



GODDARD NEWS

Greenbelt, Maryland/Wallops Island, Virginia

The Goddard News is published weekly by the Office of Public Affairs, Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD 20771

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Safety – Our Number One Value

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ISO SUCCESS -- A Message from the Center Director

Dear Goddard Team:

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

The audit by DNV is completed and I'm very proud to tell you that the auditors are recommending the Goddard Space Flight Center for certification.



We've planned, worked for, and now completed the critical phase of the Center's certification for ISO9001. Many people have dedicated countless hours to organize, document, communicate, review and map out Goddard's reach for this highly respected standard. I've asked for everyone's support and participation to help us achieve this prestigious recognition and am very happy that so many did contribute their interest and attention.

Nearly every employee participated in some manner to this effort. At risk of overlooking the scores of names that I know accepted leadership roles, I want to publicly recognize the Quality Management System Council for their steadfast commitment and outstanding leadership. They kept us on track and made many sacrifices to sustain a dedicated commitment to achieve this special recognition. In addition, I want to thank Dave Cleveland for his steadfast management and Charlie Vanek for his leadership in helping us achieve this goal. Thank you. We couldn't do it without you!

Once again, thank you all and congratulations.

Sincerely,

A.V. Diaz

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NASA CIO, Security Chief to Discuss Physical Security and Information Technology Security

NASA's Chief Information Officer Lee Holcomb and NASA Security Officer Mark Borsi will be visiting Goddard Aug.30 to discuss physical and information technology security with employees. The presentations are informative and extremely relevant to our day-to-day existence at Goddard.

The security presentations are scheduled for 1 p.m. Monday, Aug. 30, in the Building 8 auditorium. All Goddard employees are encouraged to attend.

The presentations also are available on the GSFC Internal home page at: <http://internal.gsfc.nasa.gov>

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Managers from NASA's Langley Research Center Visited Goddard's Senior Management on Aug. 24



Pictured from left to right are LARC's Leonard McMaster, Ruth Martin, Jerry Newsom, and Dr. Jerry Creedon with Center director Al Diaz, associate Center director Mary Kicza, Dr. Vince Salomonson and Dr. Franco Einaudi.

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Goddard Develops Promotion Metrics

Do you ever wonder how many employees were promoted at Goddard during the year? Or what the distribution of grades is for a particular skill group?

These and other questions are addressed on the Office of Human Resource's Home Page at: <http://ohr.gsfc.nasa.gov> under the "Promotion Redesign" button.

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NASA's Earth Observatory Web Site Selected by Popular Science as One of The "50 Best of The Web"

NASA's Earth Observatory web has been selected by Popular Science as one of the "50 Best of The Web." This annual award recognizes the site for its excellent science and technology content. All of the year's award winning web sites are featured in a special 9-page section in the magazine's September issue, currently at newsstands.

The Earth Observatory provides a sophisticated and interactive web environment where the public can learn about climate and environmental changes on our planet as observed and measured by various NASA satellites.

The site located at <http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov> emphasizes and illustrates NASA's use of Earth remote sensing data for scientific and commercial applications.

