

Autonomous Star Sensor ASTRO 15

ASTRO 15 of Jena-Optronik is a space proven Autonomous Star Sensor with more than 8 years of in-orbit heritage, for global customers on a large number of satellites for various applications.



The ASTRO 15 is the most successful star sensor with over 150 Flight Models sold worldwide. With its high performance optics, highest grade components and the implemeted highly robust software it is the best choice for GEO missions.

Special Features

- Lifetime > 15 years
- Radiation design for 25 years GEO environment
- Modular design configurations
- Excellent thermal stability and shielding, e.g. applying Titanium
- Large optics' aperture for comfortable Signal to Noise Ratio under end of life conditions

Technology for Star Sensors

The requirements for the sensors are very demanding. In addition to measurement accuracy and efficiency, reliability and durability play a decisive role. All of our developments have proven this value under the conditions in space.





ASTRO 15 Star Sensor Performance

Spaceway communication satellite

Dimensions			
Sensor with 30° Baffle	192 mm Ø x 496 mm	[including Baffle]	
Sensor with 25° Baffle	192 mm Ø x 552 mm	[including Baffle]	
Mass			
Sensor without Baffle	< 4350 g for 5 years in LEO	< 4500 g for 15 years in GEO	
30° Baffle	< 1500 g		
25° Baffle	< 1650 g		
Optical Design			
Lens	refractive	focal length 55 mm	aperture 50 mm Ø
CCD Detector	resolution 1024 x 1024 pixels	pixel size 13.0 µm x 13.0 µm	active thermo-electric cooling
Temperature Range			
Operational	-30 °C+55 °C		
Non-operational	-40 °C+75 °C		
Performance			
Field of View	13.8° x 13.8° [physical]	13.25° x 13.25° [effective]	
Single Star Accuracy	bias < 10 arcsec xyz-axes	noise < 2.5 arcsec [1σ]	
		for 6 m _i G ₀ -ref. star	
Attitude accuracy	< 1 arcsec [1 σ] xy-axes	< 10 arcsec [1σ] z-axis	
[LSFE, HSFE,TE]			
Attitude re-acquisition	< 5 s	< 0.5 s	< 10 s after switch-on
	[without a priori information]	[with a priori information]	
Sensitivity	6.5 m _i ω_0 -ref. star [at t _i = 237 ms]		
SINR	2 35 for 6.0 m _i u ₀ -ref. star	01	
SIEW Idle	< 0.5 S -	U.J2 S -	
Sampling time		[reduced performance]	
Sampling time	[including tracking & attitude information]		
Power Consumption			
Politice Cooling off	< 10 W		
Pertier Cooling on	< 10 W		
Peltier Cooling			
	[at max cooling power $T = +55 ^{\circ}$ C]		
Operating Modes			
In-Orbit Modes for	stand-by	attitude continuous	acquisition & tracking
	attitude update	initial attitude determination	upload
	self-test		
Data Interface			
	MIL-STD-1553B	RS 422	
Input Voltage Range			
	range 30 V - 52 V DC		
	other voltages up to 100 V available		

