G-V Automatic Dropsonde Launcher



MPEX Drop Summary

Date	Flight	Sondes Dropped	Sonde Notes	Launcher Notes
5/15	RF01	27	1-Broken T/RH sensor at launch	
5/16	RF02	31	3- Fast Falls at surface	
5/18	RF03	17	3- Fast Falls, 1-Broken T/RH sensor at launch	Sonde stuck in external launch tube
5/19	RF04	29	3- Fast Falls at surface	
5/21	RF05	27	1-Fast Fall at surface	
5/23	RF06	29	3-Fast Falls at surface	
5/27	RF07	29	6-Fast Falls at surface	
5/28	RF08	21		Removed Pressure relief valve from Launcher
5/30	RF09	27	6-Fast Falls	Removed plexiglass window cover on the Safety Gate Valve
5/31	RF10	29	1-Fast Fall at surface	Applied sandpaper on the leading edge of the launch tube port.
6/3	RF11	32		
6/8	RF12	31	7-Fast Falls at surface	
6/11	RF13	33	1-Fast Fall at surface	
6/12	RF14	33	3-Fast Falls at surface	Exit tube fairing removed
6/15	RF15	33	2-Fast Falls at surface	

Overall Dropsonde MPEX Performance

- 426 Sondes Release
- 37 Fast falls at surface (8.6%) *
- 14 Fast falls at beginning od drop (3.3%) *
- 2 Broken T/RH sensors at launch 0.5%
- RF03 Sonde stuck in launcher impacted remainder of flight, no sondes released
- Aircraft Dropsonde systems below worked with no issues
 - Sonde storage/carriage unit
 - Sonde ejection mechanics
 - Launcher control electronics
 - AVAPS software
 - AGS software
 - RIC software
 - New UHF antenna location, Excellent Sonde Telemetry
- Issues
 - Sonde ejection from aircraft
 - Sonde hesitation at launch, slow ejection velocity, possible impact of sonde to G-V, possible damage to T/RH sensors
 - Sonde stuck in external launch tube
 - Sonde Fast Falls
 - Impacted safety on ground and vertical resolution of data
- * Degraded vertical Velocity resolution