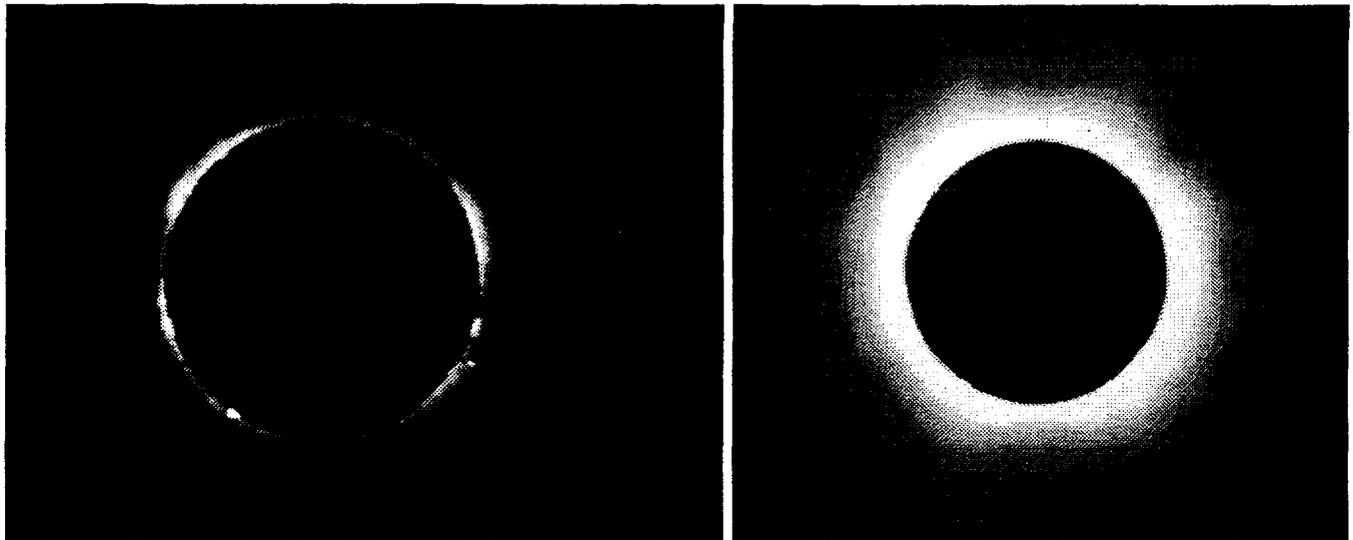
Since the web site launched April 29, it has received about 1.6 million hits from people in more than 80 countries. As a result, more than 83,000 global image data requests have been processed and more than

4,100 visitors to the site have subscribed to receive notification of site updates.

The site was conceived by Goddard's David Herring of Code 913 and features the artistic efforts of other Earth Science Directorate employees like Robert Simmon of Code 902, Kevin Ward and Michael Heney of Code 922, John Weier of Code 971, Stephanie Stockman of Code 921, and Steve Graham and Steve Cole of Code 900.

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More Solar 99 Images



These photos, taken by a member of Goddard's Eclipse 99 expedition team, depict the Aug. 11 eclipse over the Black Sea.

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Is Your Computer Y2K Compatible?

As the new millennium approaches, desktop users want assurance that their computers are Y2K compliant

Folks who use a Macintosh computer don't have to worry about Y2K compliance, according to Goddard's Y2K program manager William Duffy, because the internal clock in each Mac will be accurate until at least February 2040. The latest Mac models are programmed for compliance far into the future – until the Year 29,940.

Chances are your PC also is Y2K compliant, but better to be safe than sorry. PC users are urged to check their computer's make and model against compliance lists located at the following Y2K Hardware

Compliance sites:

GSFC Y2K Desktop Hardware/COTS Information –

<http://gsfc-artemis.gsfc.nasa.gov/250y2k/cotsinfo.html>

GSFC Y2K NetBIOS Compliance Database –

<http://gsfc-artemis.gsfc.nasa.gov/cf/satccb/ecNLookup.cfm>

NASA CIO Registry Year 2000 Site -

<http://www.lerc.nasa.gov/WWW/LeadCenter/LCdocs/FormalReview/Year2000/Year2000.htm>

Employees can use the "Y2K PC BIOS and Compliance Testing Document" link.

Contact the PC vendor immediately if your PC is not included on the list to verify whether: (1) you need a BIOS upgrade or patch, (2) your operating system will fix the problem, or (3) you can manually reset the date on Jan. 1, 2000.

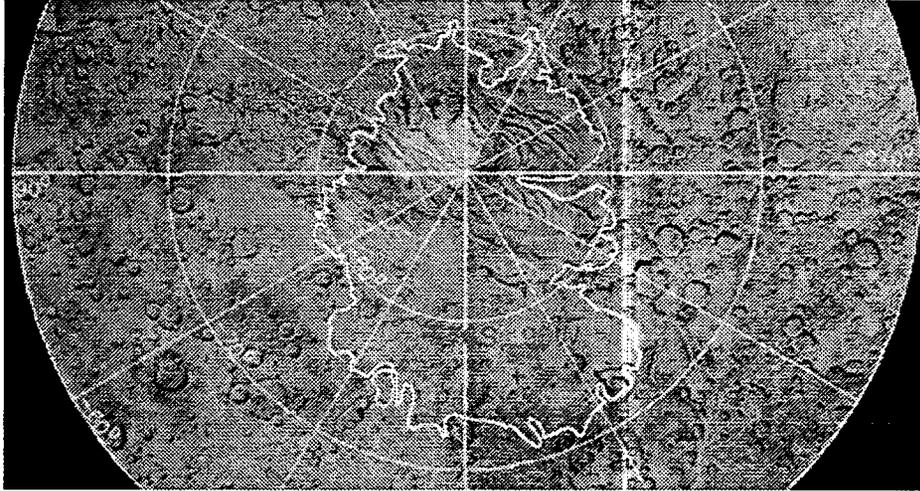
If you have an ODIN seat and you want to know whether your ODIN system is Y2K compliant, call Bob Freitas at ext. 6-8461. PC users not covered by ODIN should contact their desktop service provider.

