	0.001	0.010	2.99	50'+	1-2"	Stable	nood spar			1
16	EL48839	1.15	1.350	50 ±-g	lg buttered	0.150	(1)	79	0.601	0.030	12.9	40-50'	1-2'	Stable	pod spar	\$		1
17	LL49846	1.18	1.350	50 ±rg	1g burtered	0.200	(1)	46	0.001	C.030	19.9	35-40'	1'-1'6"	Statle	cod scar	5		1
18	E148846	1.18	1.350	50 mg	lg buttered	0.150	(1)	81	0.001	0.030	11.74	50'	1-2'	Stable		<u> </u>		†
19	2148846	1.18	1.350	(ست 50	lg buttered	0.200	(1)	46	0.001	0.030	19.35	35-40'	1'-1'6-	Stable		÷		1
20	EL49845	1.20	1,350	50 mg	lg buttere	0.150	(1)	81	0.001	0.039	9.5	50'+	1-2'	Chuffed		·		
21	CL48052	0.70	1.350	50 mg	lg buttered	0.150	(2)	81	0.001	0.055	10.66	bunker*		Chuifed	eflectio	shield	47)	<u> </u>
22	1:149852	0.70	1.350	50 mg	la buttered	0.150	(2)	81	0.001	0.055	11.4	25-30'	1 - 1 . 6-	Chuffed	eflectio	shield	4"1	1
23	146852	0.70	1.340	50 mg	ly buttered	0,150	0)	82	0.001	C.055	10.3	30'35'	1-2'	Chuffed				†
24	148852	0.70	1.340	50 mg	19 buttered	0.150	(1)	81	0.001	0.055	10.46	30-35'	1'-1'6"	Chuffed		<u> </u>	*** •	<u>†</u>
25	148852	0.70	1.340	50 mg	lg buttere.	0.150	(1)	81 •	0.001	0.055	9.9	25-40'	1,-1,0-	Deflectic	shield :	- long		1
26	2:46855	1.10	1.40	50 r.g	lg buttered	0.150	(2)	91	0.001	0.055	21.2	25-30'	1'-0'	Fluttered	weak sp	rks	·	<u>†</u>
29	1148918	1.12	1,340*	50 mg	ly buttered	0.200	(2)	46	0.003	0.055	1.8	50'+	2-3'	Stable	good spar	k5 ·		1
31	1.148958	1,16	1.340"	50 arg	lg buttere	0.250	(2)	29	0.001	0,055	B.1	40-50'	1-2'	Stable				1
32	1.1.49350	1.202	1.354*	50 #g	lg buttered	0.221	(2)	37	0.001	0.055		40-50'	1-2*			<u> </u>		1
36	EL48865	1.20	1.353	50 rg	400 mg	0.125	(2)	117	0.001	0.055	3.52	bunker		Stable	good spar	x 3		<u>†</u>
37	CI.48865	1.18	1.355	50 mg	400 mg	0,125	(2)	117	0.001	0.055	4.25	bunker'		Stable	;ood spar	.5	_	†
39	148058	1.50	1.353	50 pog	400 mg	0.234	(2)	33	0.001	0.055	11.31	bunker*		Stable	jood spar	1.5		1
44	1148858	1.10	1.345*	25 mg	400 5×3	0.234	(2)	33	0.001	0.055	8.2	bunker*		Stable		L		<u>†                                    </u>
47	ZL48858	1.10	1.370*	25 mg	400 mg	0.234	(2)	33	0.001	0.055	8.3	15-201	1-2'	40 mph vi	nd 8 to 1	feet		<u>†</u>
51	ELAP358	, 1.100	1.370*	25 rg	400 pg	0.234	(2)	23	0.001	0.055	8.87	15-201	1-2*	50 mph wi	nd 8 to 1	) feet .		╆───
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BUNKER - UNDERGROUND TEST BAY.

