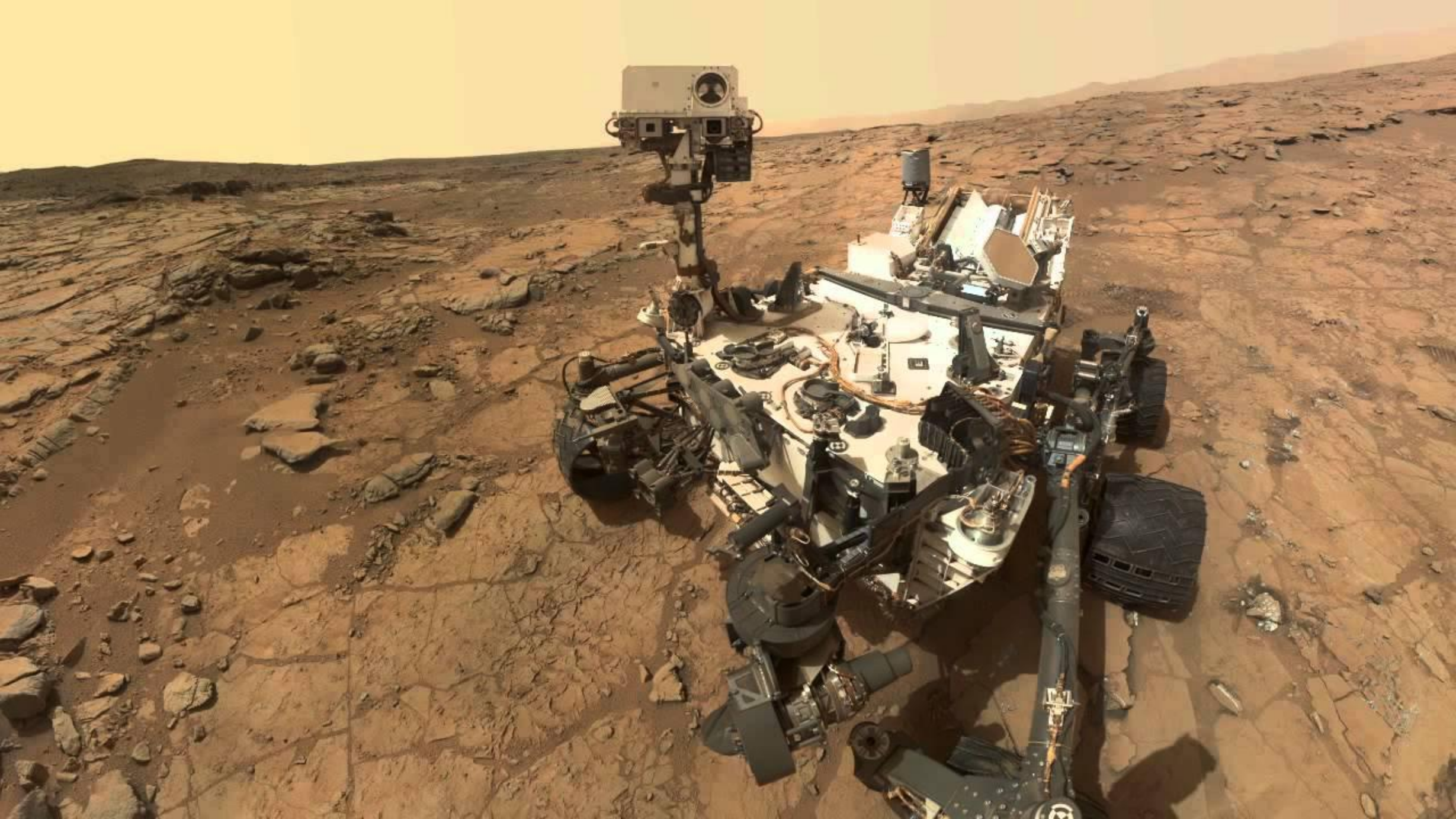

1
00:00:08,629 --> 00:00:06,619
hi I'm Rick Welch Tactical Operations

2
00:00:11,629 --> 00:00:08,639
mission manager and this is your

3
00:00:13,370 --> 00:00:11,639
Curiosity rover report as many of you

4
00:00:15,740 --> 00:00:13,380
know curiosity was in a period called

5
00:00:17,060 --> 00:00:15,750
solar conjunction during this time Mars

6
00:00:18,890 --> 00:00:17,070
and Earth are on opposite sides of the

7
00:00:20,060 --> 00:00:18,900
Sun it can be hard to communicate

8
00:00:21,950 --> 00:00:20,070
between the rover and Earth during this

9
00:00:23,359 --> 00:00:21,960
time and so we did a minimum set of

10
00:00:26,210 --> 00:00:23,369
science and we all took a well-deserved

11
00:00:27,650 --> 00:00:26,220
Spring Break our first activity after

12
00:00:30,200 --> 00:00:27,660
solar conjunction was to update

13
00:00:31,880 --> 00:00:30,210

curiosity software we developed that

14
00:00:33,319 --> 00:00:31,890
software here on earth and tested it out

15
00:00:35,240 --> 00:00:33,329
in our testbed to make sure it worked

16
00:00:38,119 --> 00:00:35,250
right we then sent it up to the rover

17
00:00:39,650 --> 00:00:38,129
this new software has capabilities to

18
00:00:41,420 --> 00:00:39,660
allow curiosity and navigate on our own

19
00:00:44,690 --> 00:00:41,430
something we call autonomous navigation

20
00:00:46,639 --> 00:00:44,700
or Auto nav up until now curiosity's

21
00:00:48,350 --> 00:00:46,649
just use basic driving or what we call

22
00:00:49,819 --> 00:00:48,360
blind driving where the rover planners

23
00:00:52,279 --> 00:00:49,829
here on earth do most of the planning

24
00:00:54,560 --> 00:00:52,289
for her the Auto nav capability will

25
00:00:56,680 --> 00:00:54,570
really help curiosity select safe routes

26
00:00:58,819 --> 00:00:56,690
and make better progress each day

27
00:01:00,349 --> 00:00:58,829
another update was for additional

28
00:01:03,200 --> 00:01:00,359
onboard safety checks for the chemcam

29
