PREAMBLE

The United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the Canadian Space Agency (CSA), are herein referred to as "the Parties," recognizing that the Parties have identified a mutual interest in the flight of the Microgravity Isolation Mount (MIM) for use on the U.S. Space Shuttle and note that such cooperation will produce benefits for both Parties,

Have reached the following understanding:

I. STATEMENT OF NEED

The Parties have cooperated on recent scientific missions for development of vibration isolation technology in microgravity. The results of this cooperative effort are expected to improve the degree of acceleration environment quality for science experiments on a variety of microgravity platforms. For the purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), the referenced platform is the U.S. Space Shuttle orbiter.

Given the critical role that isolation technology will have in upcoming International Space Station (ISS) science activities, the need for research tasks of this nature is essential. Results from the MIM testing on STS-85, which is scheduled to launch in August 1997, will provide data that is useful in characterizing MIM onorbit performance and increasing the knowledge of microgravity isolation platform technology.

II. PROGRAM OBJECTIVE

This cooperative effort will result in the Shuttle flight demonstration of the operational capabilities of the Canadian-developed MIM.

III. GENERAL PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

To meet the above program objective, this MOU includes the following elements:

o MIM Development

MIM mission simulations will be developed and conducted prior to flight operational tests. Testing of components to assess and verify their performance, both individually and as an integrated system, will be conducted by CSA.

o Flight Mission with CSA Payload Specialist (PS)