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		Grain	Grain	Ignition	170	Sozzie	- <u>Ata</u>		Closure		Born	Tipark <sup>-</sup>	ROPELI Telaza	CAN'T	resrs	·	<u> </u>	
Test No.	Grain Comp.	Length	Diameter (Inches)	Loose Load	Ignition Pellet	I.D. (Inches)	Nozzle Config.	1.n	Disk The	Dia.	Tine	Dist (ft)	Length	соян	.H T S			
55	STAR 364	1.102	1,249	25 zrg	400 mg	0.201	(2)	<5	0.002	0.055	6.27	bucker		Stable	and spa	29		
55	EL48264	1.100	1.350	25 m	400 mg	0.150	(2)	81	0.652	0.055	3.10	bunker		Stable	rood sea	ka 🛛		
57	5148565	1,101	1.349	25 ±9	400 eg	0.221	{2)	37	0.00Z	0.055.	8.41	25-30'	1-1'6-	Stable	7001 STA	ka 🛛	1	
58	ZL48865	1.10	I.350	25 ng	460 mg	C.221	(2)	37	0.632	0.055	7.33	30-35"	7-2'	Statle	good aga	ks		
57	EL48865	1.102	1,350	25 og	469 =7	0.221	(2)	37	0.002	0.055	7.74	30-35'	1-2'	Statlo	good and	ks	· 1	
60	L:48765	1.102	1.352	25 pg	460 og	0.221	(2)	37	9.002	0.055	8.02	25-30'	1-2*	Statte	good spa	2.5		
61	ELABSES	2.492	1.351	25 #4	469 ag	0.161	(2)	70	0.002	0.055	8.82	49-50"	1-2'	Stable	5003 553	xs		
67	ZLABROS	2.401	1.348	25 pr	400 07	0.161	(2)	70	0.032	0.555	8.45	45-50'	1-2'	Stable	7005 SEA	X.5		
61	E249365	1.101	1.348	25 cg	400 eg	C.221	(2)	37	0.002	0.055	7.95	49-591	1-2'	Stable	Ega boos	25		
64	E148965	2.361	1.159	25 #3	450 = 3	<b>9.15</b> I	125	70	0.002	0.055	3.44	50-50'	7-3*	Inhibito	treakdo	10		
65	LT48863	1.105	1.348	25 07	450 64	5.221	(2)	37	0.602	0.655	7.93	130-35*	1-2'	Stable				
65	ELAERCA	1.100	1.351	25 mg	450 mg	0.221	(2)	37	0.002	0.055	7.88	39-35	1-2'	Stable	÷			
67	EL48068	1.101	1.345	25 m	407 57	0.221	(2)	37	0.052	0.055	7.74	30-35*	1-2*	Stable	<u> </u>	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
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1	2. 0 20	COD SCIZZES	e ofening.										<u> </u>	<u>-</u>	<u> </u>			
	3. ALL GR. A. 111. IG	ains vere Hition Pat	INFILBITED	WITH 50 PH 107-998-03	EPCENT EPON	828, SO PER	CENT VERS	MM1D140	•				<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>			
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This composition was readily castable, and stable burning, but spark output was poor. The unit had a 0.200-inch diameter nozzle and burned for 2.0 seconds. Since the sparks produced were poor, aluminum was eliminated from further development activitiy.

Test Numbers 5, 12, 13, and 16 featured the following composition:

- 29.0% Ammonium Perchlorate
- 29.0% Ammonium Perchlorate (approximately 11 micron)
- 24.0% Zirconium (Type I, Class 1)
- 14.8% R-45M
- 3.2% DDI-1410

This composition was readily castable. Unit No. 5 had a 0.200inch diameter nozzle ( $K_n$  44) and produced a stable burn and good sparks for 18.41 seconds. Test Unit No. 12 also had a 0.200inch diameter nozzle ( $K_n$  45), and its burn time was 21.27 seconds with good stability and output. Test Unit 13 had a 0.150-inch diameter nozzle ( $K_n$  81), and its burn time was 13.9 seconds. Test Unit 16 had a 0.150-inch diameter nozzle ( $K_n$  79) and a burn time of 12.9 seconds. Both units produced good sparks with a stable burn.

