

Glossary

Observatory

The Observatory is the complete flight system, including the spacecraft, the cryo-telescope assembly, and the three science instruments.

Facility

The Facility includes the Observatory and the ground segment.

Spacecraft

The Spacecraft (S/C) refers to the warm portion of the Observatory, including the solar panel, the bus structure, and the components mounted in the bus that provide the Observatory engineering functions. These components include: the solar arrays, the command and data handling unit, the reaction control subsystem, the telecommunications subsystem, the power generation and distribution subsystem, the pointing control subsystem, and the flight software.

Cryo-Telescope Assembly

The Cryo-Telescope Assembly (CTA) is the cold portion of the Observatory, including the cryostat, the telescope assembly, the outer shell group including the thermal radiation shields, the S/C support struts, and the Multiple Instrument Chamber (MIC) which houses the instrument cold assemblies.

Science Instruments

The Science Instruments (SI's) include the three payload instruments: the Infrared Array Camera (IRAC), the Infrared Spectrograph (IRS), and the Multiband Imaging Photometer for Spitzer (MIPS). The SI's consist of cold assemblies mounted in the CTA and associated warm electronics mounted in the S/C.