Flight model
A model destined for orbital flight, constructed to rigourous standards, using standard components and on completion put through qualification tests.

Hermes Propulsion Module (MPH)
Hermes Resource Module (MRH)
Non-reusable part of the Hermes vehicle which is deorbited separately from the Hermes spaceplane on termination of an orbital flight.

Navigation (on board tracking)
Determines the position and the speed of the vehicle's center of gravity, the orientation of this vehicle within given reference points. This is calculated on board using readings obtained from on-board instrumentation.

Nominal
As planned and within specified limits.

In-flight operations
All surveillance and monitoring activities concerning the system and the payload on board and on the ground which must be carried out between the launch of the Ariane 5/Hermes composite and complete standstill on the runway, or at the end of a emergency return.

Mission operations
Execution of a defined mission within the mission scenario (manifesto) and use of operations in flight.

Transfer orbit
Orbit reached after 1st MRH propulsion burn.

Piloting

Function ensuring control of movement around the center of gravity in order to maintain the reference altitude required for guidance with respect to the constraints and laws of the selected attitude control.

Flight plan

Ordered sequence of operational events, activities and system configurations which serve as the basis for carrying out the mission.

Mission plan

Preparation and revision of plans prior to and during a mission for activities and use of resources (all resources on-board and on ground including crew installation time, payload manoeuvering time, communications etc.).

Reentry

Flight phase beginning at deorbit and terminating when spaceplane comes to rest on the landing strip.

Reconfiguration

Selection of a new configuration, including reference modification following anomaly detection or changes to mission objectives.

Mission scenario

Mission scheduling and definition over a period of several years, including the launch dates, the visited orbital elements, the nature of the payload, etc.

Ground segment

Parts of the system which are not used in space. Division into:

- in-flight operations subsegment
- launch subsegment
- landing subsegment
- turn around subsegment
- development means subsegment
- rescue-safety subsegment