



1  
00:00:00,280 --> 00:00:01,400  
[Engine sound]

2  
00:00:01,400 --> 00:00:02,040  
>> Clear to go.

3  
00:00:02,046 --> 00:00:02,796  
>> You're clear.

4  
00:00:03,220 --> 00:00:04,500  
[Music]

5  
00:00:05,060 --> 00:00:05,980  
>> Nozzle swing.

6  
00:00:05,980 --> 00:00:06,700  
[Jet revving up]

7  
00:00:06,700 --> 00:00:07,560  
>> Here we go.

8  
00:00:07,560 --> 00:00:08,060  
>> Smoke

9  
00:00:08,060 --> 00:00:08,800  
>> CFO.

10  
00:00:09,020 --> 00:00:10,480  
>> Good ignition.

11  
00:00:10,480 --> 00:00:13,920  
[Music]

12  
00:00:13,920 --> 00:00:15,920  
[Jet taking off]

13  
00:00:15,920 --> 00:00:16,660

[Sonic boom]

14

00:00:16,660 --> 00:00:21,516

[Radio chatter]

15

00:00:21,516 --> 00:00:23,776

[Music]

16

00:00:23,780 --> 00:00:25,360

[ER-2 taking off]

17

00:00:25,366 --> 00:00:27,826

>> Forty-seven point  
nine altitude.

18

00:00:28,296 --> 00:00:29,336

>> Here we go.

19

00:00:29,336 --> 00:00:31,896

3, 2, 1 release.

20

00:00:32,516 --> 00:00:39,476

[Music]

21

00:00:39,480 --> 00:00:45,240

[747 taking off]

22

00:00:45,806 --> 00:00:47,846

>> 2, 1, 0.

23

00:00:47,846 --> 00:00:51,046

[Rocket blasting off]

24

00:00:51,046 --> 00:00:51,976

>> Still got it.

25

00:00:52,166 --> 00:00:52,946

Awesome.

26

00:00:52,946 --> 00:00:55,586

[Truck driving by]

27

00:00:55,840 --> 00:00:57,356

>> Gonna hold level for a minute here...

28

00:00:57,356 --> 00:00:58,816

>> NASA 836, we're gonna hold here.

29

00:00:59,036 --> 00:00:59,866

>> Flight control, do G look good?.

30

00:00:59,866 --> 00:01:00,766

>> Two Gs.

31

00:01:00,766 --> 00:01:02,126

>> Two Gs, copy.

32

00:01:02,440 --> 00:01:06,240

[Music]

33

00:01:06,240 --> 00:01:09,000

[Camera shutter]

34

00:01:09,000 --> 00:01:14,200

[Music]

35

00:01:21,506 --> 00:01:23,846

>> Whenever a NASA aircraft leaves the ground,

36

00:01:24,366 --> 00:01:26,346

an entire team of people ensure

37

00:01:26,346 --> 00:01:29,246

that it executes its mission

safely and successfully.

38

00:01:29,816 --> 00:01:32,556

The pilot and mission  
controller sit at the ends

39

00:01:32,556 --> 00:01:36,136

of a complex stream of  
data along which dozens

40

00:01:36,196 --> 00:01:40,046

of IT specialists, engineers,  
and technicians work to ensure

41

00:01:40,046 --> 00:01:42,206

that each inflight  
decision is informed

42

00:01:42,206 --> 00:01:43,966

by accurate information.

43

00:01:43,966 --> 00:01:47,406

And that all test or science  
data is successfully gathered

44

00:01:47,406 --> 00:01:48,840

and processed.

45

00:01:48,840 --> 00:01:52,240

At the Armstrong Flight  
Research Center, this team makes

46

00:01:52,256 --> 00:01:54,926

up the mission information  
and test systems directorate

47

00:01:55,276 --> 00:01:59,496

known simply as Code M. A  
critical behind the scenes force

48

00:01:59,656 --> 00:02:02,716

that helps Armstrong keep  
its reputation as one

49

00:02:02,720 --> 00:02:05,516

of the world's finest  
flight research centers.

50

00:02:05,516 --> 00:02:12,076

[Music]

51

00:02:12,076 --> 00:02:15,886

>> In most cases, new flight  
projects first approach the

52

00:02:15,886 --> 00:02:18,986

Mission Integration  
Office or MIO.

53

00:02:18,986 --> 00:02:22,486

The MIO is responsible for the  
development of partnerships

54

00:02:22,486 --> 00:02:24,926

with key researchers,  
mission directorates,

55

00:02:24,926 --> 00:02:27,206

and external stakeholders.

56

00:02:27,206 --> 00:02:29,726

They help create  
value for our partners

57

00:02:29,736 --> 00:02:31,796

by providing an initial  
interface

58

00:02:31,796 --> 00:02:34,496

and a cross functional  
integration of processes,

59

00:02:34,736 --> 00:02:36,766  
capabilities, and operations.