All GSFC standard software products such as MS Office, Adobe PDF Reader, MacAfee VirusScan, Netscape and Eudora have been verified as Y2K compliant, but users are urged to upgrade to the latest GSFC recommended versions prior to Dec. 31.

If you use additional software products, please refer to the NASA COTS Year 2000 Software Compliance Tracking Database at: <http://cotserver.lerc.nasa.gov/default.htm> or go directly to the software vendor's website for Y2K compliance information. Taking these easy steps will help to ensure a smooth transition into the next millennium.

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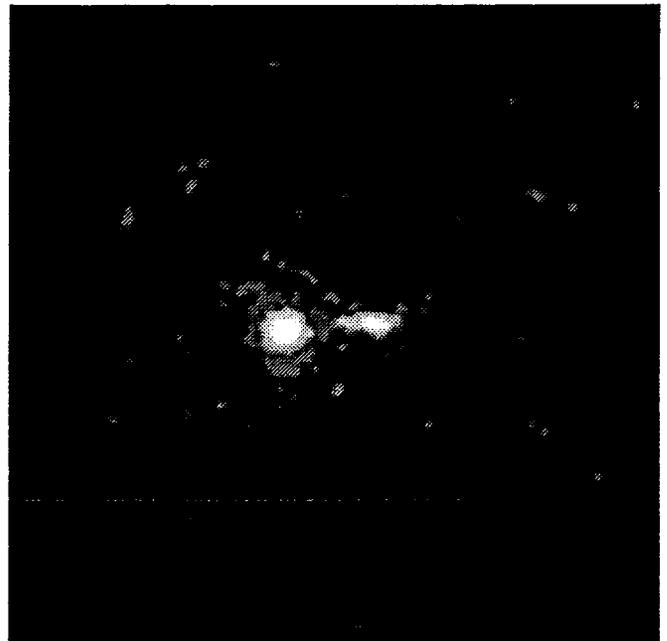
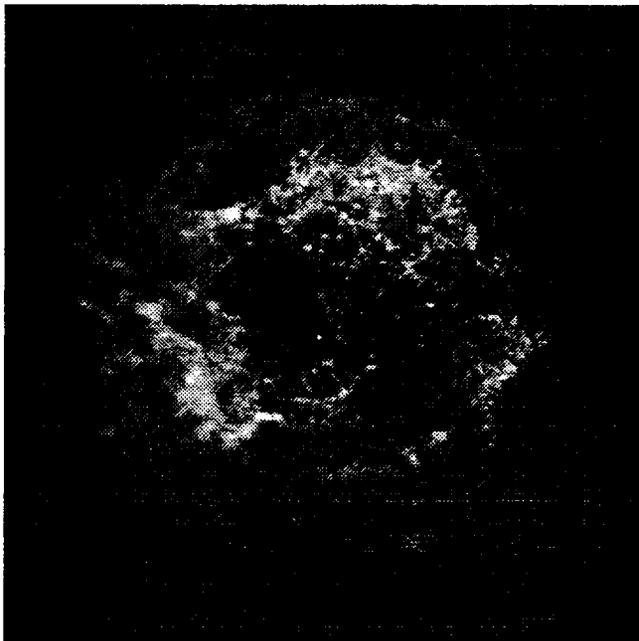
MOLA Helps Map Mars Polar Lander Landing Site



Launched on January 3, 1999, Mars Polar Lander is due to set down gently on Mars under rocket power on December 3 for the start of a three-month mission to help scientists study the planet's climate history. For the past several months, mission planners have been reviewing images and three-dimensional topographic measurements of the region returned by NASA's orbiting Mars Global Surveyor (MGS) mission. The Mars Orbiter laser Altimeter (MOLA) onboard MGS has provided significant data concerning the roughness and elevation of the terrain and has enabled mission planners to select a safe and scientifically interesting spot to land.

