



WHAT HAPPENS TO OLD SATELLITES?



1
00:00:01,312 --> 00:00:04,637
What happens to old satellites?

2
00:00:06,473 --> 00:00:08,445
NASA.

3
00:00:08,445 --> 00:00:09,576
We Asked a NASA Technologist.

4
00:00:09,944 --> 00:00:12,061
Typically, satellites, if they run out of fuel

5
00:00:12,422 --> 00:00:14,881
or something happens to it where it's just not working,

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00:00:14,881 --> 00:00:18,885
it is essentially orbiting around the Earth "dead."

7
00:00:19,085 --> 00:00:21,988
So what happens eventually is gravity

8
00:00:22,155 --> 00:00:25,358
will continuously pull on it and bring it down.

9
00:00:25,392 --> 00:00:29,729
If that satellite, upon reentering into
the atmosphere does not burn up,

10
00:00:29,763 --> 00:00:34,923
sometimes you'll find pieces of that
structure on one of our large continents or in the ocean.

11
00:00:35,249 --> 00:00:36,403
We don't want that to happen.

12
00:00:36,403 --> 00:00:39,606
So if a spacecraft ran out of fuel or has a bad part,

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00:00:39,672 --> 00:00:41,508

it'd be great if we could fix it.

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00:00:41,508 --> 00:00:46,347

That's why NASA is working on in-space servicing, assembly and manufacturing capabilities.

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00:00:46,540 --> 00:00:51,719

OSAM-1 — On-orbit Servicing, Assembly and Manufacturing Mission 1 — is coming to you very soon.

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00:00:52,252 --> 00:00:55,855

There are capabilities and technologies
that will allow us to sustain

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00:00:55,855 --> 00:00:59,294

some of our key assets, so that if they have
a bad instrument or they want to upgrade,

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00:00:59,294 --> 00:01:01,429

we can do that in space.

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00:01:01,561 --> 00:01:05,131

Essentially, that is going to help NASA
explore and create missions

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00:01:05,131 --> 00:01:09,302

that are going to improve our capabilities
from the Moon, Mars and beyond.

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00:01:09,803 --> 00:01:11,671

So, what happens to old satellites?

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00:01:11,671 --> 00:01:16,109

Well, currently they either burn up upon
reentry or they remain in space dead.

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00:01:16,142 --> 00:01:19,279

But all that's going to change with OSAM-1.
It's going to be the game-changer

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00:01:19,279 --> 00:01:23,383

that is going to help them become sustainable and upgradeable for the future.