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Paper Session II-B - International Space Station Multiple Element Integrated Testing

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The International Space Station (ISS), as the largest international civil program in history, features an unprecedented technical, and integration challenge. NASA and its contractors, along with 16 international partners and their contractors are designing, developing and testing major pieces (Elements) of space hardware that are to be assembled and integrated on-orbit into a single operating space station. Systems such as Command and Data Handling (C&DH), Electrical Power System (EPS), Thermal Control System (TCS), and Communications and Tracking (C&T) are distributed across the whole station and are required to function End-To-End to ensure success of the ISS. Also operable interfaces to ground stations like Mission Control Center Houston (MCC-H) and the Payload Operation Integration Center (POIC) are required for successful ISS research and operations. This paper will discuss efforts the ISS Program has taken in the development and implementation of Multiple Element Integrated Testing (MEIT) to demonstrate E-T-E Systems operability (ISS and Ground Stations) using flight procedures and flight crew participation. Successes and lessons learned in current MEIT testing occurring at KSC will also be discussed.