



Fiber-Reinforced Composites Team Reconstituted Its Ability To Manufacture Composites For Thermal Protection System (TPS) Applications

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- Capability is being used to explore TPS design variants, as well as to examine emerging disruptive concepts.
- Will be able to:
 - Enable the study of heat shield performance at the fundamental material science level,
 - Provide better science understanding of ablation chemistry in reentry environments, and
 - Improve performance modeling capabilities for extreme thermal and oxidative environments.

This effort was recently briefed to Kathy Alexander (NNSA) and various national security agencies. The principal investigator is Ryan Hess (1815) and the PM and stakeholders include Mike Valley (1810), Rich Neiser (5942), and Briggs Atherton (5944). Performance modeling, testing, and characterization will involve an 1800-1500 partnership. Mission applications relate to NW and GNAS.

