this week at NASA this week the Kepler science team announced the spacecraft was in a thruster controlled safe mode.

The root cause was undetermined but the proximate cause appears to be an attitude error caused by a malfunction and Kepler's reaction wheel for one of the telescope's pointing mechanisms.

Unfortunately Kepler is not in a place where I can go up and rescue it or any other astronauts we're going to look at this data very carefully to see if it's possible to return to a science mode if we can get a wheel restarted we do need.
three reaction wheels we believe to do

the extra planet science the team has

since put the telescope in what's known

as a point rest state to minimize fuel

usage while the investigation continues

though no decisions have been made about

the fate of a mission the team notes

that even if data collection were to end

Kepler has collected substantial

quantities of data that should yield a

string of scientific discoveries for

years to come living off earth a special

presentation at NASA headquarters

commemorated the 40th anniversary of
Skylab America's first space station

panelists included to Skylab astronauts

and expedition 34 commander Kevin Ford

discussion centered around the

contribution of Skylab to long-duration

spaceflight missions like those

conducted aboard the International Space

Station the space station was built

around what we learned from the Skylab

what they put up there for us the way

the modules were sized and the way they

were constructed in space and all that

kind of stuff came out of what we

learned from Skylab and the lessons
learned from Skylab will also help us

ventures farther into space on future missions of exploration such as the recently announced initiative to send humans to study an asteroid by 2025 if we're NASA is allowed to continue and persist in this direction and with the proper funding to do it the national continued to be as accessible as they have been all the way from Skylab shuttle and Space Station as well during the media briefing at Johnson Space Center administrator charlie bolden and center director ellen ochoa discussed the
future of human space exploration and

the critical role performed by the

international space station in support

of those efforts without station we

cannot develop the technologies and gain

the knowledge of the human system that

we need to be able to send people to

Mars on to an asteroid and do the other

definitions we need JSC is home to

the International Space Station and

Orion program offices and is the primary

training facility for NASA's astronaut

corps NASA deputy administrator lori

garver along with associate
administrator for Space Technology Mike Gazzara toured several facilities at Glenn Research Center's Lewis field and Cleveland where they were briefed on work being done in advanced manufacturing and cryogenic propellant systems for future extended missions in space and two advanced solar electric propulsion technologies for asteroid exploration to have the revitalization of manufacturing the driven by projects such as this that we're seeing at Glenn within NASA research is something we're really really proud of the pair also
toured facilities at Glenn's Plum Brook station in Sandusky Ohio the j-2x engine being installed in the A1 test stand at Stennis Space Center is the first full engine installed in the A1 in almost a decade the next generation engine is being installed to prepare it for a new series of tests during which it will be gimbaled or pivoted during test firings gimble tests are an important part of the j-2x design process because in space the engine must move freely to steer the upper stage of the evolved space launch System NASA's new heavy-lift launch
vehicle this is the first round of

e 00:03:57,318 --> 00:04:01,009
gimble testing to be performed

00:03:59,239 --> 00:04:03,489
since testing of the Space Shuttle main

e 00:04:01,009 --> 00:04:03,489
engines

00:04:03,909 --> 00:04:08,770
Langley Research Center NASA Aeronautics

00:04:06,849 --> 00:04:11,049
research took center stage when

00:04:08,770 --> 00:04:12,460
Administrator Charlie Bolden visited the

00:04:11,050 --> 00:04:15,460
Langley Research Center in Hampton

00:04:12,460 --> 00:04:17,110
Virginia Bolden and local media checked

00:04:15,460 --> 00:04:19,420
out a lab that tests cockpit

00:04:17,110 --> 00:04:21,489
technologies that helped transform the

00:04:19,420 --> 00:04:22,990
national air transportation system it

00:04:21,488 --> 00:04:25,449
depends on the aircraft but we are now

00:04:22,990 --> 00:04:26,980
at a straight waypoint the hess 280 they

00:04:25,449 --> 00:04:28,779
also got a look at a nasa langley
simulator researchers used to develop systems that make airplanes safer. Former naval aviator Bolden got the chance to land the virtual plane in near zero visibility with the help of new cockpit displays. It gives you all the right directions. I was impressed following a five-state journey that began in Colorado Sierra Nevada. Corporation's DreamChaser engineering test article made its arrival at Dryden Flight Research Center in Edwards, California where it will begin a flight.
test program in collaboration with

NASA's Commercial Crew program Dream Chaser will undergo tow testing to validate performance of its nose strut.

brakes and tires captive carry flight.

testing to examine the loads it will encounter during flight and pre-flight.

tests to validate aerodynamics the

flight tests will draw upon the

experience of NASA Dryden and conducting

various approach and landing flight.

tests including testing the Space Shuttle prototype Enterprise in 1977 a

massa Google+ Hangout carried live on
astronauts with cast members of the new film Star Trek into Darkness to discuss how work aboard the International Space Station is turning science fiction into reality there's commercial companies coming online would you ever if money was not an object would you ever buy a ticket and come up and visit yeah and then we'll see you on Friday flight engineer Chris Cassidy come onboard the station and other astronauts from Johnson Space Center discussed life in space with movie director JJ Abrams and
actors from the film and took questions

00:06:06:759 --> 00:06:10:990
from followers of the hang up from the

intrepid museum in new york city and the

Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in Washington

details about upcoming NASA Google+ Hangouts can be found at wwu volcom / +

NASA on May twentieth nineteen

seventy-eight the Pioneer Venus orbiter

was launched and reached Venus on

December for that same year the Pioneer Venus Project consisted of two

spacecraft the orbiter Pioneer Venus one

and the multi probe or Pioneer Venus to

which was launched separately on august
eight 1978 the main objective of the program was to investigate the solar win in the Venusian environment map the planet's surface through radar imaging and studying the characteristics of the upper atmosphere and ionosphere the first global topographic map of Venus was constructed from data collected by Pioneer Venus 1 and that's this week @nasa for more on these and other stories or to follow us on ustream Flickr and other social media log on to www.nasa.gov