Personal Aircraft Point to the Future of Transportation

**Langley Research Center**

**Cirrus Design Corporation**

*Duluth, Minnesota*

**Originating Technology/NASA Contribution**

- NASA and partners formed the Advanced General Aviation Transport Experiments, or AGATE
- AGATE aimed to enhance general aviation (GA) technology to enable a small aircraft transportation system for alleviating congestion in the Nation’s roads and skies

**Partnership**

- Through AGATE-driven SBIR support, Cirrus developed composite manufacturing methods for its GA aircraft
- Cirrus planes feature a host of NASA innovations
- NASA testing also improved safety in Cirrus aircraft and led to airbag installation, a first in GA planes

**Product Outcome**

- Cirrus’ SR22 plane has been the top-selling FAA-certified single-engine airplane since 2002
- The planes feature a NASA spinoff, the BRS Aerospace whole-plane parachute, which has saved 35 Cirrus pilots and passengers to date
- A new Cirrus jet has an engine created under NASA’s General Aviation Propulsion project