



Dawn Mission Outreach E-News, 4th Edition

Summer 2005

A MESSAGE FROM THE PAYLOAD MANAGER: DAWN PAYLOAD STATUS

Welcome to the Dawn e-newsletter. The Dawn science instruments are in the final stretch toward delivery and integration with the spacecraft. In fact, the first piece of instrument flight hardware, the VIR Main Electronics, was delivered for integration in the last weeks of July. The VIR Optics Module is well on the way toward its September delivery, and the Framing Cameras have both been integrated and are in final testing and calibration in preparation for August deliveries. The GRaND instrument is within days of its final integration and will be entering its final environmental test and calibration sequence heading for a September delivery. All instruments are performing well and promise to yield powerful science data at Vesta and Ceres! Stay up-to-date with the Dawn mission as we prepare for launch by visiting our Web site at: <http://dawn.jpl.nasa.gov>

Ed Miller
Dawn Payload Manager

MEET DAWN'S PAYLOAD MANAGER

"Take an idea and figure out how to make it happen"—that's how Ed Miller, Dawn's Payload Manager, describes the role of an engineer. Learn more about the critical science instruments aboard the Dawn spacecraft, discover the benefits of international collaboration, and catch a glimpse of a day in the life at JPL by reading an interview with Ed at: http://dawn.jpl.nasa.gov/people/miller/miller_inter.asp

WHO'S WHO IN THE DAWN MISSION

When Principal Investigator Chris Russell set out to assemble his team, he sought professionals who demonstrated exceptional talent in their respective fields and an ability to collaborate with others effectively. Meet the team at: <http://dawn.jpl.nasa.gov/people/index.asp>

STORY TIME WITH DAWN KIDS

Weaving together elements of fiction with factual Dawn mission content, "The Aster's Hoity-Toity Belt" tells the story of two friends, the gentle giant Ceres and feisty Vesta. Engage learners of all ages with this compelling tale set in the Great Carousel of the Skies, officially known as the main asteroid belt. Dawn Kids features the complete text with illustrations, an annotated version for leaders, and a text-only version that enables learners to create their own illustrations, as well as a variety of fun activity ideas suitable for formal and informal educational settings. All materials are available at: <http://dawn.jpl.nasa.gov/DawnKids/index.asp>

UPCOMING EDUCATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH EVENT

Dawn Education and Public Outreach staff will be presenting *The Future Is Now, Ion Jet Propulsion Engine—Science and Technology for Your Classroom* at the 2nd Annual Western Colorado Math & Science Institute for K-12 Teachers on Thursday, August 4, and Friday, August 5, 2005 at Mesa State College Campus in Grand Junction, Colorado. For more information and to register, see: <http://www.sithok.org/teachers-institute.htm>



ASK A SCIENTIST

Have a question and want to communicate directly with a member of the Dawn mission team? Click on the "Ask a Scientist" link located at the bottom of the Dawn Web site at: <http://dawn.jpl.nasa.gov>

COUNTDOWN TO LAUNCH

Eleven months and counting! Track the days until the Dawn spacecraft launches from Kennedy Space Center in summer 2006 by visiting: <http://dawn.jpl.nasa.gov>

ATTENTION: CURRICULUM COORDINATORS, FORMAL AND INFORMAL SCIENCE EDUCATORS

Are you interested in participating in a Dawn pilot study? Dawn Education and Public Outreach (E/PO) is committed to offering materials that are of high quality and utility and reflect the needs of formal and informal science educators. During the fall of 2005, Dawn E/PO is conducting a pilot study of the *Find a Meteorite* activity developed by the University of New Mexico and Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning (McREL). For more details and to sign up, visit:

<http://dawn.jpl.nasa.gov/DawnClassrooms/index.asp>

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

Continually seeking ways to improve the mission Web site, Dawn Education and Public Outreach is eager to receive your feedback. Please share your thoughts by completing a brief survey at:

<http://survey.mcREL.org/external/dawn/website505.htm>

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

The Dawn mission e-newsletter will be delivered on a quarterly basis. As we approach our countdown to launch, you will receive monthly mission updates via e-news. Please forward this e-mail to share with others interested in NASA missions. New subscribers may join the Dawn mission e-news mailing list on our Web site at: http://dawn.jpl.nasa.gov/DawnMedia/e_news.asp

Dawn Mission Outreach E-News features information about the mission, its outreach Web site, and products, services, and materials available from the Dawn Education and Public Outreach (E/PO) team.

Dawn is the ninth Discovery mission in NASA's Science Mission Directorate and is a collaborative partnership made up of the University of California, Los Angeles; Jet Propulsion Laboratory; Orbital Sciences Corporation; Los Alamos National Laboratory; German Aerospace Center; Max Planck Institute for Solar System Research; Italian Space Agency; and Italian National Institute of Astrophysics. Dawn outreach materials are developed under contract by Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning (McREL), Aurora, CO.