



1

00:00:00,539 --> 00:00:03,340

"Removing the barriers to deep space exploration ..."

2

00:00:03,340 --> 00:00:06,930

"A commercial success for NASA's U.S. partners ..."

3

00:00:06,930 --> 00:00:12,139

"And the latest mission to Mars seeks answers about its atmosphere ...Those are some of

4

00:00:12,139 --> 00:00:16,290

the stories trending, This Week at NASA!"

5

00:00:16,290 --> 00:00:20,860

The MAVEN spacecraft -- is the latest NASA probe designed to help piece together a complete

6

00:00:20,860 --> 00:00:25,489

picture of The Red Planet's past. MAVEN's piece of the puzzle -- to understand what

7

00:00:25,489 --> 00:00:27,570

happened to Mars' upper atmosphere.

8

00:00:27,570 --> 00:00:33,410

"Why did it go from a wetter, Earth-like environment with a thicker atmosphere to where it is today?

9

00:00:33,410 --> 00:00:36,370

A much more dry, and thin atmosphere."

10

00:00:36,370 --> 00:00:40,410

Following its launch from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station -- MAVEN is scheduled to reach

11

00:00:40,410 --> 00:00:44,330

Mars in September 2014.

12
00:00:44,330 --> 00:00:48,740
Progress being made toward sending humans to deep space destinations was the topic of

13
00:00:48,740 --> 00:00:53,840
discussion during a roundtable at Washington's Newseum -- featuring NASA's Bill Gerstenmaier.

14
00:00:53,840 --> 00:00:58,860
"We're putting in place hardware and capabilities that will allow us to go do the Mars-class

15
00:00:58,860 --> 00:00:59,290
missions."

16
00:00:59,290 --> 00:01:03,940
And a new panoramic mosaic image released at the event -- and taken by NASA's Cassini

17
00:01:03,940 --> 00:01:09,440
spacecraft gives an idea of what humans might see if they were hanging out near Saturn.

18
00:01:09,440 --> 00:01:14,950
The nearly 405-thousand mile sweeping view of the Saturnian system includes its moons

19
00:01:14,950 --> 00:01:20,830
and rings, as well as Earth, Venus and Mars in the distance. The image is part of Cassini's

20
00:01:20,830 --> 00:01:22,470
recent "Wave at Saturn" campaign.

21
00:01:24,690 --> 00:01:29,250
During a news briefing at NASA headquarters to discuss the success of SpaceX and Orbital

22

00:01:29,250 --> 00:01:35,869

Sciences in the agency's Commercial Orbital Transportation Services or COTS program, Administrator

23

00:01:35,869 --> 00:01:42,500

Charlie Bolden praised the companies for re-establishing reliable supply services to the ISS, from

24

00:01:42,500 --> 00:01:48,119

U.S. soil. October demonstration mission to the space station by Orbital Sciences marked

25

00:01:48,119 --> 00:01:53,829

the end of COTS development ... the first SpaceX trip to the station was in May 2012

26

00:01:53,829 --> 00:01:58,020

-- it completed its part in the COTS program that same year.

27

00:01:58,020 --> 00:02:02,729

NASA welcomed members of traditional and social media to Goddard Space Flight Center to learn

28

00:02:02,729 --> 00:02:08,310

about the agency's next Earth science satellite, the Global Precipitation Measurement mission.

29

00:02:08,310 --> 00:02:13,510

GPM will provide next-generation observations of rain and snow around the world every three

30

00:02:13,510 --> 00:02:18,980

hours. Targeted for launch early next year, GPM is a joint effort between NASA and the

31

00:02:18,980 --> 00:02:25,529

Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency. For the first time, NASA's Operation IceBridge

32

00:02:25,529 --> 00:02:31,109

is flying an Antarctica research campaign
out of the National Science Foundation's McMurdo

33

00:02:31,109 --> 00:02:37,400

Station, in Antarctica. IceBridge, which collects
land and sea ice data, usually flies Antarctica

34

00:02:37,400 --> 00:02:43,400

missions out of Punta Arenas, Chile.
Ames and Langley Research Centers are working

35

00:02:43,400 --> 00:02:49,790

with Boeing on a new technology application
for the tail rudder section of a 757 aircraft.

36

00:02:49,790 --> 00:02:54,589

The technology features active airflow controls
to enhance performance of the vertical tail

37

00:02:54,589 --> 00:02:57,719

-- reduce drag and save fuel.

38

00:02:57,719 --> 00:02:59,809

And that's what's up ... This Week at NASA.