



1

00:00:02,340 --> 00:00:07,490

This is Jay Estes, I am a deputy for flight test integration in the Orion program.

2

00:00:07,490 --> 00:00:13,390

What you see here is a Delta 4 heavy booster being launched from the pad.

3

00:00:13,390 --> 00:00:18,410

This is a flight test that Orion is going to conduct in 2014.

4

00:00:18,410 --> 00:00:25,050

It is a Delta 4 heavy unmanned booster with two strap-on boosters on the side.

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00:00:25,050 --> 00:00:29,610

Once we get through first stage, the strap-on boosters separate themselves

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00:00:29,610 --> 00:00:33,680

and the central core continues on as a second stage.

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00:00:33,680 --> 00:00:37,790

Once we get to low Earth orbit, the second stage shuts down and separates itself

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00:00:37,790 --> 00:00:40,580

from the spacecraft and the upper stage.

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00:00:40,580 --> 00:00:45,530

At that point the upper stage lights, and takes us on to orbit,

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00:00:45,530 --> 00:00:51,410

the service module panels separate, and the launch abort system with its shroud,

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00:00:51,410 --> 00:00:54,960

which has been covering the capsule, comes off.

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00:00:54,960 --> 00:01:03,170

In low Earth orbit, which is about 250 miles above the Earth, we make one orbit,

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00:01:03,170 --> 00:01:06,770

and this orbit lets us check out our systems.

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00:01:07,900 --> 00:01:14,930

After one orbit, we ignite the upper stage and we lift the orbit to about 3600 miles.

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00:01:14,930 --> 00:01:21,800

Now 3600 miles is approximately 10 times higher than any man-rated spaceship has been

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00:01:21,800 --> 00:01:24,170

since 1972 when we came back from the moon.

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00:01:24,170 --> 00:01:29,370

And the reason we are doing this is to test our heat shield on reentry.

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00:01:29,370 --> 00:01:33,860

The heat shield will be exposed to heating much like you would get from the moon,

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00:01:33,860 --> 00:01:38,130

and we will be able to demonstrate that our heat shield is sufficient

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00:01:38,130 --> 00:01:41,870

for recovering people from missions beyond Earth.

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00:01:41,870 --> 00:01:49,780

And as we begin to enter, the capsule then separates from the service module section.

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00:01:49,780 --> 00:01:53,470

The service module section stays attached to the upper stage,

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00:01:53,470 --> 00:01:55,860

and here you see the control jets that are firing.

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00:01:55,860 --> 00:01:59,330

The control jets the altitude for entry.

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00:01:59,330 --> 00:02:06,560

As we enter, we experience maximum heating lower in the atmosphere.

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00:02:06,560 --> 00:02:12,630

This is the primary test of Exploration Flight Test 1, is that heat shield.

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00:02:12,630 --> 00:02:18,320

As we get low in the atmosphere, the forward bay cover come off, which covers the parachutes,

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00:02:18,320 --> 00:02:26,670

and two small chutes come out to slow us down.

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00:02:26,670 --> 00:02:30,010

After we slow down those separate, three small pilot chutes come

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00:02:30,010 --> 00:02:36,610

out to open the main parachutes, which initially open at about three percent opening.

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00:02:36,610 --> 00:02:38,850

Then they go to ten percent open.

32

00:02:38,850 --> 00:02:41,130

Then they go to full open.

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00:02:41,130 --> 00:02:45,980

We use those on staging the keep
the forces on the chutes lower.

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00:02:45,980 --> 00:02:49,880

It makes for a softer ride
and it keeps our chutes safe.

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00:02:49,880 --> 00:02:56,810

We enter the water at a slight angle, to
help the crew with the impact of the water.

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00:02:56,810 --> 00:02:59,580

The parachutes fall in the
water, we hope to recover those.

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00:02:59,580 --> 00:03:06,940

We are cooperating with the Navy, and using one
of their well deck ships to recover our capsule.