Assembly Instructions for Node 3 / Cupola (STS-130 payload)
Building the Orbiter Docking System
KU-band antennae

Note location of KU-band antenna that is glued on the tab from the right payload bay door.
Building the Cupola and Node 3 payload bay version

The red arrow indicates where the seam is. The hexagonal shape part is glued underneath.

Note that the line on the hexagon needs to line up with the seam.
The dotted lines indicate at what level the trunnions are located. Top photo is the front of Node 3, and the bottom is the aft face of Node 3.
Grapple fixture 1 needs to line up with the NASA logo.
Node 3 is similar to Node 1 and Node 2 assembly steps. All these nodes have 4 docking ports around its circumference. For the space station version, these docking ports have been detailed as the real ones.

The red arrow indicates how the hatch needs to be oriented before gluing it in the module. The arrow is oriented toward the front of the module. The small detail in the circle needs to be on the right side.

This photo belongs to the “Node hatches assembly manual” used for UNITY (STS-88) and HARMONY (STS-120) modules. First cut the 4 circular faces on the cylinder leaving the white circular area shown here (arrow).
This photo shows in great detail how these Node hatches look once they are complete before being glued inside the cylinder.
The Node 3/ CUPOLA mission kit comes with 2 optional window colors, a blue and an orange-gold color. It’s your choice to use either one for your model.

These curved tabs are folded downwards.

This ring is glued to the circular part shown on the left. Also there is an inner gray ring to reinforce the main ring (arrow).
Match the window numbers with the numbers on the bottom portion of the cupola.
Placing the window shutters

Once the 2 triangular boxes are glued on the white areas of the main ring, then the 2 Grapple Fixtures are glued on top.
Window Numbers and their location on Nadir (bottom) side of Node 3

Nadir hatch

Window Shutters positions

front
Window shutter #7 hinge location
Building the base for DEXTRE (Zenith side of Node 3)

Only one node hatch is inactive on the Node 3, this is the zenith hatch. Zenith is the top port on the Node 3. It will be used as a base for robot DEXTRE on a future mission.
Placing the Ammonia loop umbilicals

Node 1 “UNITY” (STS-88)

Node 3 “TRANQUILITY”

“DESTINY” (STS-98)

Boxes indicate where to put glue for the Ammonia loop umbilicals.
Enjoy this model!

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