

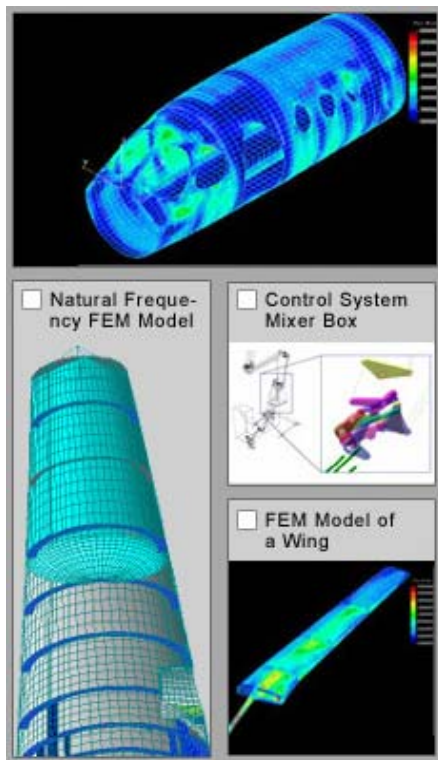


Aerospace Case Study (Scaled Composites, LLC – WhiteKnightTwo and SpaceShipTwo)



WhiteKnightTwo (WK2) and SpaceShipTwo are being developed by Scaled Composites, LLC (www.scaled.com) for their customer Virgin Galactic (www.virgingalactic.com) for the purpose of transforming the safety, cost and environmental impact of manned space travel.

The high profile project continually breaks new ground in aerospace engineering and design. The latest example, the large mothership WK2 pictured above, boasts a wingspan of 140 ft and was constructed from the world's longest single carbon composite aviation component ever manufactured. Driven by a demanding performance specification set by Virgin Galactic, WK2 has a unique heavy lift, high altitude capability and an open architecture inspired design which provides for maximum versatility in the weight, mass and volume of its payload potential. WK2 was designed to maintain a coast to coast range within the US while being able to deliver its space ship payload to an altitude of 50,000 ft. At this height, SpaceShipTwo disconnects from WK2 and continues its climb to the edge of space at 360,000 ft. An all carbon composite vehicle the size of WK2 represents a giant leap for a material technology. Plus, these efforts contribute to the commercial aviation sector's urgent need for dramatically more fuel efficient aircraft.



Scaled Composites uses NEi Nastran Finite Element Analysis (FEA) software as part of its process for developing innovative and reliable structural composite components. Types of analyses include: buckling, normal modes and nonlinear solutions. Their modeling techniques are extensively validated through test results. Despite receiving offers of free software from NEi Software's competitors, Scaled Composites specifically chose to purchase NEi Nastran to meet its needs, based on its strong composites platform and excellent technical support. Dan Kreigh, Lead Structural Analyst for Scaled Composites, underscores the value of both these needs, "We walked through many problems where I was constantly reminded of not only how powerful NEi Nastran is but how really basic and crude many of the other FEA product features are." On technical support and a good working relationship, "I am impressed at your company's willingness to quickly react to and address our issues. Your good work in your product is already being used to help us design the first commercial man carrying spaceship. In other words, expect us to be bugging you a lot!"

NEi Software, Inc. is aggressively focused on commitment to the customer. Detailed documentation, customized on-site training, and comprehensive technical support ensures that you will see immediate return on your investment.

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