

Organized Researches on FRP in ISAS, University of Tokyo

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In 1965, FRP (fiber-reinforced plastics) Committee was organized by twenty eight members, in the Institute of Space and Aeronautical Science (ISAS), University of Tokyo, to carry out promptly organized researches on the fundamental properties of FRP, especially a new material: filament-wound (FW) composite and its application to space and aeronautical engineering. The work of the Committee was supported by the research-aid fund of the Ministry of Education and the Institute. The research activity of the Committee was exhibited through five subcommittees: (1) material properties, (2) structural performances, (3) ablative performances, (4) electrical performances, and (5) applications to space and aeronautical systems, and also through FRP symposium organized under the sponsorship of ISAS. The symposium was held in January 1967 and in December 1967 and will be held successively once per year. The symposium members are distributed in universities, institutes of government offices, and private companies, and the symposium plays an important role in the development of FW composite in our country.

The research purposes of the Committee were achieved in three years since its organization. That is, the fundamental properties of FW composites were clarified and their applications to space and aeronautical engineering, such as, practical use of FW method in manufacturing of integrated rocket chambers, were carried out. A part of these activities is reported as three abstracts and eleven original papers in this special issue of the Bulletin of ISAS, and the other part will appear in another issue in near future.

October 5, 1968

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