

§ 1214.305

(g) *Effective date.* The described selection process will apply to all STS missions for which selections have not been approved prior to December 31, 1988.

§ 1214.305 Payload specialist responsibilities.

(a) *Relationship with flight crew.* The crew commander has overall responsibility for crew integration and the safe and successful conduct of the mission. With respect to crew and vehicle safety, the commander has ultimate responsibility and authority for all assigned crew duties. The payload specialist is responsible to the authority of the commander and operates in compliance with mission rules and Payload Operation Control Center directives. Payload specialists are expected to operate as an integral part of the crew and will participate in crew activities as specified by the crew commander.

(b) *Operation of payload elements.* The payload specialist will be responsible for the operation of the assigned payload elements. Onboard decisions concerning assigned payload operations will be made by the payload specialist. A payload specialist may be designated to resolve conflicts between the payload elements and approve such deviation from the flight plan as may arise from equipment failures or STS factors. In the instance of STS factors, the mission specialist will present the available options for the payload-related decisions by the payload specialist.

(c) *Operation of STS equipment.* The payload specialist will be responsible for knowing how to operate certain Orbiter systems, such as hatches, food, and hygiene systems, and for proficiency in those normal and emergency procedures which are required for safe crew operations, including emergency egress and bail out. The responsibility for on-orbit management of Orbiter systems and attached payload support systems and for extravehicular activity and payload manipulation with the Remote Manipulator System will rest with the NASA flight crew. The NASA flight crew will operate Orbiter systems and standard payload support systems, such as Spacelab and Internal Upper Stage sys-

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tems. With approval of the commander, payload specialists may operate payload support systems which have an extensive interface with the payload.

§ 1214.306 Payload specialist relationship with sponsoring institutions.

Specialists who are not U.S. Government employees must enter into a contractual or other arrangement establishing an obligatory relationship with an institution participating in the payload as designated by the payload sponsor prior to selection and before entering into training at a NASA installation or NASA-designated location. Payload specialists who are not otherwise U.S. Government employees will not become U.S. Government employees by virtue of being selected as a payload specialist. Except as specified in the following paragraphs of this section, NASA will not enter into any direct contractual or other arrangement with individual payload specialists. Any exception must be approved by the NASA Administrator.

(a) Payload specialists who are not citizens of the United States will be required to enter into an agreement with NASA in which they agree to accept and be governed by specified standards of conduct. Any such agreement will be signed on behalf of NASA by the NASA General Counsel or designee.

(b) Payload specialists who are citizens of the United States and who are not employees of the U.S. Government, will be required to enter into an agreement with NASA in which they agree to accept and be governed by specified standards of conduct. Any such agreement will be signed on behalf of NASA by the NASA General Counsel or designee.

(c) Payload specialists who are employed by a branch, department, or agency of the U.S. Government other than NASA may (pursuant to the exercise of judgment by the NASA General Counsel) be required to enter into an agreement with NASA to accept and be governed by specified standards of conduct. Any such agreement will be signed on behalf of NASA by the NASA General Counsel or designee.