



1

00:00:00,190 --> 00:00:03,550

Another power-packed spacewalk outside the space station ...

2

00:00:03,550 --> 00:00:05,990

Highlighting a pretty cool comet ...

3

00:00:05,990 --> 00:00:11,400

And a key piece of Space Launch System hardware is on the move ... a few of the stories to

4

00:00:11,400 --> 00:00:15,959

tell you about – This Week at NASA!

5

00:00:15,959 --> 00:00:20,520

Our Chris Cassidy and Bob Behnken were back outside the International Space Station on

6

00:00:20,520 --> 00:00:26,640

July 16 to outfit one of the station's power channels with new lithium-ion batteries and

7

00:00:26,640 --> 00:00:28,640

associated hardware.

8

00:00:28,640 --> 00:00:33,480

The spacewalk is one of the few remaining in a three-and-a-half-year effort to upgrade

9

00:00:33,480 --> 00:00:35,960

the station's power system.

10

00:00:35,960 --> 00:00:41,300

NASA photographer Bill Ingalls recently captured images of Comet NEOWISE in the early morning

11

00:00:41,300 --> 00:00:42,819

skies over Washington, D.C.

12  
00:00:42,819 --> 00:00:49,569  
The comet, which was discovered by and nicknamed  
after our NEOWISE spacecraft, has been visible

13  
00:00:49,569 --> 00:00:55,120  
at certain hours with the naked-eye – and  
has been spotted by several NASA spacecraft,

14  
00:00:55,120 --> 00:00:57,499  
as well as astronauts aboard the space station.

15  
00:00:57,499 --> 00:01:00,739  
“The fact that we can see it is really what  
makes it unique.

16  
00:01:00,739 --> 00:01:05,100  
It’s quite rare for a comet to be bright  
enough that we can see it with the naked eye,

17  
00:01:05,100 --> 00:01:06,470  
or even with just binoculars.

18  
00:01:06,470 --> 00:01:12,720  
The last time we had a comet that was this  
bright was Comet Hale-Bopp back in 1995 and

19  
00:01:12,720 --> 00:01:13,720  
1996.”

20  
00:01:13,720 --> 00:01:19,070  
Comet NEOWISE is expected to make its closest  
approach to Earth on July 22.

21  
00:01:19,070 --> 00:01:24,270  
On July 17, teams at our Marshall Space Flight  
Center in Huntsville, Alabama put the wheels

22  
00:01:24,270 --> 00:01:29,560  
in motion to transport the launch vehicle

stage adapter for our Space Launch System

23

00:01:29,560 --> 00:01:34,030

(SLS) rocket, to our Kennedy Space Center in Florida – in preparation for the first

24

00:01:34,030 --> 00:01:37,460

uncrewed Artemis mission around the Moon and back.

25

00:01:37,460 --> 00:01:42,210

The adapter, which connects the upper and core stages of the rocket, is being transported

26

00:01:42,210 --> 00:01:44,990

aboard the agency's Pegasus barge.

27

00:01:44,990 --> 00:01:51,450

On July 16, the joint European Space Agency/NASA Solar Orbiter mission released the mission's

28

00:01:51,450 --> 00:01:56,420

first data – captured during the spacecraft's first close pass of the Sun.

29

00:01:56,420 --> 00:02:02,090

On that flyby last month, Solar Orbiter captured the closest images ever taken of the Sun,

30

00:02:02,090 --> 00:02:06,730

and had all 10 of its instruments turned on together for the first time, including an

31

00:02:06,730 --> 00:02:11,569

American-led instrument designed to pinpoint coronal mass ejections.

32

00:02:11,569 --> 00:02:17,730

We are now targeting Oct. 31, 2021, for the launch of our James Webb Space Telescope from

33  
00:02:17,730 --> 00:02:23,590  
French Guiana, due to impacts from the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, as well as technical

34  
00:02:23,590 --> 00:02:25,030  
challenges.

35  
00:02:25,030 --> 00:02:30,060  
Engineers recently conducted the first full systems evaluation on Webb since the telescope

36  
00:02:30,060 --> 00:02:32,670  
was assembled into its final form.

37  
00:02:32,670 --> 00:02:38,330  
It's a critical software and electrical analysis on the entire observatory as a single,

38  
00:02:38,330 --> 00:02:40,210  
fully connected vehicle.

39  
00:02:40,210 --> 00:02:46,180  
Webb is the largest and most technically complex space science telescope NASA has ever built.

40  
00:02:46,180 --> 00:02:52,150  
The CALIPSO satellite, a joint venture between NASA and the French space agency, CNES, helped

41  
00:02:52,150 --> 00:02:57,490  
provide a unique view of the massive Saharan dust plume that crossed the North Atlantic

42  
00:02:57,490 --> 00:03:00,880  
Ocean in June – into parts of the U.S.

43  
00:03:00,880 --> 00:03:05,800  
The animation includes data and imagery from

CALIPSO, a space-based laser that measures

44

00:03:05,800 --> 00:03:12,020

clouds and small atmospheric particles, and  
from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

45

00:03:12,020 --> 00:03:13,020

satellites.

46

00:03:13,020 --> 00:03:15,459

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