60

00:02:37,516 --> 00:02:43,646  
[Music]

61

00:02:44,146 --> 00:02:45,786  
>> And there's 10,000 feet.

62

00:02:46,106 --> 00:02:48,976  
>> I'm going to go about 100  
feet above you if I can here.

63

00:02:48,976 --> 00:02:49,840  
>> Okay.

64

00:02:49,840 --> 00:02:52,320  
>> Flights of new aircraft or  
systems are first simulated

65

00:02:52,466 --> 00:02:54,986  
to ensure that any novel  
concepts are working

66

00:02:54,986 --> 00:02:55,596  
as designed,

67

00:02:56,286 --> 00:02:57,896  
or to conduct trade studies

68

00:02:57,966 --> 00:03:00,906  
or to iterate a design  
towards optimum performance.

69

00:03:01,646 --> 00:03:05,156  
Later when an actual flight is

scheduled, before the aircraft

70

00:03:05,156 --> 00:03:08,866  
even revs its engine, simulation  
familiarizes the pilot

71

00:03:08,866 --> 00:03:11,806  
and mission control team with  
the procedures and test points

72

00:03:12,056 --> 00:03:14,706  
and prepares them for  
unexpected situations.

73

00:03:16,086 --> 00:03:18,546  
Engineers and technicians  
in code ME,

74

00:03:18,776 --> 00:03:21,486  
the simulation engineering  
branch of Code M,

75

00:03:21,536 --> 00:03:24,086  
create one-of-a-kind  
simulation programs

76

00:03:24,086 --> 00:03:26,236  
and hardware subsystem  
interfaces

77

00:03:26,466 --> 00:03:29,216  
that enable NASA's pilot  
and their industry partners

78

00:03:29,316 --> 00:03:32,156  
to understand how a new  
aircraft or a system will handle

79

00:03:32,686 --> 00:03:35,756  
or discover the most efficient

ways to hit their data points.

80

00:03:36,136 --> 00:03:39,866

>> Paul, I'm going to light the burners just for a second here,

81

00:03:39,866 --> 00:03:41,816

just to see the difference in the thrust.

82

00:03:42,276 --> 00:03:42,706

>> All right.

83

00:03:43,296 --> 00:03:43,976

>> And uh--

84

00:03:44,166 --> 00:03:47,186

>> Saw the cable tension go up a little there, it's into the red.

85

00:03:48,126 --> 00:03:48,416

>> All right

86

00:03:48,416 --> 00:03:51,916

coming out of the after burners back to full power..

87

00:03:53,396 --> 00:03:54,946

>> Getting some slack on the rope now...

88

00:03:57,156 --> 00:03:58,476

>> Oh yeah it's amazing.

89

00:03:58,480 --> 00:04:00,156

Now that I'm getting kind of used to the sim,

90

00:04:00,156 --> 00:04:02,566

I can really feel you back there and the effects.

91

00:04:03,516 --> 00:04:08,546

[Music]

92

00:04:09,046 --> 00:04:10,806

>> Ready to send check.

93

00:04:10,946 --> 00:04:12,376

>> Sending check command now.

94

00:04:12,686 --> 00:04:13,406

>> Send arm.

95

00:04:14,166 --> 00:04:14,856

>> Arming now.

96

00:04:15,640 --> 00:04:16,570

>> Send terminate.

97

00:04:16,720 --> 00:04:18,640

>> And terminating now.

98

00:04:19,626 --> 00:04:21,626

And we have a good  
arm-term cycle.

99

00:04:21,836 --> 00:04:23,856

>> Well before the  
research flight phase,

100

00:04:24,046 --> 00:04:27,246

the Range Engineering  
Branch, Code MC, engineers

101

00:04:27,246 --> 00:04:29,746

and software developers  
build, integrate,

102

00:04:29,746 --> 00:04:31,406  
and verify range assets.

103  
00:04:31,546 --> 00:04:34,256  
This is how they ensure the  
aircraft telemetry can be

104  
00:04:34,256 --> 00:04:37,466  
received and processed for  
control-room display monitoring.

105  
00:04:37,836 --> 00:04:39,666  
That aircraft position  
can be tracked

106  
00:04:39,666 --> 00:04:41,216  
for situational awareness.

107  
00:04:41,216 --> 00:04:41,646  
>> All right,

108  
00:04:41,646 --> 00:04:43,286  
this is TD on Data 2.

109  
00:04:43,446 --> 00:04:45,976  
I'll go ahead and check everybody  
for their control-room display

110  
00:04:45,976 --> 00:04:47,746  
status now that we  
have both engines up.

111  
00:04:48,056 --> 00:04:49,936  
>> Heard you loud and clear.

112  
00:04:50,276 --> 00:04:53,976  
>> And that control-room voice  
communications are working.

