PADS® ASonde

Enables aircrews to obtain in-situ weather information

PADS (Precision Airdrop System) ASonde enables aircrews to obtain in-situ weather information to assist with critical missions. For guided airdrop systems, the real-time data provided by the PADS ASonde allows mission planners to increase standoff distance and deliver cargo and personnel from higher altitudes with greater precision and safety than conventional methods. When used in conjunction with the PADS UHF Dropsonde Receiver Sub-system (UHF-DRS), a 70% improvement for impact point accuracy for high-altitude ballistic airdrop systems has been noted.

Applications

- Measurement of real-time information to support guided, ballistic and personnel airdrop operations
- Measurement of wind information for meteorological application in remote areas

Engineering

All PADS equipment is designed and manufactured to meet the stringent requirements for operating onboard DoD aircraft. They are certified by the USAF for operations on C-130E/H, C-130J/J-30, C-17 and a variety of other military aircraft and is tested to meet or exceed the requirements of:

- MIL-STD-461(C)(E)
- MIL-STD-810 Explosive Environment and Rapid Decompression

FEATURES/BENEFITS

- Simple to operate
- 11 programmable frequencies adds flexibility to operations
- Single indicator for power and GPS lock
- Operational in excess of 25,000 ft MSL
- Optional parachute color options allows for training or combat operations
- Replaceable batteries
- Run-time feature allows operator to determine remaining operational life

QinetiQ
North America

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Specifications

- Operating Frequency:
  400.5 to 405.5 MHz
- Output Power:
  >23 dBm (200 mW) Minimum
  >25 dBm (320 mW) Nominal
- Battery Life: >90 Minutes
- Wind Speed: +/- 1 m/s
- Wind Directions: +/- 1 degree
- Length: Stowed 9” (22.86 cm)
  With Antenna 15.5” (29.37 cm)
- Diameter: 2.25” (5.72 cm)
- Weight: 1.73 lbs (785 g)
- Rate of fall: 70 fps
  (nominal at sea level)
- Maximum Altitude: 25,000 ft MSL
- Visual Cuing: Single LED

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Document # 15-07-PADSAS

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