



## 2025-26 DBF Q&A#3

#	Question	Graphics
1	If an electronic component is necessary for the functionality of the deployment and/or release mechanism, must it be removable for GM as well?	
	Answer: Electronics that are part of the airplane avionics package do not need to be removed for the GM if a connector is used between the electronics and deployment and release mechanism.	
2	Is permanently installed internal hardware associated with the banner subsystem (internal latching mechanism, servo, wiring that remains for all missions) allowed to be installed prior to ground mission?	
	Answer: As stated in prior Q&A, the banner deployment, towing and release mechanism is considered a single sub-system, even if made up of multiple components and sub-assemblies. Features required for installing and mounting the mechanism that are permanent features of the airplane are considered part of the airplane configuration, including mounting surfaces, tabs and holes, wiring with connectors, servo actuated latching mechanisms, etc. It is up to each team to assure that the deployment, towing and release mechanism is easily identifiable by the tech inspector as a single, removable sub-system.	
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Does the university name have to be readable at all times throughout flight on the banner? Even despite flapping, etc?</li> <li>* The university's name or logo must be displayed on both sides of the banner. Is there a specific visibility threshold that must be achieved for this requirement? Can school name initials be displayed?</li> <li>* What's the minimum size of the university name/logo on the banner?</li> </ul>	Example: University Name: Oklahoma State University Acceptable abbreviation: Ok. St. Univ. Acceptable logo:  Not acceptable text only: OSU
	Answer: The university name or logo must be readable during tech inspection by the tech inspector. Readability in flight is not a requirement. If the university logo includes the school initials, it is acceptable since the logo is acceptable. University initials that are just text and NOT part of the university logo may not be included on the banner because some schools share the exact same initials and the tech inspector must be able to determine the university from the banner. Teams may abbreviate the university name if the abbreviation clearly identifies the university in the judgement of the tech inspector. See examples in the graphics column.	
4	If a team develops its own custom firmware for a microcontroller to augment the aircraft flight characteristics, how will the onboard microcontroller be inspected to meet guidelines?	
	Answer: There are no requirements or provisions to inspect code. It is the team's responsibility to design their aircraft in such a way that tech inspection can verify compliance with the requirements. Team must be able to demonstrate that the custom device meets the rules outlined in 3.2.1. If the team cannot demonstrate that the custom device is compliant to the rules, it will not be allowed.	