Tests 6 and 7 evaluated the following composition:

- 58.0% Ammonium Perchlorate, ground approximately 11 micron)
- 24.0% Zirconium (-200/+325 mesh)
- 14.8% R-45M
- 3.2% DDI-1410

Both units had 0.200-inch diameter nozzles  $(K_n 44)$ , and both had burn times of 30 seconds plus. However, the units chuffed during burn, and few sparks were produced.

Tests 9, 11, 14, and 15 were conducted with units incorporating the following propellant composition:

- 32.0% Ammonium Perchlorate
- 32.0% Ammonium Perchlorate (11 micron)
- 20.0% Zirconium (Type I, Class 1)
- 13.2% R-45M
- 2.8% DDI-1410

Unit No. 9, with a 0.200-inch diameter nozzle  $(K_n 46)$ , had a burn time of 18.82 seconds. It chuffed during burn, but spark output was good. Unit No. 11 also had a 0.200-inch diameter nozzle  $(K_n 45)$ , and it burned for 19.6 seconds. The spark output was good and the burn was stable.

Test Units 14 and 15 had 0.150-incb diameter nozzles  $(K_n 79)$ . Unit No. 14 had a burn time of 7.30 seconds, and Unit No. 15 had a burn time of 2.99 seconds. Both units burned stably with good spark output.

The following propellant mix was used in Tests 17, 18, 19 and 20:

- 24.0% Ammonium Perchlorate
- 40.0% Ammonium Perchlorate (11 micron)
- 20.0% Zirconium (Type I, Class 1)
- 13.2% R-45M
- 2.8% DDI-1410

Units 17 and 19 had 0.200-inch diameter nozzles (K 46) and produced burn times of 19.90 and 19.35 seconds, respectively. Both units had stable burns with good spark output. Unit No. 18 had a 0.150-inch diameter nozzle (K 81) and burned stably for 11.74 seconds with good spark output. Unit No. 19 had a 0.150-inch diameter nozzle ( $K_n$ 81) and produced a burn time of 9.50 seconds. This unit chuffed, but spark output was good.

The following propellant composition was used for Tests 21, 22, 23, 24, and 25:

- 29.0% Ammonium Perchlorate
- 29.0% Ammonium Perchlorate (11 micron)
- 24.0% Zirconium (Type I, Class 1) (approximately 400 micron)
- 14.7% R-45M
- 3.2% DDI-1410
- 0.1% CAO-14

All five units had 0.150-inch diameter nozzles (K<sub>n</sub>81). With the exception of Test No. 25, all units chuffed for approximately two seconds after ignition and then burned stably for the remainder of function. This indicated slight nozzle plugging. Unit No. 25 had a stable burn throughout. All units had good spark output, and burn times were 10.66, 11.40, 10.30, 10.46, and 9.90 seconds, respectively.

Units 21 and 22 incorporated a four-inch long deflector shield made from 0.010-inch thick stainless steel. This produced no significant deflection in the spark pattern, because the 0.010inch thick stainless steel shield would not withstand the heat. Unit 25 had a one-inch long deflector shield made from 0.010inch stainless steel. It also proved ineffective. A thicker walled deflector was later fabricated which did significantly reduce the errant sparks.

At this point in the program, the bi-modal particle size distribution of ammonium perchlorate was discontinued in favor of the ground perchlorate for burn rate enhancement. Considerable effort was expended in selection of the proper propellant composition, inhibitor material, nozzle configuration and the addition of a small amount of ferric oxide to act as a burn rate catalyst. The final propellant composition developed for this program was designated CH<sub>3</sub> MOD 4 and has the following ingredients:

- . 58.0% Ammonium Perchlorate, (ground approximately 12 micron)
- 23.5% Zirconium, Type I, Class 1
- 14.8% Hydroxy-terminated Polybutadiene
- 3.2% DDI-1410 Catalyst
- 0.5% Ferric Oxide

The final nozzle diameter was 0.221-inch, ( $K_n$ 37). All tests produced stable burns and good spark projection. Additional discussion of burn characteristics is provided in the next section.

