New Burner II is the first solid-fuel upper stage with full control and guidance capability developed for general space applications. Designed and built by Boeing for the U.S. Air Force Space Systems Division, Burner II will provide the final “kick” for placing small-to-medium payloads into precise orbits. It will be able to push its payload to the exact speeds required for specific earth-orbit or earth-escape missions. By filling the payload gap between the small Scout launch vehicle and the more complex liquid upper stages, Burner II can effectively lower launch costs.

Designed specifically as the second stage on the Thor booster, versatile Burner II can be used as the upper stage on the complete range of standard launch vehicles, from Thor through Titan III.