



SPACE X

AOS
50 TON

DRAGON



1

00:00:00,179 --> 00:00:03,680

An upcoming Commercial Crew Flight Test ...

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00:00:03,680 --> 00:00:05,959

Training underway for the space station's
next crew ...

3

00:00:05,959 --> 00:00:13,370

And, a new development in our search for life
beyond Earth ... a few of the stories to tell

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00:00:13,370 --> 00:00:17,260

you about – This Week at NASA!

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00:00:17,260 --> 00:00:22,840

SpaceX is preparing for its upcoming Demo-1
flight test to the International Space Station.

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00:00:22,840 --> 00:00:28,000

The SpaceX Crew Dragon spacecraft is set to
launch on a Falcon 9 rocket from our Kennedy

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00:00:28,000 --> 00:00:33,330

Space Center in the first uncrewed flight
of our Commercial Crew Program, in which SpaceX

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00:00:33,330 --> 00:00:40,150

and Boeing will launch American astronauts
to the station from American soil.

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00:00:40,150 --> 00:00:44,870

Our Nick Hague and Christina Koch are preparing
for their flight to the space station.

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00:00:44,870 --> 00:00:50,290

Along with crewmate Alexey Ovchinin of Roscosmos,
they conducted final qualification training

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00:00:50,290 --> 00:00:52,140

in Star City, Russia.

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00:00:52,140 --> 00:00:56,379

The trio is targeted for launch on March 14,
from Kazakhstan.

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00:00:56,379 --> 00:01:00,600

For Hague and Ovchinin, it will be an opportunity
to complete the flight to the station that

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00:01:00,600 --> 00:01:03,430

was aborted during launch in October 2018.

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00:01:03,430 --> 00:01:10,490

“We’re stronger together and having an
additional crew member, Christina is as good

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00:01:10,490 --> 00:01:14,865

in the left seat as I am, and so I feel very
fortunate to have her as part of the crew

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00:01:14,865 --> 00:01:17,610

and look forward to flying to space with her.”

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00:01:17,610 --> 00:01:23,810

We know DNA stores and transmits genetic information
in all living organisms on Earth.

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00:01:23,810 --> 00:01:28,140

But we don’t know for sure that it would
be the basis for possible life elsewhere in

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00:01:28,140 --> 00:01:29,500

the universe.

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00:01:29,500 --> 00:01:34,810

For the first time, a team of researchers
supported in part by NASA’s Astrobiology

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00:01:34,810 --> 00:01:41,570

program, has synthesized a molecule that can store and transmit information like DNA does.

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00:01:41,570 --> 00:01:46,580

This new molecule does not represent a new life form, but does suggest that an alternative

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00:01:46,580 --> 00:01:51,240

building block for possible life could exist on other worlds.

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00:01:51,240 --> 00:01:56,370

This new development could help in our search for life beyond Earth.

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00:01:56,370 --> 00:02:01,149

Our New Horizons spacecraft has sent back the mission's most detailed images of the

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00:02:01,149 --> 00:02:04,470

Kuiper Belt object nicknamed Ultima Thule.

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00:02:04,470 --> 00:02:09,310

Obtained just minutes before the spacecraft's approach to the object on New Year's Day,

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00:02:09,310 --> 00:02:15,189

the images offer an unprecedented opportunity to investigate the surface, origin and evolution

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00:02:15,189 --> 00:02:22,299

of Ultima Thule – believed to be the most primitive object ever encountered by a spacecraft.

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00:02:22,299 --> 00:02:27,150

You can now get daily weather reports from the surface of Mars – courtesy of our InSight

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00:02:27,150 --> 00:02:28,230

lander.

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00:02:28,230 --> 00:02:33,249

Sensors aboard the lander recently began recording temperature, wind and air pressure information

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00:02:33,249 --> 00:02:35,430

and sending it back to Earth.

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00:02:35,430 --> 00:02:40,699

InSight is scheduled to continue this round-the-clock operation for at least the next two years.

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00:02:40,699 --> 00:02:45,459

By the way – current low temperatures at InSight’s location have typically been around

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00:02:45,459 --> 00:02:49,919

minus 140 degrees Fahrenheit.

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00:02:49,919 --> 00:02:54,700

A new NASA publication titled, “Earth” features an array of stunning images of our

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00:02:54,700 --> 00:02:57,809

home planet as can only be seen from space.

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00:02:57,809 --> 00:03:05,069

There are 69 images in four categories – atmosphere, water, land, and ice and snow.

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00:03:05,069 --> 00:03:10,419

Each image is accompanied by a short explanation discussing the science behind the image.

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00:03:10,419 --> 00:03:11,999

For more details go to nasa.gov/earth.

43

00:03:11,999 --> 00:03:17,140

That's what's up this week @NASA ...