



1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:04,000
Music.

2
00:00:04,000 --> 00:00:08,000
Andy Ingersoll: Hi, I'm Andy Ingersoll, a member of the Cassini imaging team.

3
00:00:08,000 --> 00:00:12,000
Cassini has been in orbit around Saturn for 9 years

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00:00:12,000 --> 00:00:17,000
and we've been following this hexagon which surrounds the north pole.

5
00:00:17,000 --> 00:00:22,000
It's bigger than 2 Earths, and it's a wandering jet stream.

6
00:00:22,000 --> 00:00:30,000
But it's been winter in the north. So we have not been able to see what's at the center of the hexagon.

7
00:00:30,000 --> 00:00:38,000
But now it's spring. And what we've found at the center of the hexagon is a Saturn hurricane.

8
00:00:38,000 --> 00:00:45,000
This is a view from directly over the north pole, which is made possible by the orbit of the spacecraft

9
00:00:45,000 --> 00:00:49,000
which is now taking us over the pole.

10
00:00:49,000 --> 00:00:56,000
The winds are flowing at 300 miles an hour, which is 4 times hurricane force.

11
00:00:56,000 --> 00:01:01,000
The fluffy white clouds in the center are about the size of Texas.

12
00:01:01,000 --> 00:01:06,000
We can use special filters to measure the heights of the clouds.

13
00:01:06,000 --> 00:01:10,000

The red are low clouds and the green are high clouds.

14

00:01:10,000 --> 00:01:14,000

We call it a Saturn hurricane because it has the eye, it has the high winds,

15

00:01:14,000 --> 00:01:20,000

but it's different from an Earth hurricane because it's locked to the north pole.

16

00:01:20,000 --> 00:01:24,000

And unlike a terrestrial hurricane there's no ocean underneath.