

**GENCORP  
AEROJET**

**Propulsion Division**

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P-15

# **Space Defense Initiative Technologies and Hardware Can Help Resolve Certain Space Exploration Initiative Weight and Performance Issues**

N92-33336

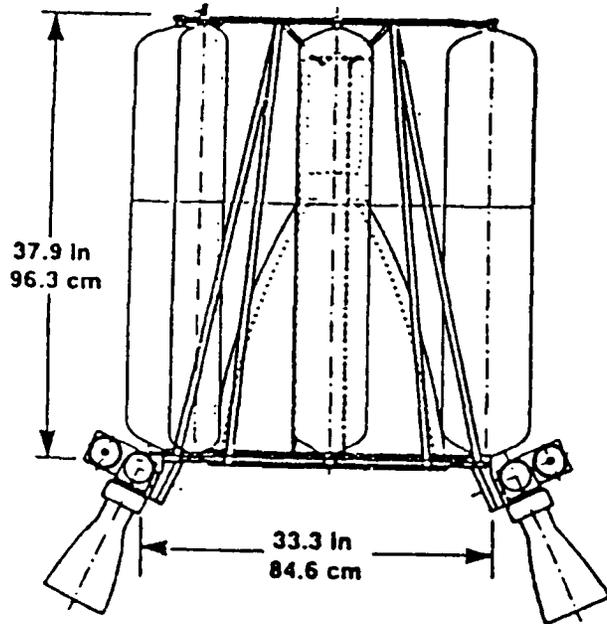
## Many Aerojet Programs Have Contributed to Advanced Technologies and Hardware

Program and POP	Objective
Advanced Liquid Axial Stage (89-92)	Space Based Interceptor - Advanced Liquid Propulsion and Structures Technologies
Missile Integrated Stage (90-94)	Low Cost Booster/Interceptor
Liquid Propellant Sustainer (90-94)	Gelled Technology for Interceptor
High Endoatmospheric Def. Int. (87-93)	Ground Based Interceptor
SCIT-DACS (87-92)	Kill Vehicle Propulsion
THAADS (92- )	Theatre Missile Defense Propulsion
GBI (90- )	Ground Based Interceptor
Brilliant Pebbles (90-95)	Advanced Booster and Kill Vehicle Propulsion Systems and Structures
Endo LEAP (90- )	Endoatmospheric Interceptor Controls & Cooling

## **SDI Programs' Technical Focus**

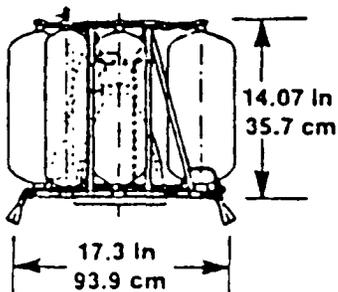
- Lightweight** –
  - **High Mass Fraction Stages**
  - **Heavy Use of Composites**
  - **Advanced Propellants**
  
- Low Cost** –
  - **Highly Producing Designs**
  - **Integrated Propulsion Modules**
  
- High Performance** –
  - **Ultrafast Engine Responses**
  - **Front-End Cooling for In Atmospheric Flight**
  - **Advanced Propellants**

**Current State of the Art**



**Wt = 290 lbm (132 kg)**

**ALAS**



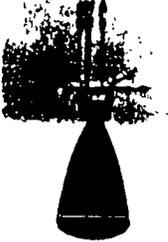
**Wt = 38.3 lbm (17.4 kg)**

	Current S.O.A.	ALAS	Weight Impact	
<b>SIGNIFICANT STAGE DESIGN DRIVERS</b>	Material	All Metal	Carbon Composites	High strength to weight composites are more weight efficient than best metals
	Propellants	N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	ClF <sub>5</sub> /N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	High density oxidizers result in denser, smaller packages
	Isp, sec $\left(\frac{\text{N-sec}}{\text{kg}}\right)$	310 – 320 (3040-3140)	340 – 360 (3330-3530)	Higher ISP results in less required propellant for same mission
	F/Wt	50	500 – 1000	Decreases engine weight an order of magnitude
	Response Time, sec	0.010 – 0.030	0.001	Improves control of stage — saves using another set of smaller control engines
	Press Vol in weight (cm)	$6 \times 10^5$ ( $15.2 \times 10^5$ )	$1-2 \times 10^6$ ( $2.5 - 5 \times 10^6$ )	Halves the tank weight

