

General Information for the TPS Community:

Since submission of the white papers to the Planetary Science Decadal Committee (http://sites.nationalacademies.org/SSB/CurrentProjects/ssb_052412) there have been a few developments initiated by the Decadal Committee and also by NASA that may be of interest.

1. A Venus mission design architecture study led by GSFC, initiated by the Decadal Committee, is complete and the reports will be available soon to the public.
2. There is an on-going Saturn mission study, led by JPL.
3. A Carbon Phenolic Workshop will be held next month under the auspices of the Chief Engineer of NASA. Because project planning and procurement topics will be discussed, participation is by invitation only and is strictly limited to NASA (including NASA support service contractors) and JPL personnel.
4. There is an RFI out on the street, seeking information from industry towards developing heat shields for future Venus, Outer Planets and Multi-Mission Earth Entry Vehicle missions. More info can be found at: <http://prod.nais.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/eps/synopsis.cgi?acqid=139360>

If you have questions or would like more information about topics 1-3, please send an e-mail to Raj Venkatapathy, Chief Technologist, Entry Systems and Technologies Division, ethiraj.venkatapathy-1@nasa.gov.

If you have any questions regarding the RFI (item 4), please follow the instructions on the website identified above.