

PROJECT COORDINATOR

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CONSORTIUM

The 12 partners represent the complete research and innovation value chain in the space sector – from initial design to manufacture and environmental testing.



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Deutsches Zentrum
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C³HARME

NEXT GENERATION CERAMIC
COMPOSITES FOR COMBUSTION
HARSH ENVIRONMENTS AND SPACE



BACKGROUND

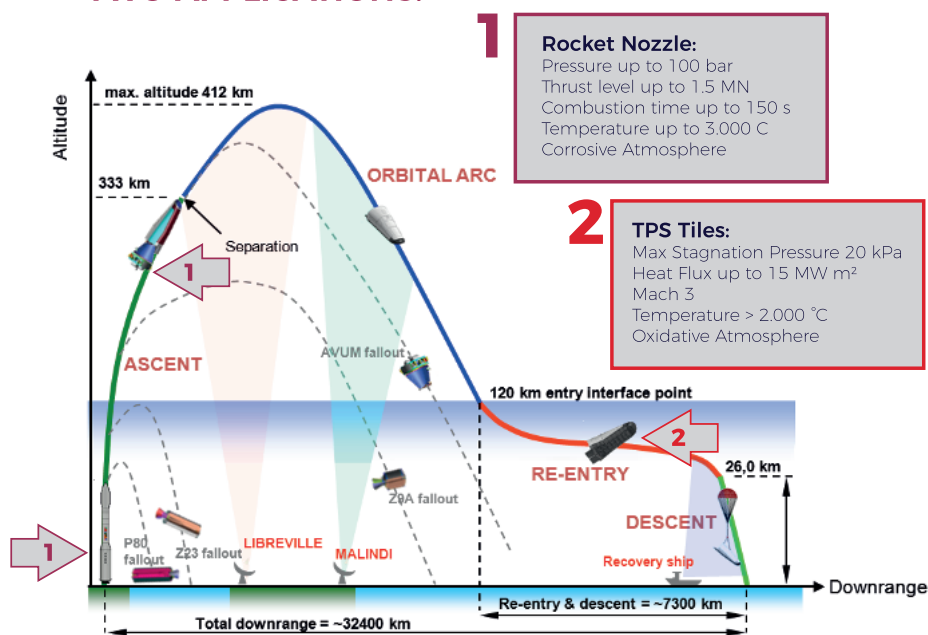
As the aerospace industry advances towards hypersonic flight (Mach 5 or above – fast enough to travel from London to New York in under 1 hour), the quest for new, ground-breaking aircraft concepts has begun. High-speed aviation needs advanced materials that can survive extreme conditions.



The EU-funded project C³HARME aims to combine the best features of CMCs and UHTCs to design, develop, manufacture and test a new class of **Ultra High Temperature Ceramic Matrix Composite (UHTCMCs) with self-healing capabilities**.

The latter should arise from the in-situ formation of adherent and ultra-refractory oxide scales. The incorporation of nano-sized ceramic dopants in the material will further protect the oxide scale in severe conditions.

TWO APPLICATIONS:



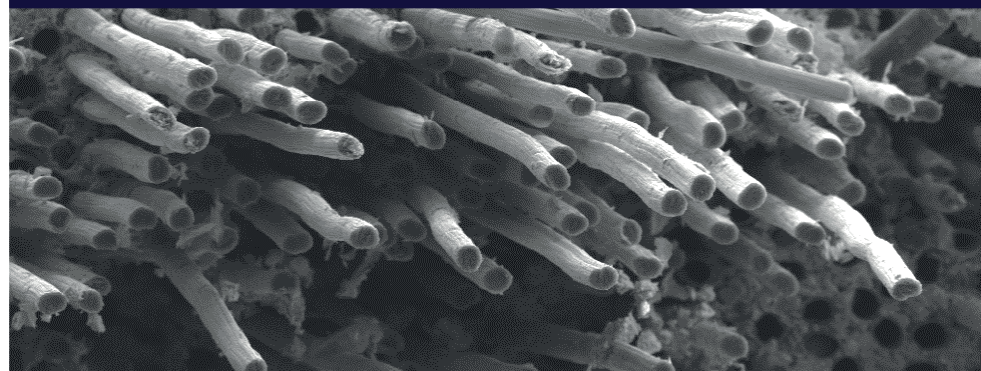
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1 Rocket Nozzle:
 Pressure up to 100 bar
 Thrust level up to 1.5 MN
 Combustion time up to 150 s
 Temperature up to 3,000 °C
 Corrosive Atmosphere

2 TPS Tiles:
 Max Stagnation Pressure 20 kPa
 Heat Flux up to 15 MW m²
 Mach 3
 Temperature > 2,000 °C
 Oxidative Atmosphere

Ceramic Matrix Composites		High Temperature Ceramics	
CONS	PROs	PROs	CONS
Moderate erosion resistance	Lightweight	High temperature strenght	No damage tolerance
Low oxidation resistance	Excellent damage and thermal shock tolerance	Extreme melting temperature	Low thermal shock resistance
Temperature limit		Self-healing ability	High specific weight

UHTCMCs



The new materials might find applications in other fields with similar needs, such as combustion and nuclear environments (Generation IV fission and fusion reactors) or concentrating solar power systems.