



1
00:00:00,789 --> 00:00:05,120

“Here’s some of the stories trending This Week at NASA!”

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00:00:05,120 --> 00:00:10,500

On Jan. 14, NASA announced it has awarded three cargo contracts to ensure the critical

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00:00:10,500 --> 00:00:15,320

science, research and technology demonstrations that are informing the agency’s journey

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00:00:15,320 --> 00:00:21,470

to Mars are delivered to the International Space Station (ISS) from 2019 through 2024.

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00:00:21,470 --> 00:00:27,450

The agency unveiled its selection of Orbital ATK; Sierra Nevada Corporation; and SpaceX

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00:00:27,450 --> 00:00:33,150

to continue building on the initial resupply partnerships with two American companies.

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00:00:33,150 --> 00:00:38,110

These Commercial Resupply Services contracts are designed to obtain cargo delivery services

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00:00:38,110 --> 00:00:43,460

to the space station, disposal of unneeded cargo, and the return of research samples

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00:00:43,460 --> 00:00:47,150

and other cargo from the station back to NASA.

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00:00:47,150 --> 00:00:51,350

These resupply flights will be conducted in parallel with NASA’s Commercial Crew Program

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00:00:51,350 --> 00:00:55,850
providers' flights that enable addition
of a seventh astronaut to the International

12
00:00:55,850 --> 00:00:57,340
Space Station.

13
00:00:57,340 --> 00:01:02,260
This will double the amount of crew time to
conduct research.

14
00:01:02,260 --> 00:01:07,890
On Jan. 15, Expedition 46 Flight Engineers
Tim Kopra of NASA and Tim Peake of the European

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00:01:07,890 --> 00:01:12,700
Space Agency conducted a spacewalk outside
the International Space Station to replace

16
00:01:12,700 --> 00:01:17,940
a voltage regulator that failed in November,
causing a loss of power to one of the station's

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00:01:17,940 --> 00:01:19,460
eight power channels.

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00:01:19,460 --> 00:01:24,110
After completing that primary objective of
the spacewalk, Kopra reported a small water

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00:01:24,110 --> 00:01:29,090
bubble had formed inside his helmet, which
prompted ground controllers to end the spacewalk

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00:01:29,090 --> 00:01:30,140
early.

21
00:01:30,140 --> 00:01:33,000
Kopra and Peake returned to the airlock safely.

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00:01:33,000 --> 00:01:39,110
Engineers now are assessing the situation to determine what may have caused the problem.

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00:01:39,110 --> 00:01:44,630
On Jan. 13, NASA's Juno mission to Jupiter became humanity's most distant solar-powered

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00:01:44,630 --> 00:01:50,840
emissary when it reached a spot in space about 493 million miles from our sun.

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00:01:50,840 --> 00:01:55,750
Juno surpassed the previous record set by the European Space Agency's Rosetta spacecraft

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00:01:55,750 --> 00:01:57,450
during its approach to comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko.

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00:01:57,450 --> 00:02:05,540
Juno, the first solar-powered spacecraft designed to operate at such a great distance from the

28
00:02:05,540 --> 00:02:10,859
sun, is scheduled to arrive at Jupiter on July 4.

29
00:02:10,859 --> 00:02:15,900
New images of the dwarf planet Ceres, taken by NASA's Dawn spacecraft – from its lowest-ever

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00:02:15,900 --> 00:02:21,680
altitude at the planet – are giving scientists a more detailed look at some of Ceres' most

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00:02:21,680 --> 00:02:23,529
intriguing features.

32
00:02:23,529 --> 00:02:28,560

This includes bright material on the rim of Kupalo Crater – which could be salt.

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00:02:28,560 --> 00:02:32,109

Researchers are looking into whether this material is related to the "bright spots"

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00:02:32,109 --> 00:02:35,389

of Occator Crater, also on Ceres.

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00:02:35,389 --> 00:02:40,469

Dawn also saw a dense network of fractures in another crater on Ceres that are similar

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00:02:40,469 --> 00:02:43,000

to fractures seen on our own moon.

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00:02:43,000 --> 00:02:47,529

Dawn's prime mission is scheduled to end in June – it will remain at its current

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00:02:47,529 --> 00:02:51,569

altitude until then and indefinitely afterward.

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00:02:51,569 --> 00:02:58,200

2016 has seen continued progress with development of NASA's Space Launch System rocket.

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00:02:58,200 --> 00:03:02,430

Construction is underway at Marshall Space Flight Center on a second new structural test

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00:03:02,430 --> 00:03:03,430

stand.

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00:03:03,430 --> 00:03:08,859

When completed in the summer of 2016, the 85-foot-tall Test Stand 4697 will be used

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00:03:08,859 --> 00:03:15,069

to evaluate how the massive SLS core stage handles the forces of a real launch.

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00:03:15,069 --> 00:03:19,489

Also at Marshall – the final vertical weld was completed recently on the bottom portion

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00:03:19,489 --> 00:03:23,360

of the test version of the rocket's launch vehicle stage adapter (LVSA).

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00:03:23,360 --> 00:03:28,090

Engineers have just two more major welds to finish the test article – which is expected

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00:03:28,090 --> 00:03:34,079

to be tested with the other structural test hardware in late 2016.

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00:03:34,079 --> 00:03:39,079

An all-electric self-driving car that uses NASA-developed technology was tested recently

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00:03:39,079 --> 00:03:41,019

at Ames Research Center.

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00:03:41,019 --> 00:03:47,049

The Nissan-built autonomous vehicle is equipped with cameras, sensors, and cellular data networking

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00:03:47,049 --> 00:03:53,219

and uses software originally developed for the Ames K-10 and K-REX planetary rovers.

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00:03:53,219 --> 00:03:58,989

Ames and Nissan are developing and testing algorithms, concepts, and integrated prototypes

53

00:03:58,989 --> 00:04:03,790

for a variety of vehicular transport applications.

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00:04:03,790 --> 00:04:05,900

And that's what's up this week @NASA ...