

# PERFORMANCE MATERIALS

COMPOSITES    ADVANCED CERAMICS    HIGH-STRENGTH FIBERS    SPECIALTY METALS    FABRICATION TECHNOLOGY

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## LOCKHEED MARTIN HONORS FIBER INNOVATIONS

Lockheed Martin Aeronautical Co. (Palmdale, CA) has named Fiber Innovations Inc. its Small Business Supplier of the Year for 2001. The award recognizes exceptional products, pricing, and delivery.

Fiber Innovations developed the composite frame for the Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missile (JASSM) missile. The one-piece, all-composite frame enabled Lockheed Martin to produce the next-generation cruise missile for 30% less than the \$400,000 target price set by the US Air Force and Navy.

Fiber Innovations makes the frame by vacuum-assisted resin transfer molding (VARTM). Instead of integral bulkheads and superframes, partitions mount to the body. This simplifies reconfiguring interior space for future upgrades.

An upper and lower composite shell encloses the airframe. JASSM's composite wings, which fold into the body, consist of composite-wrapped foam cores.

The stealth airframe houses a 1000-lb penetrator warhead. The Air Force plans to buy 3700 JASSM missiles.

Lockheed Martin also recommended the company for New England Region Small Business Subcontractor of the Year. The recipient of this award will qualify as a candidate for the National Small Business of the Year.

Fiber Innovations specializes in aerospace and defense composites. Its core technologies combine braiding with automated resin transfer molding (RTM) and VARTM.

In June 2000, the company won a production contract for the US Marine Corps shoulder-launched multipurpose assault weapon (SMAW). The company makes the tubes using automated glass braiding and RTM. Its braiding design includes integral wiring and attach brackets to protect the rocket during field handling.

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