## **Benefits are Realized in Several Areas**

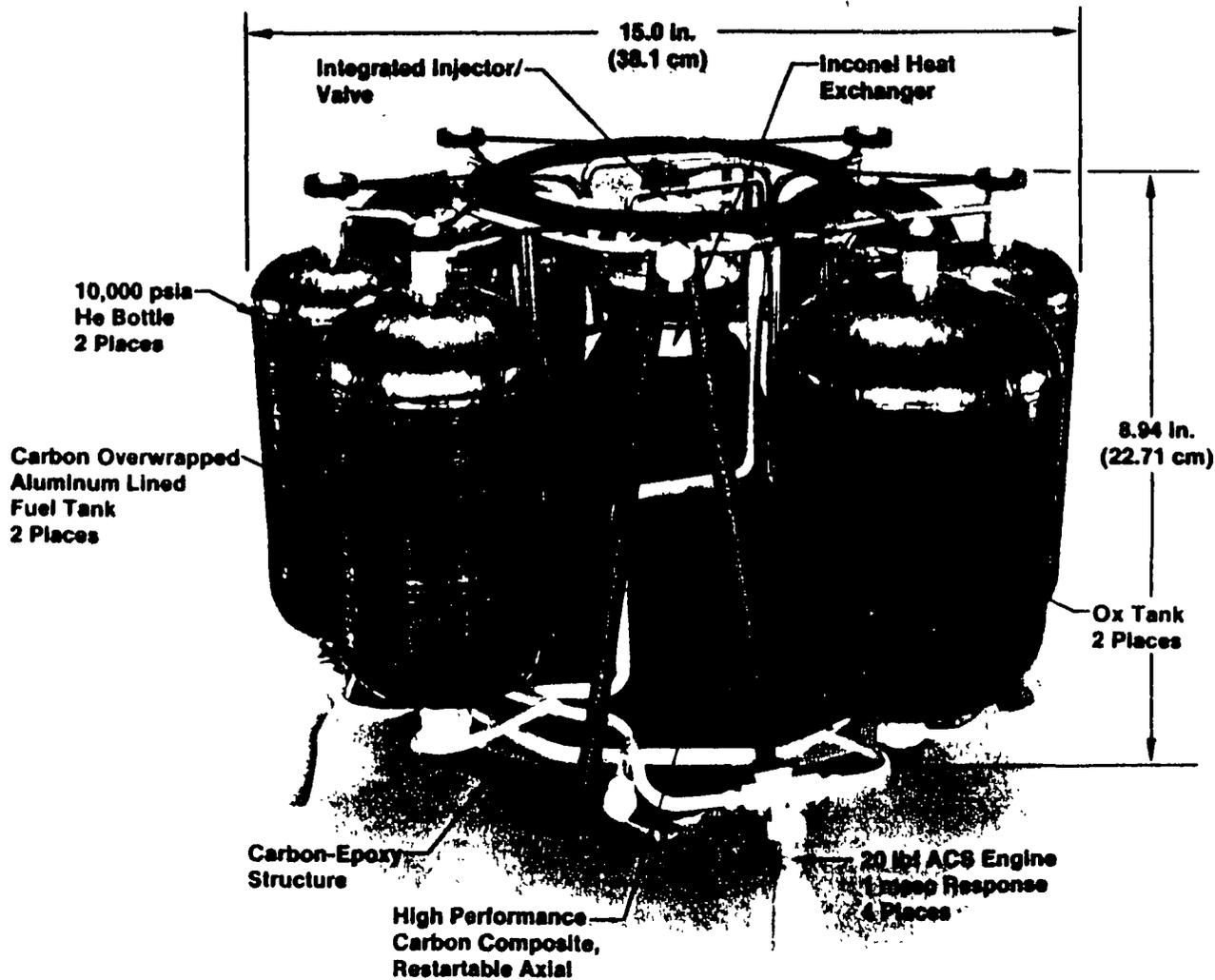
- New Engines
- Structures
- Tanks
- Advanced Propellant