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Chandra's First Light Images

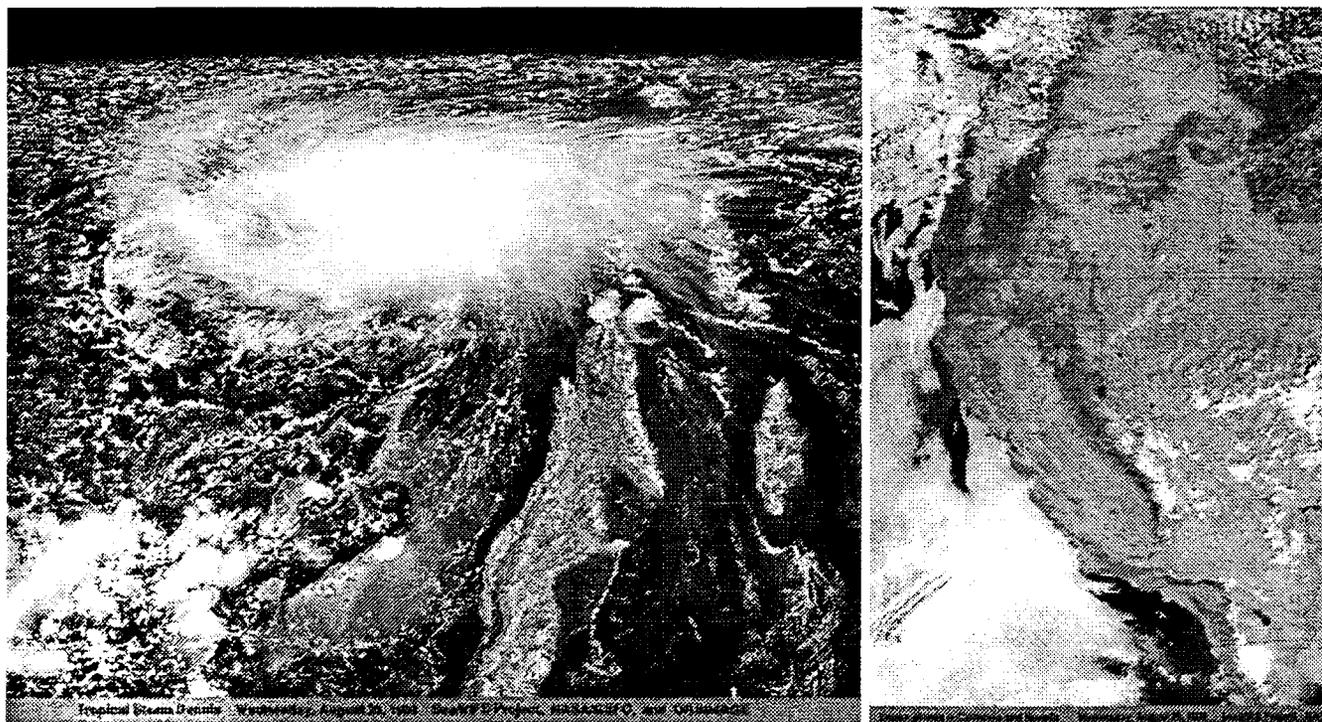


Cassiopeia A is the remnant of a star that exploded about 300 years ago in the constellation Cassiopeia.

PKS 0637-752 is a luminous quasar in the constellation Mensa so distant that we see it as it was 6 billion years ago.

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SeaWiFS Images From East to West



From SeaWiFS, Hurricane Dennis looks like this. This photo was taken Aug. 25, 1999 as the hurricane loomed over the Bahamas.

Smoke plumes from Northern California wildfires are seen in this photo taken from SeaWiFS on Aug. 25, 1999.

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Press Releases from the past week can be found here: [Hot Topics](#)

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Mission Success Starts With Safety

If you would like to make comments or ask questions concerning the content of the Goddard News for this week please address your email comment to: James.Sahli.1@gsfc.nasa.gov

If you would like to make comments or ask questions regarding the HTML (on-line) version of Goddard News for this week please address your email comment to: Lynn.A.Jenner.1@gsfc.nasa.gov