

STARLINK

06.11.20

STARLINK AND ASTRONOMY



A night sky with the Milky Way galaxy visible, a house on a cliff lit up, and a body of water in the foreground.

STARLINK

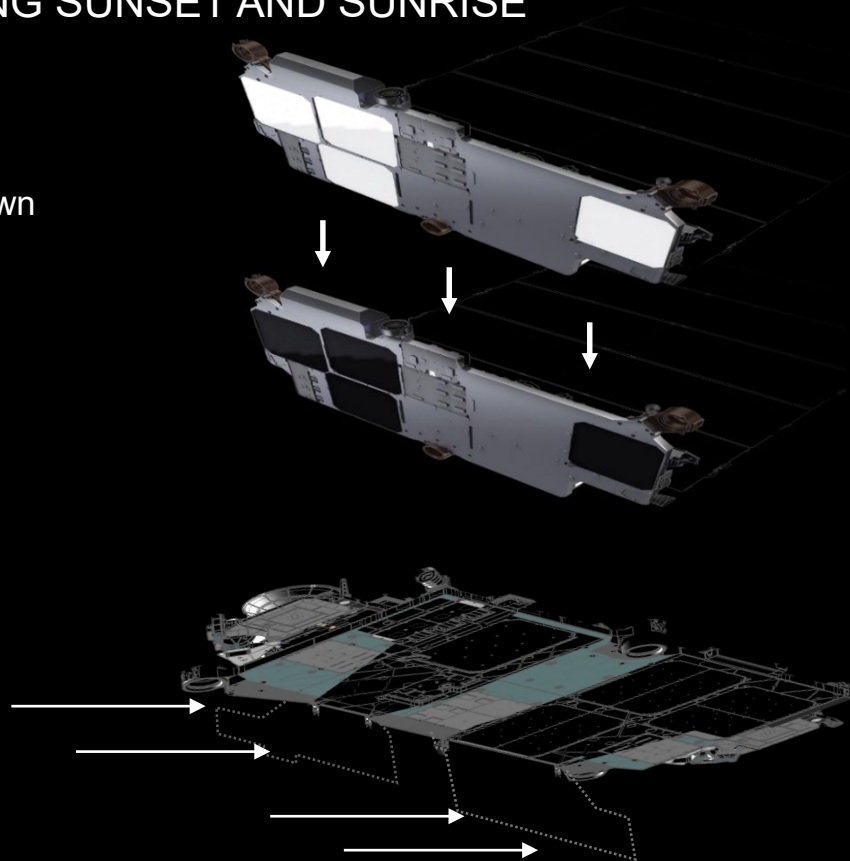
SpaceX is committed to reducing satellite brightness to allow enjoyment of the skies and not thwart scientific discovery.

ON STATION – ANTENNAE MITIGATIONS

REDUCE REFLECTION ON ANTENNAS DURING SUNSET AND SUNRISE

DARKSAT – Experiment testing darkened elements flown January 2020. Ground-based observations proved significant reduction in brightness.

VISORSAT - Experiment launched June 2020 with sun shades to block sunlight from antennas, preventing reflection.



DURING ORBIT RAISE - ARRAY MITIGATION

CHANGE ORIENTATION TO REDUCE REFLECTION ON BOTH
ANTENNA AND SOLAR ARRAY

OPERATIONAL ROLL

Rolling the satellite makes sunlight bounce
off smaller 'knife edge' of solar array,
reducing reflection.

