

MarCO

Mars Cube One

First
Interplanetary
CubeSat
Mission



Jet Propulsion Laboratory
California Institute of Technology

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

(Title)

2
00:00:04,000 --> 00:00:09,000

In March of 2016 NASA will be launching the next Mars lander, InSight, from Vandenberg Air Force Base.

3
00:00:09,000 --> 00:00:15,000

InSight is a mission that will investigate the planet's interior to understand Mars' evolution.

4
00:00:15,000 --> 00:00:21,000

On board this rocket two small spacecraft will be hitching a ride: the MarCO spacecraft.

5
00:00:21,000 --> 00:00:24,000

Each of these MarCO spacecraft will ride along on the rocket carrying InSight.

6
00:00:24,000 --> 00:00:31,000

InSight will separate. And, soon after, each of the MarCO spacecraft will also separate from the rocket.

7
00:00:31,000 --> 00:00:39,000

First, MarCO-A will separate. The rocket will turn 180 degrees and MarCO-B will separate as well.

8
00:00:39,000 --> 00:00:43,000

Each of the spacecraft will then unfurl their solar wings, their high gain antenna,

9
00:00:43,000 --> 00:00:46,000

and their UHF antenna in preparation for a 6½-month cruise to Mars.

10
00:00:46,000 --> 00:00:51,000

When InSight gets to Mars, it will be going through the Entry, Descent and Landing sequence.

11
00:00:51,000 --> 00:00:55,000

And each of the MarCO spacecraft will be there to witness this landing on Mars.

12
00:00:55,000 --> 00:01:01,000

The MarCO spacecraft will be relaying data back from the InSight lander to NASA's Deep Space Network.