
MORPHEUS

1
00:00:00,560 --> 00:00:05,029
Welcome to Kennedy Now. A regular look
inside activities and progress

2
00:00:05,029 --> 00:00:09,320
at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in
Florida and by KSC teams

3
00:00:09,320 --> 00:00:10,700
around the country.

4
00:00:11,700 --> 00:00:13,420
A United Launch Alliance

5
00:00:13,420 --> 00:00:19,280
Atlas 5 roared off launch complex 41 on
January 23rd

6
00:00:19,280 --> 00:00:22,350
to lift NASA's latest tracking and data relay satellite into orbit

7
00:00:22,350 --> 00:00:25,880
high above Earth. Weighing 7,600
pounds

8
00:00:25,880 --> 00:00:29,350
the TDRS-L communications
spacecraft was placed into a

9
00:00:29,350 --> 00:00:32,400
geosynchronous transfer orbit by the
Atlas booster

10
00:00:32,400 --> 00:00:36,500
when it settles into its permanent orbit
about 22,300 miles above the

11
00:00:36,500 --> 00:00:40,780
the earth the satellite will send commands

and data back and forth

12
00:00:41,200 --> 00:00:44,770
between ground stations and the
International Space Station

13
00:00:44,770 --> 00:00:47,980
the Hubble Space Telescope and NASA's
fleet of

14
00:00:47,980 --> 00:00:51,100
earth-orbiting observatories.

15
00:00:53,140 --> 00:00:58,030
A lift off on a different excited
engineers when the experimental

16
00:00:58,030 --> 00:01:01,949
Morpheus lander leapt off the Earth and steered itself to a gentle landing

17
00:01:01,949 --> 00:01:05,439
on a landing field strewn with hazards to simulate landing on another world.

18
00:01:05,439 --> 00:01:09,369
Morpheus does not carry any people and flies
itself

19
00:01:09,369 --> 00:01:13,299
through an automated approach and landing
sequence. Once the checkout flights are

20
00:01:13,299 --> 00:01:17,299
complete the full-length flights with a specialized system called

21
00:01:17,299 --> 00:01:20,869
ALHAT onboard will be the first to show that the lander

22
00:01:20,869 --> 00:01:24,420
can detect and avoid dangerous objects and still make a safe landing.

23
00:01:24,420 --> 00:01:27,460
The lander technologies are scalable

24
00:01:27,460 --> 00:01:30,659
could support future robotic missions
and eventually

25
00:01:30,659 --> 00:01:32,600
human lander designs

26
00:01:34,900 --> 00:01:38,700
Sierra Nevada Corporation announced its intention in January

27
00:01:38,700 --> 00:01:42,390
to launch the first orbital mission of its Dream
Chaser spacecraft

28
00:01:42,390 --> 00:01:44,060
from the Florida spaceport

29
00:01:44,060 --> 00:01:49,259
atop a United Launch Alliance Atlas five rocket. The company intends to process the

30
00:01:49,259 --> 00:01:51,429
winged spacecraft at Kennedy facilities

31
00:01:51,429 --> 00:01:55,049
including the high bay of the historic
operations and checkout building

32
00:01:55,049 --> 00:01:59,850
Sierra Nevada's plan calls for the Dream
Chaser to glide back to Earth

33
00:01:59,850 --> 00:02:03,900
and land at Kennedy's Shuttle Landing Facility. The mission

34

00:02:03,900 --> 00:02:05,200
will not carry astronauts

35
00:02:05,200 --> 00:02:09,140
but, Sierra Nevada is developing the
Dream Chaser to carry people

36
00:02:09,140 --> 00:02:10,500
into low-Earth orbit.