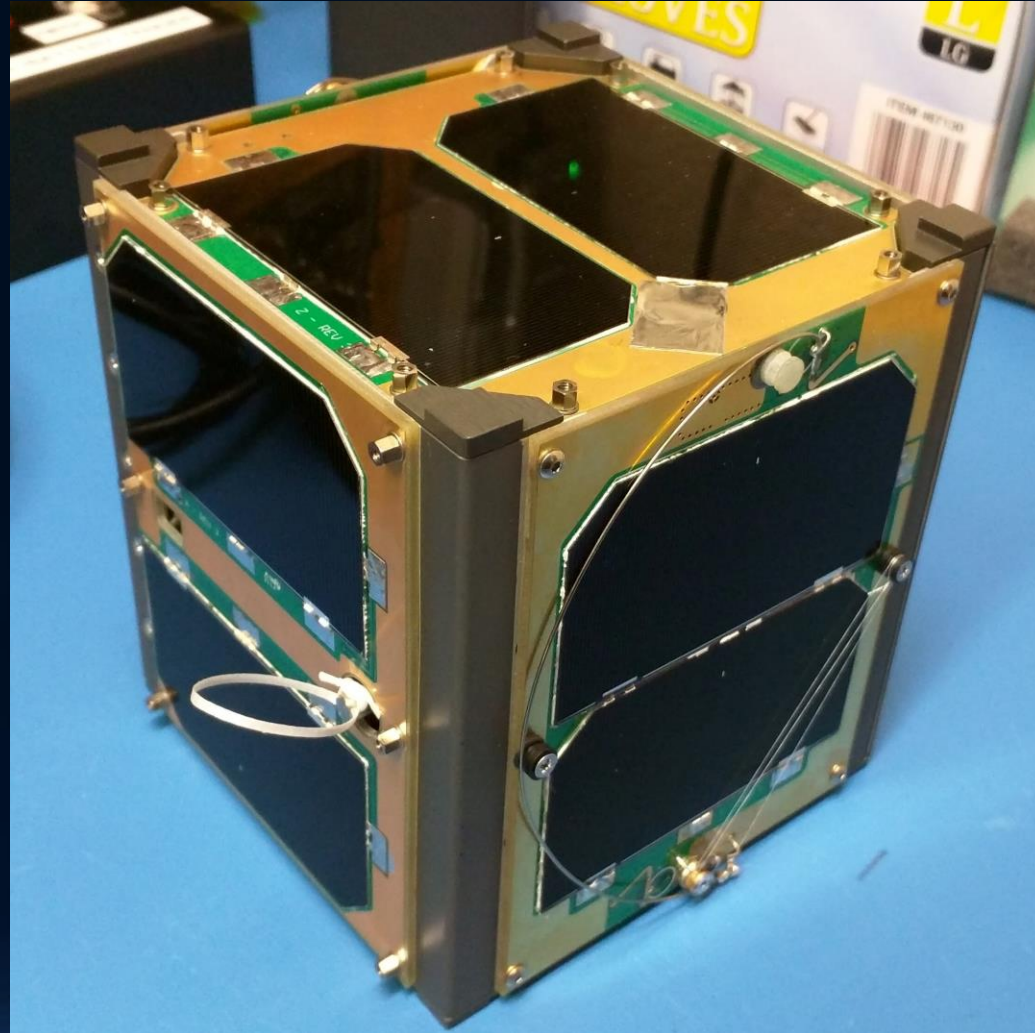


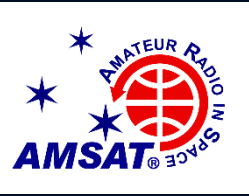


# AMSAT Engineering Program

JERRY BUXTON, NØJY  
VICE PRESIDENT – ENGINEERING  
AMSAT

# Fox-1 CubeSats





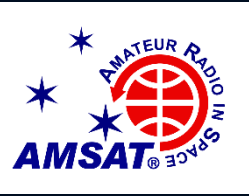
# Fox-1 CubeSats

- Fox-1A AO-85 Launched 10/08/2015 Operational
- Fox-1B/RadFxSat AO-91 Launched 11/18/2017 Operational
- Fox-1D AO-92 Launched 01/12/2018 Operational
- Fox-1Cliff --- Launch by the end of 2018
- Fox-1E/RadFxSat-2 --- Launch by the end of 2018



