

March 26, 2003

<P>The first Terra Deep Space Calibration Maneuver was successfully performed on March 26, 2003.

The Terra spacecraft and all five instruments are nominal at this time. The important calibration data have been downloaded twice. Terra will return to normal science operations later today (March 26, 2003). The MODIS focal planes are expected to return to normal operating temperatures around 0000 GMT (12:00 midnight EST), so the thermal infrared data will be of lower quality for much of today.</P>

<P>The EOS Terra Flight Operations, Instrument Operations, and Spacecraft Engineering Teams executed the maneuver expertly and deserve a huge thank you from the Terra Science Team. :-)</P>

<P>The next step is a check out of the instrument and spacecraft systems and analysis of the calibration data. If everything checks out okay, a second maneuver to view deep space and the moon is scheduled for April 14, 2003.</P>