The U.S. Naval Research Laboratory's Naval Center for Space Technology has complete in-house facilities for design, assembly, and testing of spacecraft and payloads from the card level to EELV class.

Testing facilities include thermal vacuum, vibration/acoustics, static loads, modal survey, spin balance, and moment of inertia. Processing facilities include Class 100 to 100K clean rooms, precision measurement and alignment, wire harness fabrication, thermal blanket design and fabrication, propulsion system design and fabrication, ground and flight software testbeds, overhead bridge cranes (5 to 40 ton), and general-purpose high bays to support small-to-large spacecraft assembly.

The Center is a focal point and integrator for NRL divisions whose technologies are used in space systems. The Center provides systems engineering and technical direction support to system acquisition managers of major space systems. In this role, technology transfer is the driving force which motivates the Center’s continuous search for new technologies and capabilities; The Center is a leading force in developing prototypes that demonstrate the integration of innovative technologies.

To preserve and enhance a strong space technology base, and provide expert assistance in the development and acquisition of space systems for naval missions, the Naval Center for Space Technology’s expertise ranges from basic and applied research through advanced development throughout all areas of the Navy space program’s interest. These activities include developing spacecraft, systems using these spacecraft, and ground command and control stations.

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