# Emerging Composites Technologies Result in Numerous Propulsion Benefits

Subsystem	Conventional Technology	ALAS Technology	Benefit
 <p><b>ALAS Axial Engine</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refractory Nozzle</li> <li>Low Density Graphite Chambers</li> <li>Metal Structural Shell</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Braided Carbon Axial Nozzle</li> <li>Carbon Structural Shell</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nozzle Weight Reduced 90%</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Propellant Tanks</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Metal Designs Usually Titanium</li> <li>Glass - Overwrapped Thick-Wall Metal Liners (Pressure Load Is Shared Between Liner and Overwrap)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carbon Fiber Overwrapped with Very Thin Wall Liners (Pressure Load Is Not Shared Between Liner and Overwrap)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>~60% Weight Savings from 1 lbm to .45 lbm</li> <li>Order of Magnitude Savings in Cost \$10,000 vs &lt;\$1000</li> </ul>
 <p><b>ACS Engine</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refractory Nozzle</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Free Standing Graphite Nozzle</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nozzle/Chamber Weight Reduced from 2 lbm to &lt;.2 lbm</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Composite Structure</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Aluminum Bolted/Welded Configuration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Injection Molded Carbon Rings</li> <li>Braided Rings</li> <li>Stamped Struts</li> <li>Plastic Welding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weight Savings - from 2 lbm to .5 lbm</li> </ul>



# Advanced Liquid Axial Stage



# Propellant and Pressurant Tank Accomplishments

## Features

- **10<sup>6</sup> psi (7000 MPA) Carbon Fiber**
- **Yielding .006 in (.015 cm) Al Liner**
- **No Liner Welds**
- **Passive Propellant Management Device**



## Status

- **Fiber/Resin System Demonstrated**
- **.006 in (.015 cm) Liners Made**
- **Long Term CIF Material Storage Demonstrated**
- **He Containment Demonstrated With 0.010 in (.025 cm) Liner/@ 10,000 psi**
- **Prototype PMD Made**
- **First Burst Tests at 14,100 and 16,860 psia**

## **New Family of Lightweight Engines Has Been Developed**

<u>Program</u>	<u>Engine Type</u>	<u>Pc</u>	<u>Tests</u>
ALAS	Axial	775	150 Tests 1989-91
ALAS	ACS	500	110 Tests 1989-91
SCIT	Divert	500	20 Tests 1989-92
LDI	Axial/Divert	300-600	23 Tests 1992 (On-going)
GBI	ACS	500	To Be Tested July 1992
BP	Divert	500	To Be Tested Early 1993
BP	ACS	300	To Be Tested Mid 1993

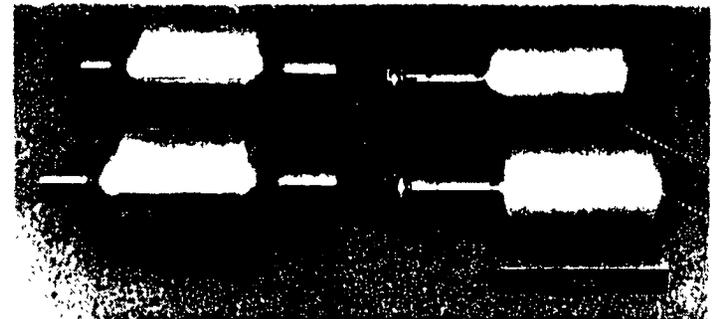
# ALAS Has Demonstrated High Performing Helium Tanks



