



1

00:00:00,780 --> 00:00:07,210

NASA offered a glimpse at what its launch pad will look like later this decade when workers moved the mobile

2

00:00:07,210 --> 00:00:14,410

to Kennedy Space Center's Launch Pad 39B in Florida for two weeks of structural and other testing.

3

00:00:14,410 --> 00:00:22,510

Reaching 400 feet above the crawlerway, the dark-colored platform with its 355-foot-tall gray, steel tower is

4

00:00:22,510 --> 00:00:29,360

reminiscent of the launch umbilical tower used during the Apollo era to support the Saturn V rocket.

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00:00:29,360 --> 00:00:34,410

The new mobile launcher, or ML, was first designed for a thin rocket.

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00:00:34,410 --> 00:00:37,360

It will be modified to host NASA's Space Launch System,

7

00:00:37,360 --> 00:00:42,050

a heavy lift rocket under development that will launch astronauts to deep space.

8

00:00:42,050 --> 00:00:45,340

With the main structure ready and a rocket design chosen,

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00:00:45,340 --> 00:00:48,170

officials said it was time to take the mobile launcher on a

10

00:00:48,170 --> 00:00:54,730

4.2-mile trip from its worksite beside the Vehicle Assembly Building to Launch Pad 39B.

11

00:00:54,730 --> 00:01:02,400

NASA's 21st Century Ground Systems Program is overseeing the ML's construction and modifications.

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00:01:02,400 --> 00:01:11,450

The trip took a little more than nine hours to complete, starting at about 9:15 a.m. Nov. 16 and ending at 6:29 p

13

00:01:11,450 --> 00:01:18,290

The structure was never moved that far, so it gave engineers a chance to see how it would behave.

14

00:01:18,290 --> 00:01:22,020

They looked for signs of swaying or other dynamics and will evaluate the

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00:01:22,020 --> 00:01:26,560

data in the coming weeks to help determine future modifications.

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00:01:26,560 --> 00:01:34,350

The ML will see several modifications in the coming years as it is fitted for the SLS and NASA's new Orion spa

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00:01:34,350 --> 00:01:38,430

Swing arms will be added to the ML to carry propellant and make information

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00:01:38,430 --> 00:01:41,730

and electrical connections to the different stages of the rocket.

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00:01:41,730 --> 00:01:48,220

A crew access arm will be added also reach out to the Orion capsule at the top of the rocket.