A total of 10 units were fabricated and shipped to Santa Susana Field Laboratory and NSTL.

# PHASE II - PROTOTYPE FABRICATION AND DEVELOPMENT TESTING, AND FINAL DESIGN

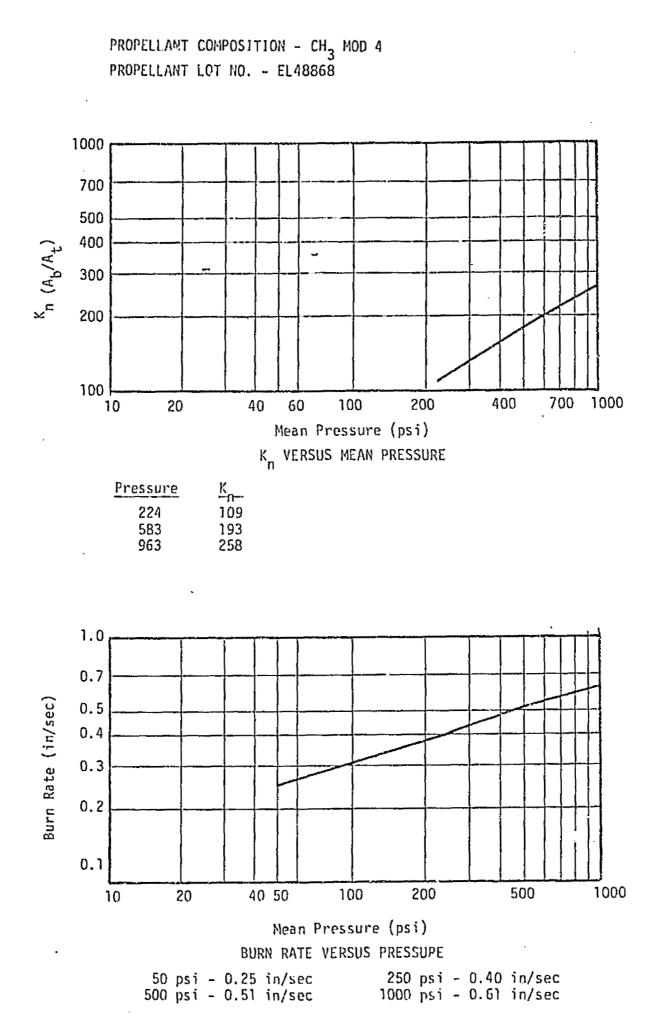
This phase encompassed preparation of final drawings, the acceptance test procedure, RIOS, and manufacturing process procedures. The documents were presented to MSFC in a design review meeting on November 10 and 11, 1980. Recommended changes were incorporated and these documents were submitted for final approval on November 19, 1980. Final approval was granted on November 24, 1980.

As specified in MSFC-SPEC-541, the NGI igniter cartridge fiftypercent fire point tests were conducted on November 11. Twenty units functioned at a distance of 2.23 inches, which is an increase of one inch above normal. No further tests were conducted, since all units functioned.

 $K_n$  motor testing was conducted on November 25. Internal/external burning centrally perforated grains with both ends inhibited were tested in the 30-3738  $K_n$  motor. Results are tabulated below and shown graphically on the next page.

Test No.	Grain OD x ID x Length (inches)	K <sub>n</sub>	Max. Pressure (psig)	P ( <u>psig</u> )	Action Time (sec)	Burn Rate (in/sec)
1	0.935 x 0.250 x 0.904	193	728	583	0.345	0.50
2	0.945 x 0.250 x 0.505	109	312	224	0.461	0.38
3	0.922 x 0.375 x 1.103	258	• 1.230	963	0.242	0.57

Strand burning rate tests were also conducted on November 19. The propellant strands were inhibited with two coats of 50/50 Epon 828/Versamid 140 with two percent carbon black added.



Strands were burned under nitrogen in the low pressure bomb. Results are tabulated below and shown graphically on the previous page.