Welded 2219/1100 Liner

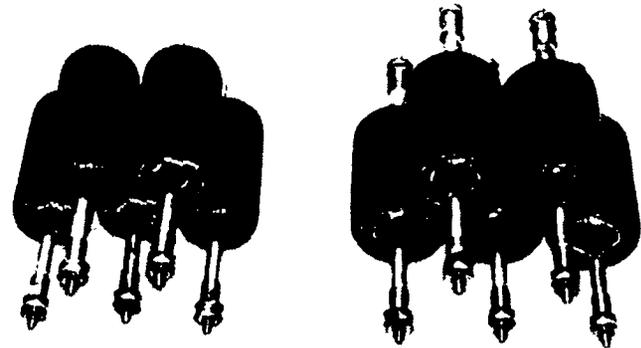


Spun 2219 Liner



Spun 6061 Liner

- 32 Helium Tanks Fabricated
- 0.010 in. Liner Wall Thickness Demonstrated
- $PV/W = 1.2 \times 10^6$  Achieved
- Helium Permeability  $1.0 \times 10^{-9}$  sccs at 10,000 psi after 20 Cycles Demonstrated



## Specification

	<u>Phase I</u>	<u>Phase II</u>
Volume, in <sup>3</sup>	40	335
Diameter, in	3.2	6.3
Operating Pressure, psi	10,000	10,000

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# Propellant Hoop And Helical Fibers Have Been Selected



Fiber	Tank Application	Modulus (MSI)	Tank Weight Comparison, %		Delivered Fiber Stress (KSI)	
			Fu	Ox		Avg
T-400 (3K Tow)	Helical	36.4	+8	+4	367 368 370	368
T-650(1) (3K Tow)	Helical	35.0	-	-	591 605 591	596
T-650 (6K Tow)	Helical	42.0	+10	+5	596 609 603	603
Apollo 53-750 (12K Tow)	Helical	53.0	+3	-1	615 666 660	647
T-1000H	Hoop	42.0	+6	+5	919 901 791*	910
T-1000GB(3)	Hoop	42.0	-	-	909 901 961	(2) 924



### Selection Criteria

- (1) Minimum Weight Design
- (2) Higher Strength
- (3) Cheaper and Available

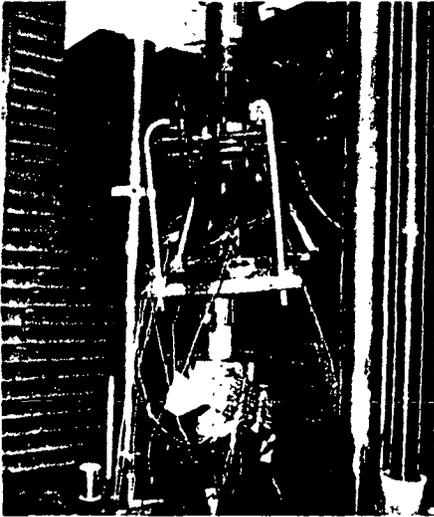
\*Not Included in Average

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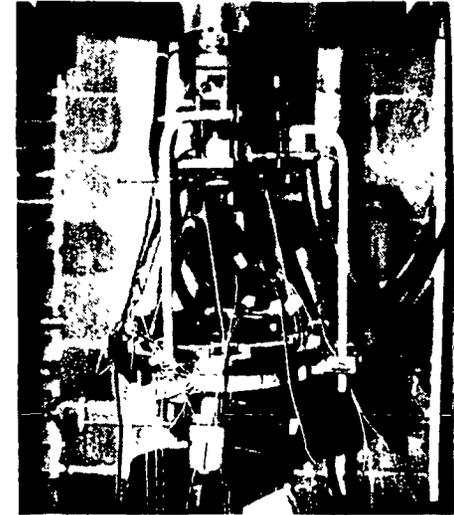
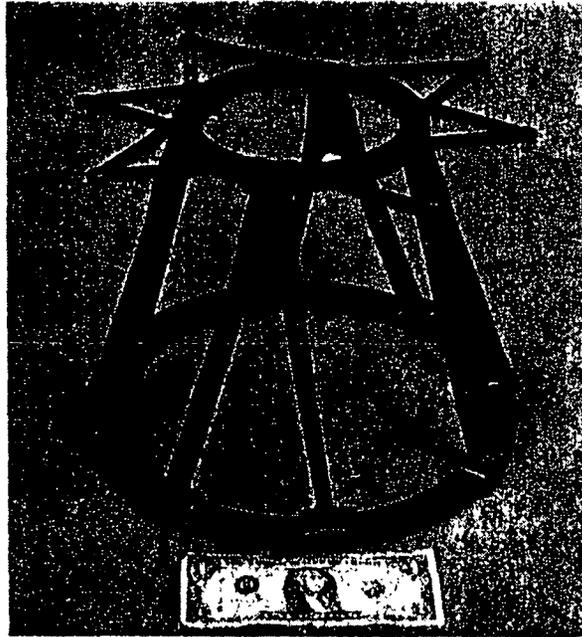
Selected