# Transponder Fox-1A-D

- Single channel FM transponder
  - Mode U/v (70cm UHF uplink, 2m VHF downlink)
- AFC on receiver to help compensate for Doppler shift
  - Except Fox-1Cliff
- Fox-1Cliff and Fox-1D have L band “Downshifter”
  - Mode L/v (23cm L band uplink, 2m VHF downlink)
- Telemetry downlink simultaneous with transponder voice signals
  - DUV (Data Under Voice)



# Transponder Fox-1E

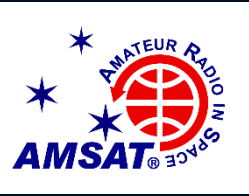
- 30 kHz wide linear transponder
  - Mode V/u (2m VHF uplink, 70cm UHF downlink)
  - SSB, CW, etc. – No 100% duty cycle modulation types
- Separate telemetry channel downlink

# Fox-1 CubeSats

- Lives up to the EasySat claim
- Can work with a handheld with  $\frac{1}{4}$  wave COTS antenna\* even on L/v
- Attracting new satellite enthusiasts
  - Cheap test drive



\* Professional amateur on a closed transponder. Do not attempt on a busy pass. Your experience may vary due to local conditions, the number of satellite users, and your individual skill level.



For more insight on what it takes to get a  
Fox-1 in orbit

Watch live stream video of Fox-1E testing over the next  
two weeks at

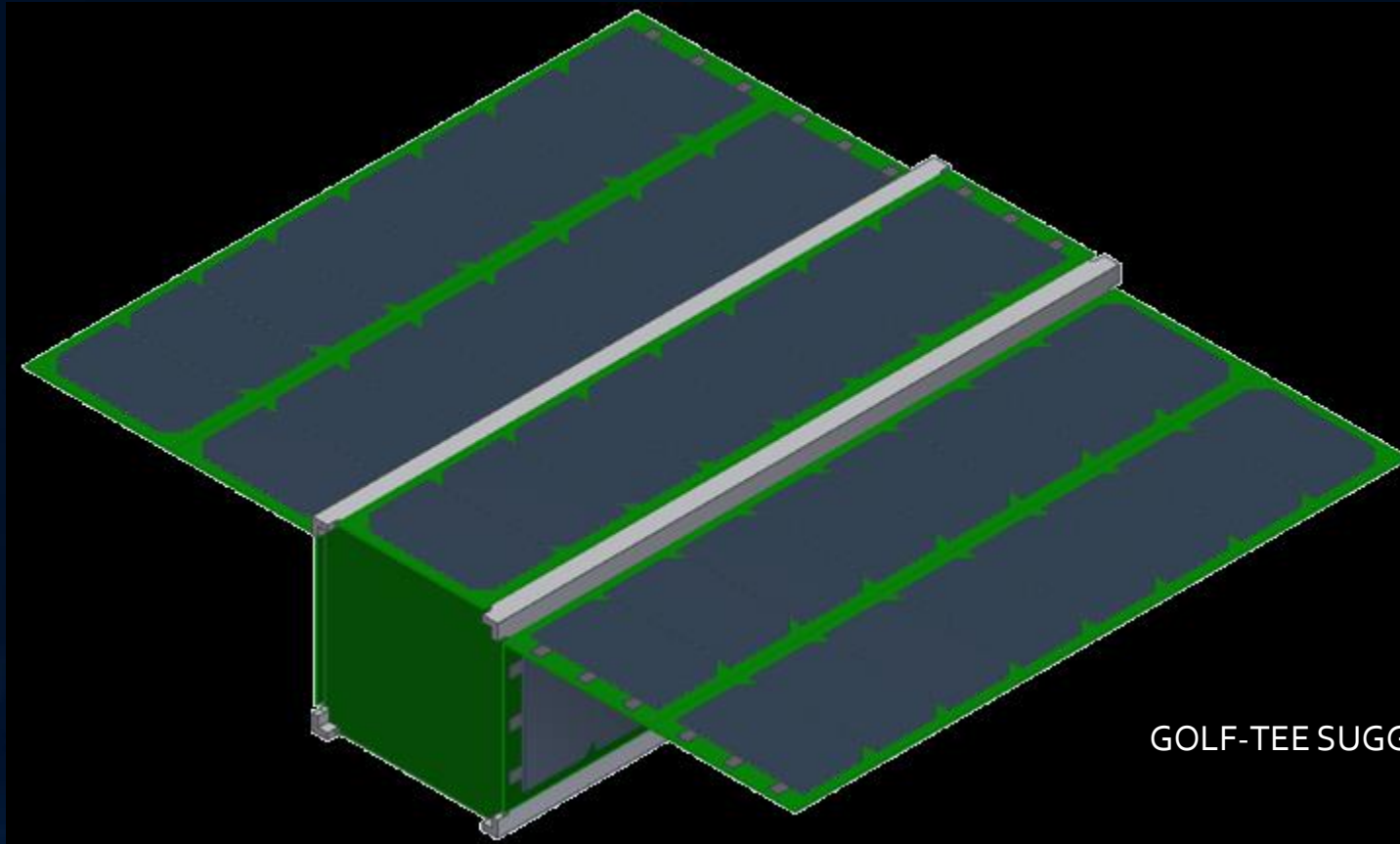
[www.twitch.tv/n0jy](http://www.twitch.tv/n0jy)