Pressure (psig)	Length (in)	Time (sec)	Rate (in/second)
1,000	1.90	3.157	0.602 >0.61
1,000	1.90	3.094	0.614
500	7 69		
500	1.93	3.688	• 0.523
500	2.00	4.137	0.483 >0.51
500	2.00	3.802	0.526
050	0.00	<b>F</b> 1/8	0.000
250	2.00	5.147	0.389
250	2.00	4.891	0.409 >0.40
. 50	1.95	7.208	0.271 >0.25
50	1,90	8.052	0.236

One lot of 28 igniter cartridges were fabricated in December 1980 using accepted process procedures. Before pre-qualification testing the lot was subjected to the 100-percent acceptance tests described below and outlined by the table on the next page.

Visual Mechanical. Each NSI igniter cartridge was inspected for conformance to workmanship, dimensional, and marking requirements of Drawing 51-1151, Revision A. Five units (S/N 111, 112, 114, 125, and 129) failed this test. Units 111 and 114 had a small crack in the adapter. Units 112, 125, and 129 had a small crack in the nozzle housing. These cracks would cause the units to fail the leak tests. MSFC gave approval to use these units in test. Six additional units had voids or blow holes in the weld area which could not be sealed. These units were also approved for test by MSFC since the leaks would not affect performance.

	Unit	Grain	NSI	Visual/	NSI	NSI	Gross		Helium		в/ч	Insulatio	1. DISPOS	SITION	
	s/N	ร/ห	s/N	Mechanical	Flight Cert.	Staking Verif.	Leak Test		Leak Test	X-Ray	ohns Resistan	Resistanc te 50VDC	Qual	Shipme	
	109 NSI 1864	109 ·	1864	P	X	x	F	F	F	X	0.990	P	х	NA	
	110 NSI 1867	110	1367	7	x	X	F	2	P	X.	0.989	P	NA		
	111 NSI 1868	111	1868	(2)	x	<u>x</u>	F <sup>(2)</sup>		F	<u>x</u>	0.994	P	X	NA	
	112 NSI 1869	112	1869	(3)	X	<u>x</u>	FCJ		F	X	0.975	P	X	NA	
	113 NSI 1870	113	1870	P	Х	X	P		P	X	0.997	P	NA .	X	
	114 NSI 1871	114	1871	(2)	x	x	F	F	F	x	0.992	Р	X	NA	
	115 NSI 1872	115	1872	2	*	x	F	P	P	x	0.999	P	NA	x	
-	116 NSI 1873	• 116	1873	P	x	x	F	P	5	x	0.988	P	NA	X	
,	117 NSI 1875	117	1875	P	x	x	P		P	x	0.993	P	(4)	<u> </u>	
	118 NSI 1876	118	1876	P	x	x	2		P	x	0.991	P	NA	x	
	118 NST 1895	119	1895	P	х	x	P		2	X	0.980	P	NA	x	
	120 NSI 1878	120	1878	P	x	X	F	P	P	X	0.973	P	NA	x	
	121 NSI 1879	121	1879	P	X	X	P		P	x	0.995	P	NA	X	
	122 NSI 1880	122	1880	7	<u>x</u>	X	Р		P	X	1.005	P	NA	x	
	123 NSI 1881	123	1881	P	x	x	(6) F	 F	F	x	0.985	Р	x	NA	
	124 NST 1882	124	1882	۴	x	X	F (D)		F	x	0.998	P	ż	NA	
	125 NSI 1883	125	1883	(3)	x	x	1 (1)	<u></u>	Ť	x	1.003	P	x	NA	
	126 NSI 1886	126 .	1886	P	x	x	F	P	2	x	1.004	P	(4)		
	127 NSI 1887	127 -	1887	P	x	x	F(6)	F	F	X	0.990	Р	x	NA	
	128	128										<u> </u>	(5) Scrap		
	129 NSI 1889	129	1889	(3)	X.	x	F <sup>(3)</sup>		F	х	0.986	P	х	NA	
	130 NSI 1890	130	1890	P	x	х	F <sup>(6)</sup>	F	F	X	0.997	Р	х.	NA	
	131 NSI 1891	131	1891	P	x	x	• F	P	P	X	1.000	P	NA	x	
	132 NSI 1892	132	1892	P	х	x	P		Р	<u>x</u>	0.995	P	NA	x	
	133 NSI 1893	133	1893	P	х	x	2	•	P	X	1.004	P	NA	x	
	134 NSI 1888	134	1888	P	X	х	F	F	F	x	0.983	P	X	NA	
	135 NSI 1895	135	1895	GRAIN A	CEPTANCE	TEST					1.002				
	136 NSI 1896	136	1895	GRAIN A	CEPTANCE	TEST	·				0.985				
													<u></u>		
	1 If units f.	iled the	;ross lea	test the	first tip	2 they were	rewel	ded t	hen retest	ed. Unit	that fa	iled the	second ti	e were	
	2 Adapter Ct	ck								used in	Mini-Qu	al Testi	ng-	<u> </u>	
		ing crack			[	<u> </u>									
	4 Unic passe		1	d over inte	next lot										
	5 Inhibiter	· ·	1	1											
	6. Weld Leak	[	-			1									

