NASA Langley Research Center

Exploration



MISSE



Flight Test Articles



Landing Systems



National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Wing Leading Edge Impact Detection



Ares I Aero Characterization



Lunar & Mars Architectures



Mission Management Support



Launch Abort System



Habitat Structures & Materials



Science



Mission Concepts



CALIPSO



Field Missions



National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Advanced Instruments



A-Train



CERES - Radiation



Space-based Missions



Algorithm Development



Applications - Air Quality



Aeronautics



Hypersonics



Integrated Vehicle Health Management



Supersonics



Integrated Intelligent Flight Deck



Airportal







Fixed-Wing



Aircraft Aging and Durability

Rotary-Wing



Integrated Resilient Aircraft Control



Test Facilities

















Ares I-X Thermal Ruth Amundsen 2008





Orion Flight Test

Joe Gasbarre, Joe Del Corso 2008





Video of PA-1 Test Article showing diurnal shadow contours (6 AM – 7 PM LST)

- LaRC has thermal lead for Orion flight tests (PA-1/2, AA-1/2/3)
- Tests to be done at White Sands Missile Range (WSMR), NM
- PA-1 test schedule for Spring 2009
- AA-1 test scheduled for Spring 2010

PICA Thermal Testing Salvatore Scola 2008







PICA Vacuum Cycling Test



MEDLI Pressure Port Arc Jet Test



Walt Bruce, Kaitlin Liles 2008



- PICA Models Fabricated at Langley
- Quantity = 44
- Four active pressure measurements
- Eight temperature measurements





Tested at Boeing LCAT Facility (St. Louis)

- March 8 21, 2008
- Tested 34 models in 13 runs
- Test conditions match predicted flight conditions



Results

- Pressure port shape change (enlargement) greater than anticipated
- Cause identified as material oxidation phenomena
- Use of smaller port diameter being considered to stay under a maximum hole growth diameter - Science team evaluating potential impact if any
- Hole oxidation barriers (material liners) investigated during test with success

MEDLI Thermal Vacuum Testing Kaitlin Liles, Walt Bruce 2008





Interstage Thermal Protection System Sizing Joe Gasbarre 2007



- A thickness of 0.75 in of TPS is required for the DAC-2 thermal loads with a heating amplification factor 1.17 for stringers in the flow
- Increasing the thickness of the stringer web decreased TPS thickness
- Rohacell filled hat-sections adds approximately a total of 50 lbm

Interstage RoCS Plume Shielding Sizing Results Mark Thornblom 2007





- Initial RoCS plume shielding analysis was performed
- Near 'worst-case' heating requires 1.0 in of P-50 cork to protect substrate from excessive heating
- Low conductivity materials are desired to prevent excessive temperature (<120° F) at the substrate

Program to Advance Inflatable-Decelerators for Atmospheric Entry (PAIDAE) Joe Del Corso, Walt Bruce, Kaitlin Liles 2008





Inflatable Reentry Vehicle Experiment (IRVE I & II) Walt Bruce, Joe Del Corso 2008



- Flight test demonstration of inflatable ballute concept
- Designed, analyzed, integrated, and tested by NASA Langley
- Aeroshell fabricated by ILC Dover
- Centerbody fabricated by NASA Langley







RTD/Structures Mechanics Concepts Branch Thermal Analysis & Test Highlights



Hypersonics Project, Fundamental Aeronautics Program POC: Dr. Kim Bey

TPS Application: Highly Reliable Reusable Launch Systems (HRRLS)