113

00:04:54,056 --> 00:04:58,706  
For unmanned aircraft, Code MC  
verifies uplinks for command

114  
00:04:58,706 --> 00:05:00,976  
and control and flight  
termination systems.

115  
00:05:01,046 --> 00:05:03,216  
>> We're going to  
arm and terminate.

116  
00:05:04,516 --> 00:05:07,076  
[Music]

117  
00:05:07,080 --> 00:05:09,000  
[Jet engine revving]

118  
00:05:10,586 --> 00:05:12,826  
>> Slaving is routed for Guy.

119  
00:05:13,236 --> 00:05:13,746  
>> We're high.

120  
00:05:14,516 --> 00:05:18,356  
[ Music ]

121  
00:05:25,286 --> 00:05:27,286  
>> Got him

122  
00:05:27,846 --> 00:05:28,966  
>> And...brake release.

123  
00:05:29,516 --> 00:05:33,596  
[Music]

124  
00:05:41,360 --> 00:05:34,876  
[Jet taking off]

125

00:05:43,626 --> 00:05:44,946

[Radio chatter]

126

00:05:45,686 --> 00:05:48,446

>> And the squawk is a little off,

127

00:05:48,446 --> 00:05:50,366

if you have to use it,

by about 5 degrees.

128

00:05:51,806 --> 00:05:52,306

>> ...don't know...

129

00:05:53,516 --> 00:05:56,956

[Music]

130

00:05:59,246 --> 00:06:00,826

>> Tracking the aircraft

while it's

131

00:06:00,826 --> 00:06:03,426

in flight is the

responsibility of MR,

132

00:06:03,506 --> 00:06:05,146

the Range Operations Branch.

133

00:06:05,716 --> 00:06:07,486

From working with

the U.S. Air Force,

134

00:06:07,526 --> 00:06:10,806

which controls Edwards Air

Space, to scheduling flights,

135

00:06:11,126 --> 00:06:14,106

to keeping radar dishes locked

on a supersonic airplane,

136  
00:06:14,536 --> 00:06:17,166  
to tracking that airplane  
with long-range optics,

137  
00:06:17,376 --> 00:06:20,066  
Code MR is responsible  
for getting the data

138  
00:06:20,126 --> 00:06:21,436  
from the airplane to the ground.

139  
00:06:22,276 --> 00:06:25,176  
This branch operates the  
telemetry tracking systems,

140  
00:06:25,546 --> 00:06:28,946  
space positioning systems,  
audio communication systems,

141  
00:06:29,546 --> 00:06:33,116  
video systems, mission control  
center, and mobile systems.

142  
00:06:34,516 --> 00:06:41,896  
[Music]

143  
00:06:42,396 --> 00:06:44,436  
After a flight, the data arrives

144  
00:06:44,436 --> 00:06:47,176  
at the Information  
Services Branch, or Code MI,

145  
00:06:47,766 --> 00:06:50,276  
which provides information  
technology solutions

146  
00:06:50,276 --> 00:06:51,556  
for NASA's workforce,

147

00:06:51,596 --> 00:06:54,606  
everything from desktops  
to internet connections.

148

00:06:55,306 --> 00:06:58,336  
Code MI also manages  
Armstrong's data center

149

00:06:58,336 --> 00:07:01,696  
and network infrastructure,  
ensuring the right data is

150

00:07:01,696 --> 00:07:03,606  
available to the  
appropriate users,

151

00:07:03,716 --> 00:07:05,266  
from routine e-mail

152

00:07:05,266 --> 00:07:08,406  
to specialized mission-specific  
flight data.

153

00:07:08,406 --> 00:07:13,196  
Finally, MI provides multimedia  
services. From graphic artists,

154

00:07:13,316 --> 00:07:16,876  
photographers, and  
videographers, to web and repro.

155

00:07:16,876 --> 00:07:20,096  
These skilled individuals  
ensure effective communication

156

00:07:20,096 --> 00:07:23,646  
of the many activities and  
accomplishments of the Center.

157

00:07:23,646 --> 00:07:27,446

These services include airborne  
photography and videography,

158

00:07:27,446 --> 00:07:30,646

specialty services driven by  
the demands of flight research.

159

00:07:30,646 --> 00:07:34,436

The multimedia products help  
make this information accessible

160

00:07:34,436 --> 00:07:37,746

to engineers, researchers,  
partners, and stakeholders

161

00:07:37,836 --> 00:07:41,796

around the Center, around the  
agency, and out in the public.

162

00:07:41,800 --> 00:07:46,560

[Kids clapping to music]

163

00:07:46,560 --> 00:07:52,120

[Music]

164

00:07:52,120 --> 00:07:54,120

[DC-8 taking off]

165

00:07:58,236 --> 00:08:00,936

>> A strong team with  
an important role--

166

00:08:01,056 --> 00:08:03,856

The Mission Information  
And Test Systems Directorate helps

167

00:08:03,856 --> 00:08:07,516

separate the real from the

imagined through flight.