# ALAS Developed An Advanced Carbon Composite Structure



**KKV Deflection Test**  
0.018 in. Deflection at Flight Load

## 5 Structures Fabricated



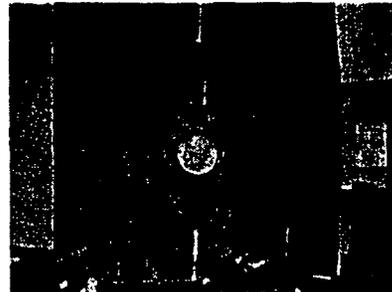
**Compression Test**  
• Ultimate Failure at 5000 lbf

**SLOSH Tensile Test**  
• Strut Demonstrated at 2X Load

## Component Tests



Main Strut Component Test Set-Up



Forward Ring Component Test Set-Up



ALAS Aft Ring Component Test Set-Up

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## **ALAS Structure Estimated Weight Summary**

• Forward Ring, lbs	.147
• Aft Ring, lbs	.230
ACS Supports, lbs	.0178
Tank Support Inserts, lbs	.0086
• Struts, Structure, lbs	.328
• Struts, Engine, lbs	.041
• Tank Retaining Pins, lbs	.011
<b>Total, lbs</b>	<b>.757</b>

**Note: Change in Tank Mounting Method Provides .0195 lbs  
Total Tank Weight Saving**

# **Integrated Concept Employs Optimum Material for Each Component**

<b>Component</b>	<b>Material</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
<b>Helium Tank Mount</b>	<b>High Strength Graphite Fiber/High Elongation Resin [±45°] Layup</b>	<b>Best Balance of Stiffness/Strength</b>
<b>Longeron</b>	<b>High Modulus Graphite Fiber/BMI Resin [±45°/0°/±45°] Layup</b>	<b>Stiffness Driven Producible BMI for Thermal Capability</b>
<b>Aft Ring*</b>	<b>High Strength Graphite Fiber/High Elongation Resin</b>	<b>Best Strength/Weight Ratio for Launch Looks</b>
<b>Forward Flange*</b>	<b>Beryllium</b>	<b>Stiff Isotropic Machined Part Ribs/Bosses</b>

**\*Detailed Structural Analysis and Dynamics Must Be Done**

## **CLF<sub>5</sub> Offers Improved Performance Without Undue Safety/Toxicity Issues**

- **Performance**
  - High specific impulse - 340-360 sec delivered
  - High specific gravity - 1.8 vs. N<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> = 1.04
- **Safety**
  - No untoward incidents in 5 years of recent testing
    - Over 300 rocket engine tests
    - Over 25 different engines
    - Stage test (loading and firing)
  - Handles like N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> - and tested with same precautions (Amines are more trouble)
  - Strong reaction with hydrocarbons - must be clean
    - Lox cleanliness level is appropriate
- **Toxicity**
  - Only about two-four times as toxic as N<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>
  - About 4-8 times safer than Titan III launch
    - Titan III fuel load = 105,000 lb of N<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>/UDMH
    - CLF<sub>5</sub> on Atlas ~ 6,500 lb
    - Equivalent N<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> = 13,000-26,000 lb