Live stream archives and lots of other Fox-1 videos are  
available at

[www.youtube.com/n0jy](http://www.youtube.com/n0jy)

# GOLF Program

## Greater Orbit, Larger Footprint

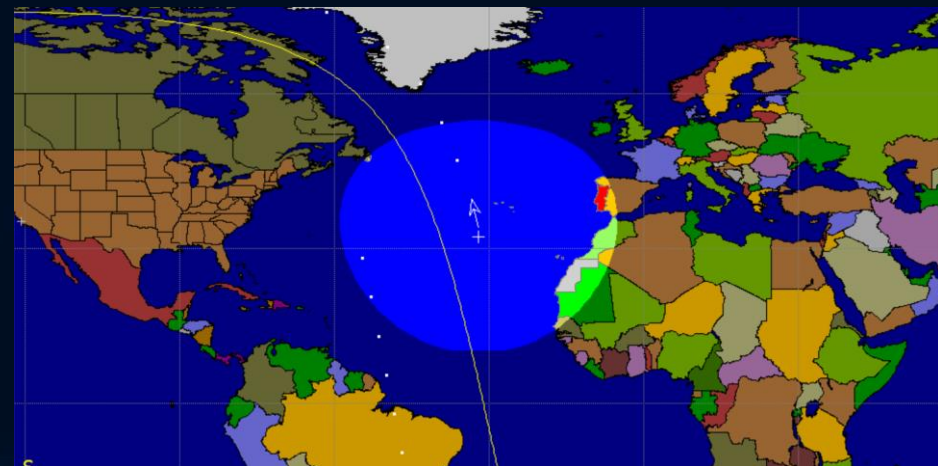
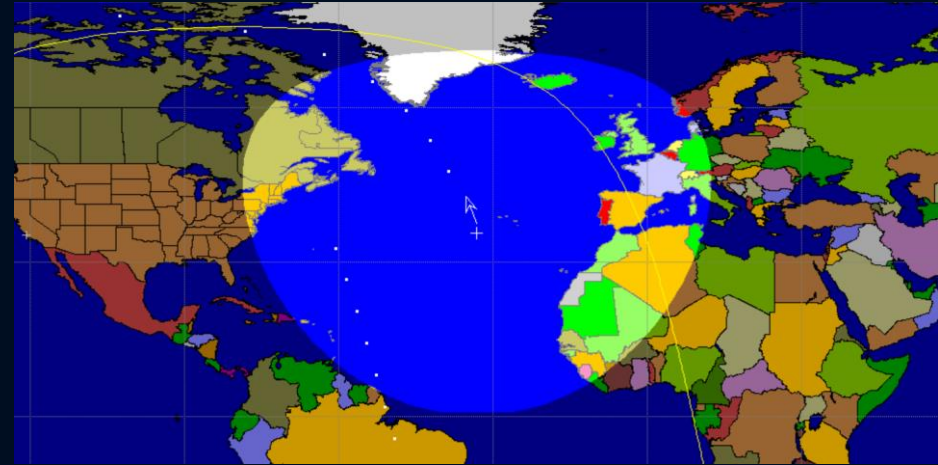


