Hi! I'm NASA's Michelle Stone taking you Inside KSC!

A spacecraft designed to map the surface of an asteroid and then gather a sample from its surface recently completed a key communications test at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

As OSIRIS-REx heads toward an asteroid dubbed Bennu, it will send reports to Earth that will be picked up by the agency's Deep Space Network.

Engineers spent more than a week making sure the spacecraft's antennas, transmitters and other technical equipment will be up to the task.

The network has three tracking facilities around the globe to maintain communications with spacecraft exploring the solar system.

Time-lapse cameras recently captured NASA's Orion spacecraft being moved from the high bay to the clean room in Kennedy's Neil Armstrong
Operations and Checkout Building.

00:00:53,588 --> 00:00:58,429
This is where assembly of the Orion crew module has been taking place since its arrival in February.

00:00:59,588 --> 00:01:04,750
The first flight of Orion atop the agency's Space Launch System rocket will be Exploration Mission 1 in late 2018.

00:01:08,120 --> 00:01:11,910
Orion and the SLS are the vehicles that eventually will take astronauts on the journey to Mars.

00:01:14,560 --> 00:01:16,820
And remember, Spaceport Magazine digs deeper

00:01:16,819 --> 00:01:17,899
Inside KSC.