

## Request for Proposal

### Design of Deployable Solar Array Structure

#### Background

For a spacecraft to achieve a mission to Mars, a continual supply of electricity from solar arrays is necessary to operate the onboard equipment. Given the solar intensity and overall solar cell efficiency, a large array is required to provide sufficient power. The spacecraft must also fit within the fairing of the launch vehicle that necessitates deployable solar arrays.

This Request for Proposal (RFP) is for the design of the structure for a deployable solar array for use on a spacecraft travelling to Mars from Earth. The structure must be collapsible into a compact volume and deploy over a large radius. The structure *may not have any hinges*; therefore, origami principles are encouraged. The structure must survive the launch loads and maximize the power to weight ratio.

#### Requirements

General Characteristics	
Deployed radius (m)	1 to 1.5
Stored volume (cm <sup>3</sup> )	10

Performance	
Launch vibration magnitude (g)	25 in launch direction, 15 in both lateral directions
Launch vibration frequency (Hz)	100+
Deployed vibration magnitude (g)	1 in all directions
Deployed vibration frequency (Hz)	1.5
Power output (kW)	250
Minimum temperature for deployment (°C)	-100
Maximum temperature for deployment (°C)	100
Impact functionality	Functionality upon micrometeorite impact of 100mg, specific gravity of 8, spherical, impacting normal to the surface on the most critical member at 25km/s

#### Proposal and Design Data Requirements

The technical proposal shall present the design of this deployable solar array structure clearly and concisely; it shall cover all relevant aspects, features, and disciplines. Pertinent analyses and studies supporting design choices shall be documented.

Full descriptions of the structure are expected along with performance capabilities and operational limits in the stored, deployed and transition states. These descriptions include, at a minimum:

1. Material selection
2. Mass distribution
3. Structural loads analysis

4. Stress analysis under launch and deployment
5. Preliminary framing diagram for major components such as stringers, spars, ribs
6. Manufacturing plan
7. Estimated solar wind loads
8. Optimization analysis

## Design Competition Rules

### Eligibility Requirements

- All AIAA Student members are eligible and encouraged to participate. Membership with AIAA must be current to submit a report and to receive prizes.
- Students must submit their letter of intent and final report via the online submission to be eligible to participate. **No extensions will be granted.**
- More than one design may be submitted from students at any one school.
- If a design group withdraws their final report from the competition, the team leader must notify AIAA Headquarters immediately.
- Design projects that are used as part of an organized classroom requirement are eligible and encouraged for competition.

### Schedule

- Letter of Intent — 10 February 2019 (11:59 pm Eastern Time)
- Proposal delivered to AIAA Headquarters — 10 May 2019 (11:59 pm Eastern Time)
- Announcement of Winners — 31 August 2019 (11:59 pm Eastern Time)
  - Engine Design Competition dates
    - Letter of Intent – 14 February 2019 (11:59 pm Eastern Time)
    - Proposal submitted, via online submission site to AIAA Headquarters – 16 May 2019 (11:59 pm Eastern Time)
    - Round 1 evaluation completed – 30 June 2019 (11:59 pm Eastern Time)
    - Round 2 presentations at AIAA Propulsion and Energy Forum 2019

### Categories/Submissions

- Team\_Submissions
  - Team competitions will be groups of not more than ten AIAA Student Members per entry.
- Individual\_Submissions
  - Individual competitions will consist of only one AIAA Student member per entry.
- Graduate
  - Graduate students may participate in the graduate categories only.
- Undergraduate
  - Undergraduate students may participate in the undergraduate categories only.
- Letter of Intent (LOI)
  - A Letter of Intent indicating interest in participating in the design competitions is required before submitting a final report.
  - All Letters of Intent must be submitted through the online submission system.

- Letter of Intent must include student’s names, emails, AIAA membership numbers, faculty advisor(s) names, emails, and project advisor(s) names and emails. Incomplete LOI’s will result in the Team or Individual being ineligible to compete in the competition.
- Submission of Final Design Report  
Each team or individual must provide an electronic copy their design report as outlined below to the online Submission site
  - An electronic copy of the report in Adobe PDF format must be submitted to AIAA using the online submission site. Total size of the file cannot exceed 25 MB.
  - Electronic report files must be named: “2019\_[university]\_DESIGN\_REPORT.pdf”
  - A “Signature” page must be included in the report and indicate all participants, including faculty and project advisors, along with students’ AIAA member numbers and signatures.
  - Electronic report should be no more than 100 pages, double-spaced (including graphs, drawings, photographs, and appendices) if it were to be printed on 8.5”x11.0” paper, and the font should be no smaller than 10 pt. Times New Roman.

