

News Feature

Project Icarus revisited - 30 September

John I Davies

More than 10 years ago, Project Icarus kicked off at the BIS HQ with a symposium which included key members of the 1970s BIS Daedalus study team.

Project Icarus aimed to build on the Daedalus design using some 30 years of fusion research since the '70s and design an Icarus interstellar probe - son of Daedalus. The Project Icarus team produced several Icarus variants, pre-eminently among them 'Firefly' [1] but also others such as Resolution/Endeavour that would become 'Pegasus'.

This symposium at BIS HQ London aims to provide a 'book end' to BIS Project Icarus and the designs. i4is Deputy Executive Director Rob Swinney was Project Director of Icarus in its latter years and is the host and organiser of the event. Come along to find out how far we have come since the legendary Daedalus project - and meet Rob and members of the Icarus teams, core i4is team members and others who have contributed over the years.

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Project Icarus Symposium

The Latest on an Interstellar Design

Sat 30 September 2023

BIS London and Online



PROJECT ICARUS – The Latest on an Interstellar Design

£10.00 – £40.00

PROJECT ICARUS – The Latest on an Interstellar Design

On the 30th of September over 10 years ago, Project Icarus kicked off at the BIS HQ with a symposium which included key members of the 1970s BIS Daedalus study team in attendance. Daedalus aimed to show that interstellar travel was feasible and produced the famous Daedalus ('ICF') fusion powered 2-stage probe, still arguably one of the most complete designs for such an endeavour. The BIS members at the Project Icarus launch hoped to 're-do' Daedalus considering some 30 years of fusion research since the '70s and design a new credible Icarus interstellar probe – son of Daedalus.

Some 5 years of hard research and design followed, and the Project Icarus team came up with several Icarus variants (based on modes of fusion and propellant), pre-eminently among them 'Firefly' but also others such as Resolution/Endeavour that would become 'Pegasus'.

[1] See *Reaching the Stars in a Century using Fusion Propulsion* i4is.org/reaching-the-stars-in-a-century-using-fusion-propulsion/, First published in Issue 22 | August 2018 i4is.org/principium-22/