



1  
00:00:09,209 --> 00:00:11,144  
Hi, I'm Marlene  
Martinez Sundgaard,

2  
00:00:11,177 --> 00:00:15,715  
the surface test bed lead for  
the Mars InSight mission.

3  
00:00:15,748 --> 00:00:17,717  
We're in the In-Situ  
Instrument Lab at the

4  
00:00:17,750 --> 00:00:21,588  
NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
in Pasadena, California.

5  
00:00:22,822 --> 00:00:24,757  
This is a very unique lab.

6  
00:00:24,790 --> 00:00:26,893  
We have recreated some of  
the conditions on Mars

7  
00:00:26,926 --> 00:00:28,628  
like the sandy terrain.

8  
00:00:28,661 --> 00:00:30,963  
Here, we are using  
crushed garnet.

9  
00:00:30,996 --> 00:00:32,498  
It simulates the  
Martian surface

10  
00:00:32,531 --> 00:00:35,268  
but has the benefit  
of being dust free.

11  
00:00:35,301 --> 00:00:37,837

Special lights are use to  
calibrate InSight's cameras

12

00:00:37,870 --> 00:00:41,007

to the brightness and  
color of Martian sunlight.

13

00:00:43,008 --> 00:00:45,211

That's me right there.

14

00:00:45,244 --> 00:00:47,246

InSight will be the first  
mission to study

15

00:00:47,279 --> 00:00:49,248

the deep interior of Mars.

16

00:00:49,281 --> 00:00:51,017

That includes using  
a seismometer

17

00:00:51,050 --> 00:00:53,019

to detect quakes on Mars,

18

00:00:53,052 --> 00:00:55,354

measuring the planet's  
internal temperature,

19

00:00:55,387 --> 00:00:57,490

and tracking the way  
the planet wobbles

20

00:00:57,523 --> 00:00:59,659

in its orbit  
around the Sun.

21

00:00:59,692 --> 00:01:02,028

This information will help  
scientists understand

22

00:01:02,061 --> 00:01:05,064

the planet's history, its  
interior structure,

23

00:01:05,097 --> 00:01:08,701

and how rocky planets formed and  
evolved in our solar system.

24

00:01:08,734 --> 00:01:09,936

So while it's  
going to Mars,

25

00:01:09,969 --> 00:01:11,938

Insight is more  
than a Mars mission.

26

00:01:14,807 --> 00:01:17,543

Today, we are testing the  
deployment of our instruments

27

00:01:17,576 --> 00:01:20,379

on the engineering model of  
the InSight lander.

28

00:01:20,412 --> 00:01:22,415

The actual lander will  
launch in the spring

29

00:01:22,448 --> 00:01:24,584

and land on Mars  
in November.

30

00:01:24,617 --> 00:01:26,652

Right now, we're using  
this model to test

31

00:01:26,685 --> 00:01:28,221

many different  
sequences that will

32

00:01:28,254 --> 00:01:31,757

eventually be used on  
the surface of Mars.

33

00:01:31,790 --> 00:01:34,293

Here's a time-lapse  
of one of our tests.

34

00:01:34,326 --> 00:01:35,628

Unlike what you  
see in the movies,

35

00:01:35,661 --> 00:01:37,597

our robots move  
really slowly.

36

00:01:37,630 --> 00:01:40,233

Deployment testing  
is a lengthy process

37

00:01:40,266 --> 00:01:42,669

that takes a lot  
precision and patience.

38

00:01:45,571 --> 00:01:47,907

We use engineering models  
to practice maneuvers

39

00:01:47,940 --> 00:01:51,210

and troubleshoot problems  
before we try them on Mars.

40

00:01:51,243 --> 00:01:52,845

The actual InSight  
flight hardware

41

00:01:52,878 --> 00:01:55,248

was built by engineers at  
Lockheed Martin Space

42

00:01:55,281 --> 00:01:56,216  
in Colorado.

43

00:02:00,986 --> 00:02:02,955  
Over here you can see  
the replica of the

44

00:02:02,988 --> 00:02:05,424  
Mars Exploration Rover,  
Opportunity,

45

00:02:05,457 --> 00:02:09,395  
that is in its 14th year  
of operation on Mars.

46

00:02:09,428 --> 00:02:11,097  
Like the Opportunity  
rover model,

47

00:02:11,130 --> 00:02:13,199  
we'll continue to use  
this engineering model

48

00:02:13,232 --> 00:02:15,969  
after InSight lands  
on Mars in November.

49

00:02:19,572 --> 00:02:21,040  
One of the instruments  
on InSight

50

00:02:21,073 --> 00:02:22,675  
is a high-precision  
seismometer,

51

00:02:22,708 --> 00:02:24,944  
which will help  
us analyze marsquakes

52

00:02:24,977 --> 00:02:27,280

which may be caused  
by meteorite strikes

53

00:02:27,313 --> 00:02:30,983

or by hot magma  
churning deep below.

54

00:02:31,016 --> 00:02:33,319

When a marsquake occurs,  
the seismic waves

55

00:02:33,352 --> 00:02:36,789

provide clues to the structure  
of the planet's interior.

56

00:02:38,090 --> 00:02:40,560

Another instrument taking a  
flight to the Martian surface

57

00:02:40,593 --> 00:02:43,262

is a heat flow probe that will  
burrow up to five meters

58

00:02:43,295 --> 00:02:45,531

underground to measure the  
amount of heat escaping

59

00:02:45,564 --> 00:02:47,366

from the planet's interior.

60

00:02:47,399 --> 00:02:49,669

These measurements tell us how  
much heat is still flowing

61

00:02:49,702 --> 00:02:53,439

out of Mars, so we can  
understand how Mars evolved.

62

00:02:53,472 --> 00:02:54,974

When InSight  
launches from Earth,

63

00:02:55,007 --> 00:02:57,343

it will weigh 800  
pounds at liftoff.

64

00:02:57,376 --> 00:03:00,046

Once it lands, it will only  
weigh about 300 lbs.

65

00:03:00,079 --> 00:03:02,381

due to the lower  
gravity of Mars.

66

00:03:02,414 --> 00:03:04,951

InSight will then deploy two  
large solar panels that will

67

00:03:04,984 --> 00:03:08,187

power it over the course of  
its two year planned mission.

68

00:03:08,220 --> 00:03:12,325

When fully deployed,  
InSight is 19' 8" long,

69

00:03:12,358 --> 00:03:14,227

and will generate about  
the same amount of power

70

00:03:14,260 --> 00:03:16,229

as a household blender.