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Saber Astronautics Receives NASA SBIR Award to Develop Self-Correcting Spacecraft Avionics

Denver, Colorado: [Saber Astronautics](#), a leading space venture company, has been awarded a prestigious NASA \$120,000 Phase I Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) grant. The six-month grant will fund research in a new generation of spacecraft avionics which can self-diagnose and autonomously adjust its own systems to correct for various problems which can occur in space.

These "Operationally Responsive" spacecraft have a wide range of applications for space and aviation. Deep space missions such as asteroid mining and trips to Mars will have limited contact with spacecraft operators, so any repair must happen onboard. The ability to auto-diagnose will keep astronauts safe on their journey, and keep spacecraft systems fully operational.

This innovation is also important in the commercial space industry because of the rapid growth in the small satellite market. Small satellites historically have low survivability being easily damaged by solar flares and other phenomenon. Self-correcting avionics will increase the reliability of these small satellites which are normally are not heavily shielded from the effects of such space weather events.

Saber Astronautics has years of experience applying advanced artificial intelligence to diagnostics. Their technology has been applied to a wide range of problems such as detecting damage to satellites, identifying leaks in water utilities, and tracking financial markets.



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Expressing his enthusiasm for the potential of the research grant to help the broader space industry, [Saber Astronautics'](#) founder Dr Jason Held said, "It's exciting to think that we are going to bring our technology from ground stations to now be onboard the spacecraft itself. A computer which knows why it is damaged and can self-repair— this is a transformational technology. It is going to make space a lot easier and safer to work in."

The NASA SBIR program is highly selective, with only 10% of applicants typically accepted for Phase I. NASA evaluated technical merit and feasibility, along with experience, qualifications and facilities. Additional criteria included effectiveness of the work plan and commercial feasibility of the project. Successful Phase I projects are eligible to apply for further funding of \$750,000.

About Saber Astronautics

Saber Astronautics' mission is to reduce barriers to space flight, making it more accessible to people on Earth. Saber's Responsive Space Operations Center (RSOC) is a next-generation space mission control system developed by an experienced team of Australian and US space operations, systems control, ux and robotics experts. RSOC brings together the latest techniques in human factors, artificial intelligence, and dynamic 3D data visualisation to dramatically reduce the cost of ground-based space operations by making it easier for spacecraft operators to monitor, fly, and rapidly diagnose faults in spacecraft systems.

For more information, please visit www.saberastro.com

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