## Copyright

All submissions to the competition shall be the original work of the team members.

Authors retain copyright ownership of all written works submitted to the competition. By virtue of participating in the competition, team members and report authors grant AIAA non-exclusive license to reproduce submissions, in whole or in part, for all of AIAA’s current and future print and electronic uses. Appropriate acknowledgment will accompany any reuse of materials.

## Conflict of Interest

It should be noted that it shall be considered a conflict of interest for a design professor to write or assist in writing RFPs and/or judging proposals submitted if (s)he will have students participating in, or that can be expected to participate in those competitions. A design professor with such a conflict must refrain from participating in the development of such competition RFPs and/or judging any proposals submitted in such competitions.

## Awards

The prize money provided for the competitions is funded through the AIAA Foundation. The monetary awards may differ for each competition, with a maximum award of \$1,000. The award amounts are listed below.

The top three design teams will be awarded certificates. One representative from the first-place team *may be* invited by the Technical Committee responsible for the RFP to make a presentation of their design at an AIAA forum. A travel stipend *may be* available for some competitions, with a maximum travel stipend of \$1,000 which may be used to help with costs for flight, hotel, or conference registration to attend an AIAA forum.

## Aircraft Design Competitions

- Graduate Team Aircraft – Electric Vertical Takeoff and Landing (E-VTOL) Aircraft
- Undergraduate Team Aircraft – Thin Haul Transport and Air Taxi
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Place: \$500; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: \$300; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: \$250
- Undergraduate Individual Aircraft – Power Line Survey Unmanned Aircraft Systems
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Place: \$1,000; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: \$500; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: \$300

### **Engine Design Competition**

- Undergraduate Team Engine –Candidate Engines for Hybrid Electric Medium Altitude Long Endurance Search and Rescue UAV
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Place: \$1,000; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: \$600; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: \$500

### **Space Design Competition**

- Undergraduate Team Space Design – Reusable Lunar Surface Access Vehicle
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Place: \$500; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: \$300; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: \$250

### **Structures Design Competition**

- Graduate Team Structures – Design of the Structure for a VTOL Taxi
- Undergraduate Team Structures – Design of Deployable Solar Array Structure
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Place: \$500; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: \$300; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: \$250

### **Missile Systems Design Competition**

- Undergraduate Team Missile Systems - Design of a Long Range Strategic Missile
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Place: \$500; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: \$300; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: \$250

## **Proposal Requirements**

The technical proposal is the most important factor in the award of a contract. It should be specific and complete. While it is realized that all of the technical factors cannot be included in advance, the following should be included:

- Demonstrate a thorough understanding of the Request for Proposal (RFP) requirements.
- Describe the proposed technical approaches to comply with each of the requirements specified in the RFP, including phasing of tasks. Legibility, clarity, and completeness of the technical approach are primary factors in evaluation of the proposals.
- Particular emphasis should be directed at identification of critical, technical problem areas. Descriptions, sketches, drawings, systems analysis, method of attack, and discussions of new techniques should be presented in sufficient detail to permit engineering evaluation of the proposal. Exceptions to proposed technical requirements should be identified and explained.
- Include tradeoff studies performed to arrive at the final design.
- Provide a description of automated design tools used to develop the design.

## **Basis for Judging**

The AIAA Technical Committee that developed the RFP will serve as the judges of the final reports. They will evaluate the reports using the categories and scoring listed below. The judges reserve the right to not award all three places. Judges' decisions are final.

### ***1. Technical Content (35 points)***

This concerns the correctness of theory, validity of reasoning used, apparent understanding and grasp of the subject, etc. Are all major factors considered and a reasonably accurate evaluation of these factors presented?

### ***2. Organization and Presentation (20 points)***

The description of the design as an instrument of communication is a strong factor on judging. Organization of written design, clarity, and inclusion of pertinent information are major factors.

### ***3. Originality (20 points)***

The design proposal should avoid standard textbook information and should show the independence of thinking or a fresh approach to the project. Does the method and treatment of the problem show imagination? Does the method show an adaptation or creation of automated design tools?

### ***4. Practical Application and Feasibility (25 points)***

The proposal should present conclusions or recommendations that are feasible and practical, and not merely lead the evaluators into further difficult or insolvable problems.