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NSI Flight Certification. Verification was made that each cartridge was listed by serial number and lot number in the NASA Flight Certification Document (P/N SEB 261-0000-1).

NSI Staking Verification. Verification was made that all units were welded to the initiator adapter for hermetic sealing per NASA/JSC Drawing SED 261-0000-1.

<u>Leak Tests</u>. Maximum allowable leakage was  $1 \times 10^{-6}$  cc per second of helium measured at one atmosphere differential pressure and at ambient temperature. Twenty-five igniter cartridges were subjected to the gross leak check per Paragraph 4.1.4.2 of Unidynamics' Document 51-1151-ATP-01. Eleven units failed. These units were used as the eleven test units in the pre-qualification series. The same group of 25 units was also subjected to the helium leak test per Paragraph 4.1.4.3. of Unidynamics' Document 51-1151-ATP-01. The eleven units that failed the gross leak also failed the helium leak. (See Visual/Mechanical paragraph.)

<u>Radiograph Inspection</u>. Each igniter cartridge was X-rayed for evidence of visual defects, missing components, cracks, and voids. None were found.

Bridgewire Resistance. All units were within the specified resistance of 0.95 t> 1.15 ohms.

Insulation Resistance. All units passed an insulation resistance test measured between the shorted bridgewire circuit and the igniter body. Resistance was greater than two megohms (25 microamperes) at 50 VDC. The eleven units designated for prequalification testing passed the 125 microamperes (2 megohms minimum) at 250 VDC except for S/N 123 (NSI S/N 1887) and 129 (NSI S/N 1889) which failed. MSFC authorized use of the units for testing. <u>Prequalification Testing</u>. Two, S/N 135 and 136, of the original lot of 28 units were used by Unidynamics in grain acceptance tests. Recorded burn times were 8.20 and 8.00 seconds, respectively.

As outlined in the flow chart and table of results on the next two pages, four units (S/N 114, 123, 125, and 129) were functioned at ambient temperature with no wind. Results were satisfactory as outlined below:

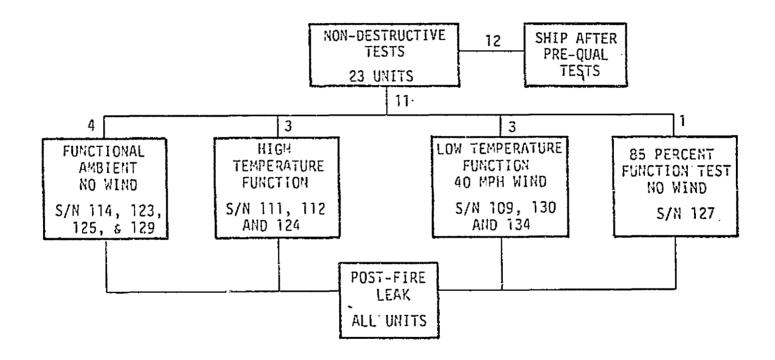
<u>s/n</u>	Burn Time (seconds)
114	7.96
123	7.84
125	8.31
129	7.95

Spark Projection was in excess of 15 feet.

