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The NIAC Studies:

NIAC studies, prepared by Fellows, are the foundation of the institute.

Over the last six and one-half years, NIAC has inspired and nurtured revolutionary advanced concepts that may offer new options for flight inside and outside of the Earth's atmosphere, exploration of other planets, understanding of the Earth and the Earth's solar system environment, and significant expansion of our knowledge of the cosmos. To encourage open review of advanced concepts, NIAC posts descriptions of each of the advanced concepts, briefings by the investigators and all final reports of completed Phase I and Phase II activities on the NIAC website.

Here is a broader description of [Phase I](#) and [Phase II](#) proposals.

<i>Phase I - 6 months / \$50 - \$75K</i>	<i>Phase II - Up to 24 months / Up to \$400K</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How well have the benefits been qualified in the context of a future aeronautics and/or space mission appropriate to the NASA charter and responsibilities? 2. How well is the concept described a system or architecture context? 3. Is the concept revolutionary rather than evolutionary? To what extent does the proposed activity suggest and explore creative and original concepts that may initiate a revolutionary paradigm change? 4. Is the concept substantiated with a description of applicable scientific and technical disciplines necessary for development? 5. How well conceived and organized is the study work plan, and does the team have appropriate key personnel and proven experience? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does the proposal continue the development of a revolutionary architecture or system in the context of a future NASA mission? Is the proposed work likely to provide a sound basis for NASA to consider the concept for a future mission or program? 2. Is the concept substantiated with a description of applicable scientific and technical disciplines necessary for development? 3. Has a pathway for development of a technology roadmap been adequately described? Are all of the appropriate enabling technologies identified? 4. Are the programmatic benefits and cost versus performance of the proposed concept adequately described and understood? Does the proposal show the relationship between the concept's complexity and its benefits, cost, and performance?

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