1
00:00:00,390 --> 00:00:03,819
An update on our Mars rovers …

2
00:00:03,819 --> 00:00:07,529
Continued progress for our Moon to Mars effort
…

3
00:00:07,529 --> 00:00:13,590
And a look back at Dawn – in its twilight
… a few of the stories to tell you about

4
00:00:13,590 --> 00:00:15,330
– This Week at NASA!

5
00:00:15,330 --> 00:00:21,310
The dust continues to settle on Mars from
the massive dust storm that has shrouded the

6
00:00:21,310 --> 00:00:27,669
Red Planet since at least late May and halted
operations for our Opportunity rover.

7
00:00:27,669 --> 00:00:32,300
Engineers at our Jet Propulsion Laboratory
in Pasadena, California, are closely monitoring

8
00:00:32,300 --> 00:00:37,780
the nearly 15-year-old, solar-powered rover
for signs that it is receiving enough energy

9
00:00:37,780 --> 00:00:44,320
from the sun to automatically initiate recovery
procedures, if possible.

10
00:00:44,320 --> 00:00:48,449
Our Curiosity rover has produced a new panoramic
image on Mars.

11
00:00:48,449 --> 00:00:55,199

The panorama, taken on Aug. 9 while the rover explored a region known as Vera Rubin Ridge,

12
00:00:55,199 --> 00:01:00,460
includes a view of Curiosity's latest drill hole, a view of the rover's deck, and the

13
00:01:00,460 --> 00:01:03,750
fading dust storm in the skies over Gale Crater.

14
00:01:03,750 --> 00:01:09,131
A 360 degree version of the panorama is available on the Jet Propulsion Laboratory's YouTube

15
00:01:09,131 --> 00:01:15,520
site at youtube.com/nasajpl.

16
00:01:15,520 --> 00:01:20,200
The recent movement of our mobile launcher atop crawler-transporter 2 at Kennedy Space

17
00:01:20,200 --> 00:01:25,649
Center, in Florida is yet another sign of continued progress in the agency's effort

18
00:01:25,649 --> 00:01:29,719
to send humans on missions to the Moon and eventually to Mars.

19
00:01:29,719 --> 00:01:35,280
The 380-foot-tall mobile launcher, which was recently modified for our Space Launch System

20
00:01:35,280 --> 00:01:42,790
or SLS rocket, is undergoing tests in preparation for the first launch of SLS with our Orion

21
00:01:42,790 --> 00:01:46,619
spacecraft.

22
00:01:46,619 --> 00:01:52,070
On Sept. 6 engineers at our Stennis Space Center, in Mississippi conducted a certification

23
00:01:52,070 --> 00:01:56,450
hot fire test of an RS-25 engine flight controller unit.

24
00:01:56,450 --> 00:02:00,899
The flight controller will be used on a future flight of the SLS rocket.

25
00:02:00,899 --> 00:02:06,859
It was also the latest evaluation of a 3D-printed part that helps prevent forces that can cause

26
00:02:06,859 --> 00:02:09,590
the rocket to become unstable during flight.

27
00:02:09,590 --> 00:02:16,010
SLS will use four RS-25s to launch Orion on missions to deep space destinations, including

28
00:02:16,010 --> 00:02:19,290
the Moon and Mars.

29
00:02:19,290 --> 00:02:25,150
Our Dawn spacecraft is expected to soon reach the end of a mission that has helped scientists

30
00:02:25,150 --> 00:02:31,270
characterize our early solar system and the processes that dominated its formation.

31
00:02:31,270 --> 00:02:37,840
During a Sept. 7 Science Chat at our Jet Propulsion Laboratory, experts discussed the mission.

32
00:02:37,840 --> 00:02:44,409

Launched in 2007, Dawn is the only spacecraft
to orbit two deep-space destinations -- asteroid

33
00:02:44,409 --> 00:02:47,519
Vesta and dwarf planet Ceres.

34
00:02:47,519 --> 00:02:52,730
These celestial bodies are believed to have
formed early in the history of the solar system.

35
00:02:52,730 --> 00:02:59,489
“We helped two partners – namely Boeing
and SpaceX – develop capability to fly our

36
00:02:59,489 --> 00:03:01,349
astronauts into space.”

37
00:03:01,349 --> 00:03:05,600
During the latest episode of “Watch This
Space”, our administrator, Jim Bridenstine

38
00:03:05,600 --> 00:03:10,340
visits with our Suni Williams and Boeing astronaut
Chris Ferguson.

39
00:03:10,340 --> 00:03:14,900
Williams and Ferguson will each fly future
Commercial Crew missions to the space station

40
00:03:14,900 --> 00:03:18,269
aboard Boeing’s CST-100 Starliner.

41
00:03:18,269 --> 00:03:21,380
You can check out episodes of “Watch This
Space”, at nasa.gov/watchthisspace.

42
00:03:21,380 --> 00:03:26,720
That’s what’s up this week @NASA …