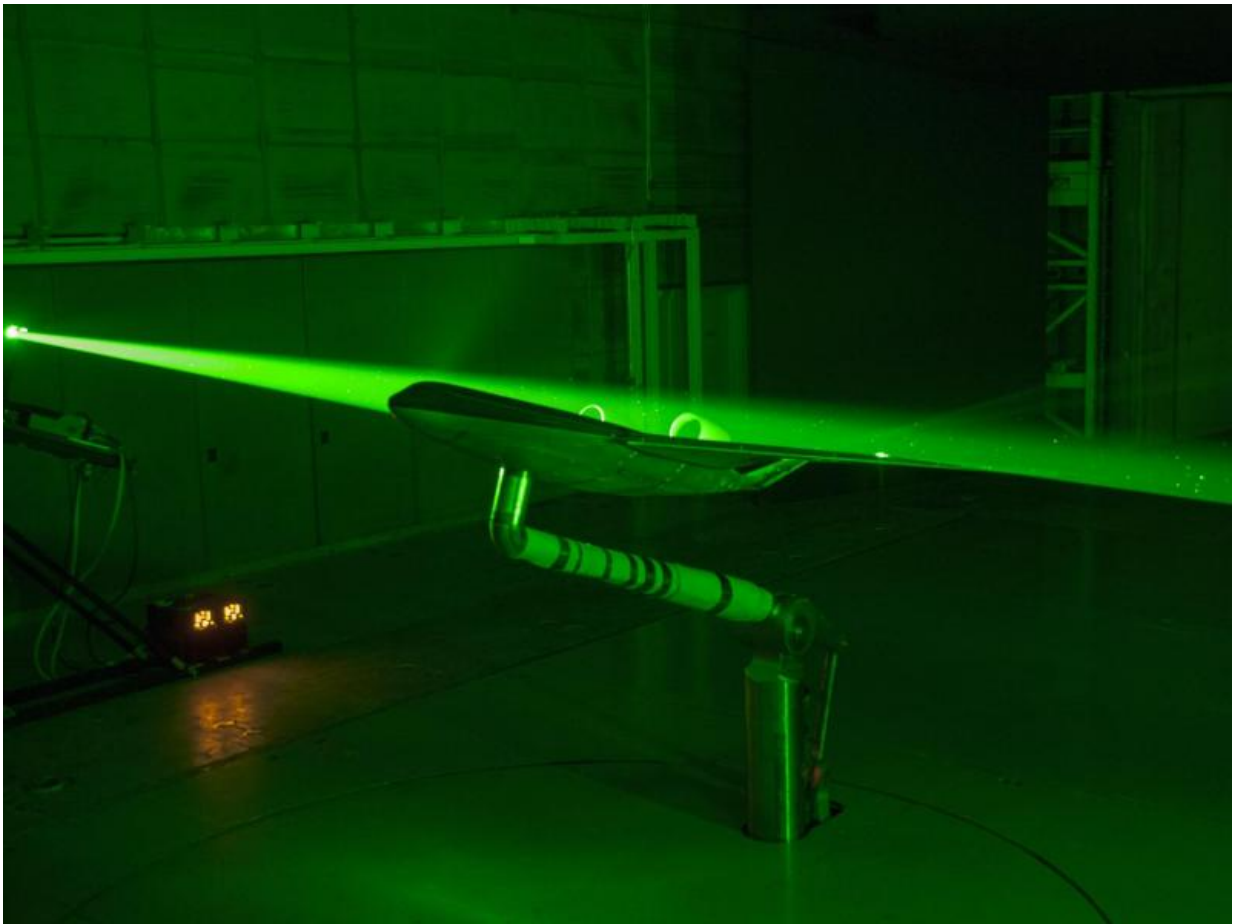


Image: A laser-sharp view of blended wing body plane design

October 14 2016



Credit: NASA/David C. Bowman

Engineers at NASA's Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia,

used lasers inside the 14- by 22-Foot Subsonic Tunnel to map how air flows over a Boeing Blended Wing Body (BWB) model – a greener, quieter airplane design under development.

The name for the technique is called [particle image velocimetry](#).

If you look closely you can see the light bouncing off tracer particles. Cameras record the movement of those particles as the laser light pulses across the [model](#). This allows researchers to accurately measure the flow over the model once the images are processed. A smoother flow over the wing means less fuel will be needed to power the aircraft.

Provided by NASA

Citation: Image: A laser-sharp view of blended wing body plane design (2016, October 14) retrieved 25 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2016-10-image-laser-sharp-view-blended-wing.html>

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