Three units (S/N 111, 112, and 124) were functioned at high temperature (+150°F) with a 40-mile-per-hour cross wind. Results were satisfactory as outlined below:

<u>s/n</u>	Burn Time (seconds)
111	7.39
112	7.17
124	7.17

Spark projection was in excess of 15 feet.



PRE-QUALIFICATION TESTS

#### Insul. 15 Ft. Post FUNCTIONAL TEST Burn Wind Grain NSI Resist. Unit Ambient |Low Temp. High Particle Fire Projection Leak elocity Time(sec) s/n S/N 250 VDC S/N +20Temp.+150 Temp. 40 mph X 8.26 Х Ρ 109 NSI 1864 109 1864 Ρ ----\_\_\_ F P \_\_\_\_ Х 7.39 Х 40 mph 111 1868 111 NSI 1868 \_\_\_ Х F Х 7.17 40 mph 1869 Ρ 112 NSI 1869 112 \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ ż 7.96 Х 1871 F ----114 Х ---\_\_\_ 114 NSI 1871 7.84 Х F ----123 NSI 1881 123 1881 F Х ----Х F י ק 7.17 40 mph\_ 1882 X 124 NSI 1882 124 --------8.31 125 NSI 1883 Х F \_\_\_\_ 125 1883 P Х \_ \_ \_ \_ \_\_\_\_ 5.67(1)P Х 1887 Ρ Х ----127 NSI 1887 127 \_ \_ \_ ----P 7.95 х x 129 NSI 1889 129 1889 Ŧ --------\_ \_ \_ 8.37 Х 40 mph 1890 F х P 130 NSI 1890 130 ------40 mph 8.39 X F 134 NSI 1888 134 1888 Ρ Х --------\_\_\_\_ 8.20 Х 1895 \_\_\_ х ----\_\_\_\_ 135 135 NSI 1895 \_\_\_\_ 8.00 х \_\_\_\_ 1896 х ---------136 NSI 1896 \_\_\_ 136 • 1. 85% Load Test Unit (Grain length reduced 15 percent) 1 ω . • . -

P=Passed F=Failed

Three units (S/N 109, 130, and 134) were functioned at low tempera'ure (+20°F) with a 40-mile-per-hour cross wind. Results were satisfactory as outlined below:

<u>s/n</u>	Burn Time (seconds)
109	8.23
130	8.37
134 -	8.39

Spark projection was in excess of 15 feet.

Eighty-five Percent Load Test. One unit, S/N 127, was manufactured with an 85 percent nominal output charge to verify that it would still perform within specifications. Burn time was 5.67 seconds, and spark projection was in excess of 15 feet. This unit passed the post-fire leak test.

All pre-qualification units functioned properly, producing high density sparks. In units tested under 40-mile-per-hour winds, sparks drifted approximately 10 feet; however, a significant number of sparks were not affected by the wind and traveled through the center of the target area placed 15 feet from the unit.

During these tests a deflector was installed on the nozzle of the igniter in an attempt to eliminate the errant sparks which traveled above the 28-inch height desired at the 15-foot distance. The deflector was successful in eliminating these sparks. On December 15 approval was given to proceed with design, fabrication, and shipment of six deflectors.

After pre-qualification was completed, twelve units were shipped.

### PHASE III - FABRICATION AND QUALIFICATION TESTING

A total of 46 units were fabricated in accordance with Unidynamics' Drawing 51-1151 and Unidynamics' Manufacturing Procedures (51-1151, Revision B). Of these, 21 were to go into lot qualification and 20 units were for shipment. The qualification report is Unidynamics' Document Number 51-1151-QTR-03. Twenty-four units were shipped after qualification testing.

For convenient reference, qualification results are outlined on the next page.

