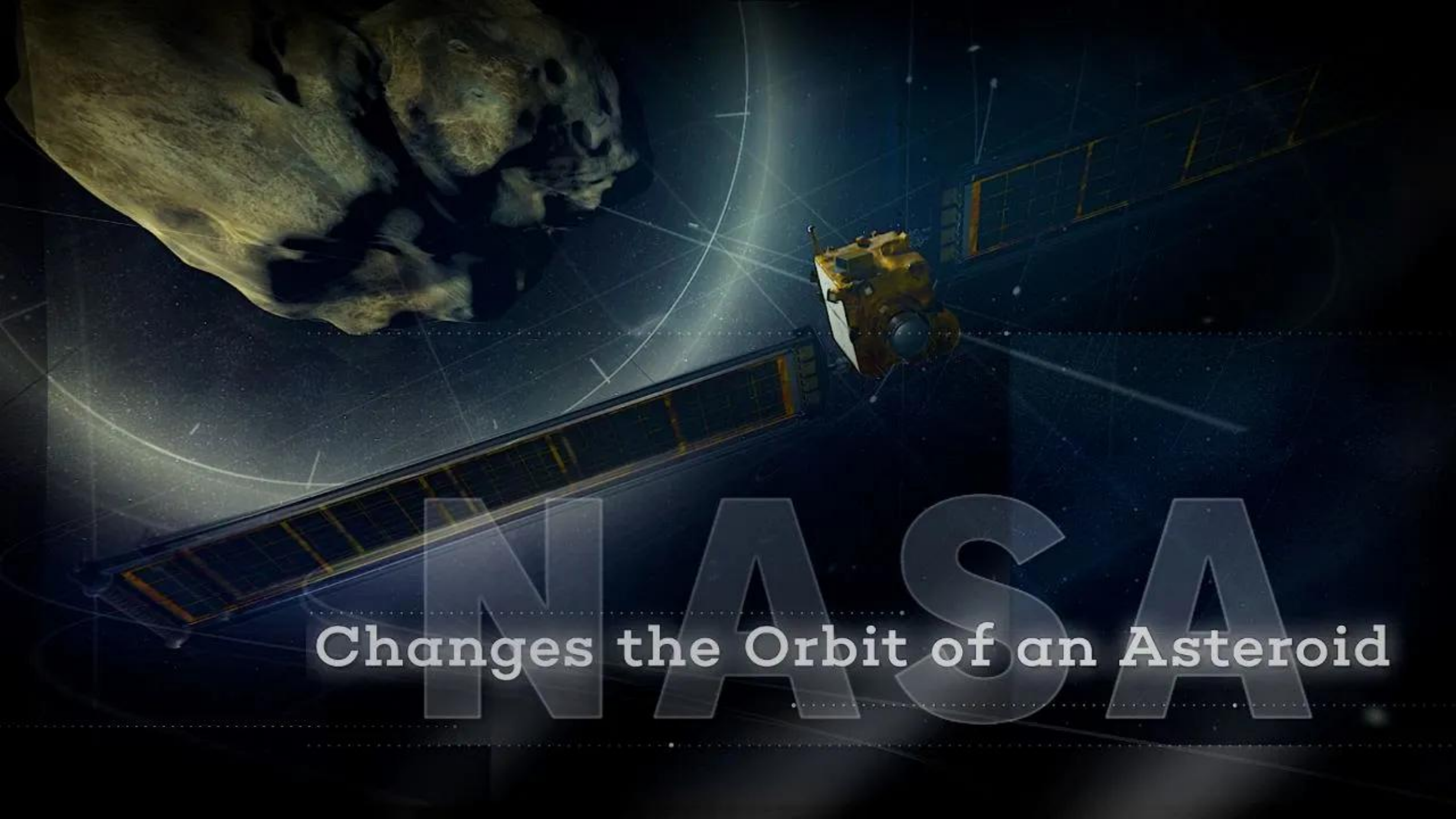
NASA
Changes the Orbit of an Asteroid

1
00:00:01,868 --> 00:00:06,506
We're embarking on a new era of humankind.

2
00:00:11,011 --> 00:00:14,214
Didymos and Dimorphos make a great target.

3
00:00:15,248 --> 00:00:17,851
We needed an asteroid with a moon that you can see

4
00:00:17,851 --> 00:00:20,253
from ground-based telescopes around the world.

5
00:00:21,121 --> 00:00:26,092
We're doing this mission to prove that we can deflect an asteroid.

6
00:00:28,862 --> 00:00:33,299
5, 4, 3, 2, 1.

7
00:00:35,429 --> 00:00:42,509
And liftoff of the Falcon 9 and DART on NASA's first planetary defense test

8
00:00:42,509 --> 00:00:45,412
to intentionally crash into an asteroid.

9
00:00:45,812 --> 00:00:49,249
Even if we do everything right — our sensors work well,

10
00:00:49,349 --> 00:00:53,453
our spacecraft is doing well — even then, we might still miss.

11
00:00:54,487 --> 00:00:59,559
4, 3, 2, 1.

12
00:00:59,559 --> 00:01:04,030
[Cheering and Applause]

13
00:01:04,030 --> 00:01:06,332

For the first time ever,

14
00:01:07,071 --> 00:01:09,869
humanity has changed the orbit

15
00:01:10,203 --> 00:01:12,205
of a planetary object.

16
00:01:14,140 --> 00:01:17,010
NASA confirms

17
00:01:17,610 --> 00:01:20,380
that DART successfully changed

18
00:01:20,747 --> 00:01:23,349
the targeted asteroid’s trajectory.

19
00:01:23,827 --> 00:01:27,253
Using the ground-based telescopes around the world to watch the system

20
00:01:27,253 --> 00:01:29,656
and see how it's affected by this impact event.

21
00:01:31,373 --> 00:01:34,961
This is a watershed moment for planetary defense