NASA SBIR 2009 Phase I Solicitation

A1.13 Healing Material System Concepts for IVHM

Lead Center: LaRC

Participating Center(s): AFRC, ARC, GRC

The development of integrated multifunctional self-sensing, self-repairing structures will enable the next generation of light-weight, reliable and damage-tolerant aerospace vehicle designs. Prototype multifunctional composite and/or metallic structures are sought to meet these needs, as are concepts for their analytical and experimental interrogation. Specifically, structural and material concepts are sought to enable in situ monitoring and repair of service damage (e.g., cracks, delaminations) to improve structural durability and enhance safe operation of aerospace structural systems. Emphasis is placed on the development of new materials and systems for the mitigation of structural damage and/or new concepts for activation of healing mechanisms using new or existing materials. These advanced structural and material concepts must be robust, consider all known damage modes for specific material systems and be validated through experiment.