# TABLE V QUALIFICATION TEST RESULTS

Unit S/M	Grain S/N	851 5/8	Salt Fog	Auto Ignition	Vibration Test	Thermal Shock	Drop Test	Gross Leak Test	Helium Leak Test	Insul. Resist. 250 VDC	Low	Esgn Tesp. 4350-p	Anbient	Burn Tine	15 Feet Particle Projectio:	Post Fire Leak	Proof Press	Burst Press
43 NSI 1903	143 •	1903								Pass	1		y .	7.61	1 x			1
44 NOI 1904	144	1904			<u>y</u> .			2483	Раня	Pess		x		6.61	X_	Pass		
46 151 1906	146	1906	X		<u>x</u>	<u>x</u>		Pase	Paso	Pasa	x	]	<u> </u>	7.93	x	Рляя	1	\
48 NOT 1908	148	1908			<u>x</u>	X		Pans	Рябл	Pass		x	<u> </u>	5,70	x.	PARA		
49 NSL 1909	149	1909	<u> </u>		<u>x</u>			Pass	Pass	LIA22_	1	l v	<u> </u>	6.90	1 x	Pass		
52 NET 1922	157	1912		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>		Pass	Pars	PARE	I	x	L	6.80	<u>x</u>	Pass		
53 NSI 1913	153	1913								Pass	1	x		7.11	x	Pass		
59 NSI 1919	159	10:0					<u>x</u> (2)		/- 	Pass	I x	1		7.93	( x	Pati		
62 X51 1925	162	1925	<u> </u>				<u>y</u> (2)		. <u></u>	2455	x	1	<u> </u>	6.02	1 x	FA11		
63 NSI 1925	163	1926		<u> </u>			<u>x (3)</u>			Pass		<u> </u>	<u> </u>		<u> </u>			
65 NST 1978	165	1978					<u>× (2)</u>			Рани	x			6.88	x	Paca	<u> </u>	
66 NSI 1929	166	1929	y	<u> </u>		<u></u>		2ass	Pass	Pasa	x			8.07	7	Pasc-		
67 XSI 1930	167	1930	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	7.	<u>x</u>		Pass	Pa 55	Pass	1	x		5.89	X	Pare		
71 NSI 1934	171	1934	<u> </u>	1		<u> </u>			<u> </u>	Pass		<u> </u>	X (5)	6.14	<u>y</u>		l	
73 NSI 1937	173	1937							۱ 	7.485	<u> </u>		x	8.09	x			
75 NGI 1979	175	1039	<u>x</u>	<u> </u>	_ x	x		Равя	PASS	Pass	x			7.77	x	Pres		
76 851 1940	176	1940	l	L	X (6)•					Pass		x		6.88	z			
77 NSI 1941	177	1941			x			Pass	Pags_	Fail (4)	)	1 x		5.90	7	Pass		
18 VEL 19:2	178	1942				<u>t</u>			<u></u>	Pass	<u> </u>	7		6.60	<u></u>	Pass		
6 NSI 1846	136	1896	<u> </u>		<u>×</u>	7		Parr	Pasa	Pesa	<u></u>	<u> </u>		7.23	x	Pass	Pass	Pass
7 NSI 1875	117	1274	<u>x</u>			<u> </u>		Pape.	PASS	Рада	x	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	8.30	1 7	PARS		
76 XST 1885	.125	1896	<u>r</u>		<u>x</u>	<u> </u>		Pasa	Pasa	Pass				7.24	x	Pass	Pass	Pass
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>	[						1	<u> </u>	<u> </u>					
		I	<u> </u>		1				<u> </u>			<u> </u>						
1.	Autoigni	tion tes	t units	• were fir	ad for Roo	kwell on	, 1-9-81.	Autoicni	ticn TO	quiremen	Its were	fulfill	i i ed by pr	resentat	ion of d	ata	·	
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## CONCLUSIONS

The P/N 51-1151 NSI Igniter Cartridge has met all of the requirements of MSFC-SPEC-541.