00:01:05,420 --> 00:01:03,210
instrument cam cams telescopic eye can

30
00:01:06,859 --> 00:01:05,430
be sensitive to the Sun it's therefore

31
00:01:08,330 --> 00:01:06,869
important that we never point directly

32
00:01:10,670 --> 00:01:08,340
at the Sun for a long period of time

33
00:01:12,410 --> 00:01:10,680
with the chemcam we've updated the

34
00:01:14,270 --> 00:01:12,420
onboard software to calculate where the

35
00:01:15,620 --> 00:01:14,280
Sun is and make sure that the chemcam

36
00:01:18,109 --> 00:01:15,630
doesn't get pointed in the wrong

37
00:01:20,090 --> 00:01:18,119
direction the plans for upcoming

38
00:01:21,980 --> 00:01:20,100

activities include getting calibration

39
00:01:24,740 --> 00:01:21,990
images from the navigation cameras at

40
00:01:26,450 --> 00:01:24,750
the top of curiosity's mast we switch to

41
00:01:28,039 --> 00:01:26,460
the B side computer before solar

42
00:01:29,450 --> 00:01:28,049
conjunction and this meant we also

43
00:01:32,330 --> 00:01:29,460
switch to using a different set of

44
00:01:33,920 --> 00:01:32,340
navigation cameras the calibration

45
00:01:35,660 --> 00:01:33,930
images will help ensure that the cameras

46
00:01:38,149 --> 00:01:35,670
are working properly before we drive to

47
00:01:38,960 --> 00:01:38,159
a new location and we may be drilling

48
00:01:40,819 --> 00:01:38,970
again soon

49
00:01:42,469 --> 00:01:40,829
scientists and engineers have been hard

50
00:01:44,780 --> 00:01:42,479
at work looking for new targets and

51
00:01:46,520 --> 00:01:44,790
where we could drill one such target is

52
00:01:48,319 --> 00:01:46,530
just a few meters west from the rover

53
00:01:50,569 --> 00:01:48,329
and could be a potential second drill

54
00:01:52,340 --> 00:01:50,579
site we're planning a short drive or

55
00:01:53,569 --> 00:01:52,350
bumped into this position hopefully by

56
00:01:56,030 --> 00:01:53,579
the end of this week so we'll be ready

57
00:01:57,319 --> 00:01:56,040
for our second drilling campaign this