



AIM-9X CTU, right side



AIM-9X CTU, left side



AIM-9X CTU on wing pylon

■ *Features*

- Flight certified for F/A-18 C/D
- Access doors on both sides of pod
- Removable front and rear spun aluminum domes
- Removable VME electronics chassis
- Power distribution system
- Instrumentation recorder

■ *Description and Operation*

- The AIM-9X Captive Test Unit (CTU) was designed for captive carry testing of the air-to-air missile seeker developed under the AIM-9X DEMVAL program.
- In this application the seeker mounts to a simulated missile body which mounts to the forward bulkhead. A cutout in the nose cone allows it to be removed without removing the seeker. A closeout bushing around the seeker mount closes out the nose cone. Power, control wiring, and cooling gas are provided to the seeker through holes in the forward bulkhead.

- A pressure vessel is provided for storage of cooling gas (up to 6000 psig). A solenoid controlled gas valve allows gas to be cycled as needed.
- The custom electronics system supported data collection and recording of test conditions. Thermostatically controlled fans control the airflow to maintain an acceptable operating temperature. The electronics chassis is removable and can be fitted with brackets for use in a 19" standard rack.
- The power system consists of several MIL-SPEC power supplies feeding a power distribution panel. Clean +/- 28VDC, +5, +12 VDC power supplies are individually breakered to protect each system and to aid in integration and testing.
- The baseline unit allows for payloads to be hard mounted to the forward bulkhead. Southern Research has several designs for two-, three-, and four-axis turrets that can be added to the basic pod to meet requirements for a stabilized platform.
- A digital data acquisition and recording system serves as a fundamental part of this captive test pod. Video from the device under test can be recorded with other auxiliary data. The data can be reduced with a data processing system also available from Southern Research.

■ *Mechanical*

- Length: 9 feet, 11.8 inches
- Diameter: 19.65 inches
- Weight: <250 lbs.
- Double side doors
- Removable tail and nose cone



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