



1

00:00:00,010 --> 00:00:04,000

[drum roll] Narrator: It's not exactly ancient.

2

00:00:04,020 --> 00:00:07,020

But it certainly isn't new.

3

00:00:07,020 --> 00:00:12,000

This is NASA's C-130 Hercules, outfitted as a flying laboratory

4

00:00:12,030 --> 00:00:16,020

for the 2016 North Atlantic Aerosols and Marine

5

00:00:16,040 --> 00:00:19,640

Ecosystems Study—NAAMES for short.

6

00:00:19,640 --> 00:00:24,040

Informally, the flight crew and science teams have a different name for the airplane:

7

00:00:24,060 --> 00:00:28,060

50 Shades. Every time a science team needs to attach

8

00:00:28,080 --> 00:00:32,060

an instrument here or make a modification there, it gets another slap

9

00:00:32,080 --> 00:00:35,420

of gray paint. Fifty shades of gray.

10

00:00:35,420 --> 00:00:40,080

But make no mistake: when it comes to serious science, this bird sings.

11

00:00:40,100 --> 00:00:44,090

It can fly for ten hours at a stretch, filled with sophisticated

12

00:00:44,110 --> 00:00:48,090

hardware designed to look at aerosols, clouds, ocean color,

13

00:00:48,110 --> 00:00:50,710

and atmospheric chemistry.

14

00:00:50,710 --> 00:00:56,100

From the flight deck, the crew gets a spectacular panoramic view.

15

00:00:56,120 --> 00:01:00,120

It's durable...and reliable...and while it will never be mistaken

16

00:01:00,140 --> 00:01:04,130

as luxurious, it's as much a part of the team as everyone on board.