Setting new standards in satellite vibration testing with Dragonfly®

The Challenge

Today's satellite vibration testing faces challenges in accurately simulating the harsh conditions of launch, as vibrations and loads can vary widely across different rocket types and mission profiles. **High testing costs** and the need for precise validation methods are additional hurdles requiring advanced modeling and specialized facilities.. Additionally, satellite components are becoming smaller and more complex. Ensuring their resilience without adding **excess weight** while maintaining functionality remains a significant design challenge.





High instrumentation costs

Force Limited Vibration Testing (FLVT) method can lead to changes in the structural behavior and requires **substantial investment** in instrumentation.



High uncertainty

The current shaker coil method, with an estimated **10% uncertainty**, is often misaligned with real-time dynamics.



Simulation errors

Simulations based on acceleration in FEM models can bring **mismatch errors of up to 10%**, leading to inaccuracies in predictive analysis.

Breaking Point

With increasing requirements for precision in satellite vibration testing, **traditional testing methods became impractical**. Tracking sensor calibrations, maintaining accuracy across tests, and handling growing volume of various data sets result in inefficiencies. **Dragonfly®** strain sensors emerged as Airbus D&S' go-to solution, **setting a new standard** by delivering consistent, accurate measurements essential for reliable satellite performance.



AIRBUS

worms

Etienne Cavro Mechanical Engineer



"The score Etienne gave to Dragonfly® for its outstanding precision & reliability"



The Solution

Dragonfly[®] is a revolutionary strain sensor delivering **1000x more resolution than a traditional strain gauge**, enabling direct, high-accuracy strain measurement at critical satellite interfaces, eliminating the need for complex and error prone simulations.

It's ease of installation and integration will also allow for increased **efficiency in test preparation and extra robustness during measurements**.

KEY FEATURES

SENSITIVITY

1000X MORE SENSITIVE THAN TRADITIONAL SENSORS

SIGNAL TO NOISE RATIO

>120dB Extremely low noise level

MEASUREMENT RANGE

±3000µm/m

DYNAMIC RANGE

0.01Hz to >100kHz from quasi-static to ultra sound

INTEGRATION

PLUG & PLAY

VOLTAGE, CHARGE, IEPE STANDARD

ABOVE STEEL PLASTICITY



worms

Easily mounted onto critical interfaces without affecting the satellite's design integrity or behavior.



Provides precise stress data, **bypassing error-prone simulations** with strain signal quality comparable to accelerometers.



Simplified Instrumentation

Dragonfly uses compact, microdot coaxial cabling compatible with IEPE/ICP systems, reducing installation time and costs.



The signal from Dragonfly[®] sensors (**in blue**) provides **a deeper**, **more detailed understanding** of the phenomenon being measured compared to traditional strain gauges (**in red**). Dragonfly[®] 's higher sensitivity allows to capture more subtle signals with a great signal quality, **providing insights that were previously inaccessible.**

Dragonfly"'s versatility extends to numerous other fields.





Infrastructures/Bridges



Transportation



and many more applications...





Contact us

