

STS-98 LAUNCH DAY VIDEO REVIEW
KSC Photo/Video Analysis Team
7 February 2001

Significant Anomalies

None

Minor Anomalies

Tile surface coating pieces fell from orbiter base heat shield during engine startup; outboard of SSME #3 and inboard of SSME #2 (OTV 49, 70).

Ice from upper LOX feedline bellows falls and contacts lower orbiter surface (OTV 61). Further details of this event will be available after the film analysis.

Funnies

Two distinct flashes observed near the left side of vehicle approximately 3-4 seconds after SRB separation (TV 13). Further details of this event will be available after the film analysis.

Observations

SSME ignition appeared normal (OTV 51, 70). A considerable amount of free burning hydrogen was visible in the orbiter base heat shield area and rising to the RH OMS pod as well as the vertical tail before dissipating.

Numerous pieces of ice from the ET/ORB umbilical shook loose and contacted umbilical sill tiles and ET TPS, but no damage was detected (OTV 09, 63, 54).

LH2 and LO2 T-0 umbilical disconnect was normal (OTV 49, 50).

Numerous pieces of SRB throat plug were ejected from the exhaust holes without contacting the Orbiter (OTV 71, TV 4, 5, 7).

LH2 Aft Dome charring was observed (TV 13)

SRB slag was observed after SRB separation.

Numerous particles observed emanating from SRB plume area from T+1:09 thru T+1:24 (TV 4, 5).

Umbilical purge barrier baggie and RCS paper cover debris observed falling aft of vehicle (TV 4, 5)

Notes

Review of long range tracking films is scheduled to begin Friday morning, February 8, 2001.

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