GOLF-TEE SUGGESTION



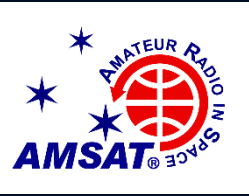
# Amateur Radio LEO Satellite Altitudes (voice)

- **AO-7**                    **≈ 1400 km.**
- FO-29                    ≈ 1200 km.
- SO-50                    ≈ 650 km.
- AO-73                    ≈ 650 km.
- AO-85                    ≈ 650 km.
- **XW-2F**                   **≈ 520 km.**
- ISS                        ≈ 400 km.



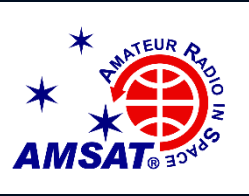
# Higher is Better

- Larger footprint
  - More DX
  - More good passes per day (mid-latitude station)
- Orbit lifetime is longer
  - SSO typically 6 to 8 years
  - AO-7 will last a lifetime
- Slower motion across sky
  - Longer passes
  - Less tracking movements



# GOLF Program

- 3U CubeSats
- Incremental path to MEO, HEO, GEO orbits and missions
  - Developing, testing, learning, and building proficiency for reduced risk
- New Technology
  - ADAC
  - Deployable solar panels
  - SDR and microwave bands
  - Propulsion
- Develop and learn de-orbit capability (passive or active) for all future missions
  - Any higher orbit (not including rideshare) must meet orbital debris requirements



# GOLF Program

- Continued growth of CubeSat abilities
- Hands on knowledge and experience builds team capability for HEO
- Following Fox-1, continues to regularly populate amateur radio satellites providing coverage for years to come
- Continuation of CSLI educational launch opportunities and partnerships



# GOLF-TEE (Technology Exploration Environment)

Target: 4Q 2019 delivery

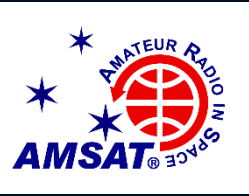
- 500-600 km polar orbit
- Fox-1E type V/u linear transponder
- SDR with X band data downlink
  - V/x transponder option
- Attitude determination and control
- Deployable solar panels
- Radiation tolerant IHU (Integrated Housekeeping Unit)
- Vanderbilt University radiation experiment



# GOLF-1

Target: 4Q 2020 delivery

- 1300 km orbit
- SDX (Software Defined radio Transponder)
  - C/x ("Five and Dime") linear transponder
  - V/u linear transponder
  - Other bands/modes possible
- Albuquerque Public Schools / Virginia Tech weather observation camera experiment
- Vanderbilt University radiation experiment
- De-orbit capability



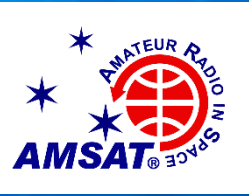
# Attitude Determination And Control - Benefits

- Solar panel pointing for best sun
- Antenna pointing for best transponder performance
  - Higher gain microwave band antennas
- Camera pointing
- Support for de-orbit mechanism performance
- Support for propulsion
- Some options for collision avoidance

# Microwave Bands - Benefits

- Smaller antennas (wavelength)
  - Higher gain both space and ground segment
  - Opportunities for stations in neighborhoods with restrictions
  - Opportunities for apartment dwellers
- Lots more bandwidth available
  - 5 GHz band – 20 MHz uplink, 20 MHz downlink (separate segments)
  - 10 GHz band – 50 MHz (combined up/down segment)
- Opportunity for a variety of signals on one band
  - FM, SSB, digital (high speed), you name it





# Q&A

DOORS WILL REMAIN LOCKED UNTIL SOMEONE ASKS A QUESTION

# Visit us at the AMSAT booth!

