

October 4 - 10, 2002

The Terra spacecraft is in nominal mode. All instruments are in Science Mode.

Planning continues for execution of the final burn in the series of six Inclination Adjust Maneuvers for Terra. This will place the descending node (for equatorial crossing) at slightly later than 10:31 a.m. local time, and sustain the desired orbital relationship with SAC-C. The maneuver originally planned for September 25 has been deferred until October 22, 2002, to enable implementation of onboard table and procedural modifications recommended by the spacecraft vendor and Terra Flight Operations Team.

The new Direct Broadcast (X-band) turn-off policy over the Canberra Deep Space Network (DSN) site has been implemented and is operating well. This policy was negotiated with JPL last week in order to expedite the rapid acquisition of MODIS data over central Australia. The data are needed to support efforts associated with the Australian fire season. The new policy will stop X-band transmission only when DSN contacts are scheduled while Terra is in the line-of-sight with DSN and any of nine X-band DSN user missions. Implementation of the new policy is expected within the next few days.

TERRA PLANS:

Inclination Adjust Maneuver on October 22, 2002;

Working with NASA Headquarters Code Q on Deep Space and Lunar Calibration Maneuver planning.

