

April 4 - 10, 2003

<P>The Terra spacecraft is operating nominally. All 5 instruments are in Science Mode.</P>

<P>The Final Dress Rehearsal and the Engineering Command Authorization Meeting (CAM) for the Lunar Deep Space Calibration Maneuver were held on April 9 and 10, respectively. All Flight Operations Team subsystem engineers presented at the CAM, and the meeting included representatives from the 5 instrument teams and the spacecraft manufacturer via telecon. No significant issues arose during the rehearsal or CAM. A final "Go-CAM" will be conducted during the morning of the maneuver on April 14.</P>

<P>The waiver for MODIS X-band Direct Broadcast on/off cycling over Canberra remains in place between GSFC and JPL / Deep Space Network (DSN) to enable continued acquisition of bushfire and hotspot data to support the Sentinel fire monitoring system deployed under the auspices of CSIRO in Australia (see From Space to the Outback for details of the Sentinel project and the solution to the issue of potential X-band RFI).</P>

<P>Data are being compiled from a 6-month study to deliver statistics to JPL on the turn-off frequency versus the number of contacts actually scheduled with DSN X-band user missions. These data will be used in an effort to negotiate with JPL to allow waivers similar to that for Canberra over the Goldstone and Madrid DSN stations to increase the total Direct Broadcast coverage. Turn-off is now down to only minutes or sometimes seconds per day (especially with the Canberra waiver in place), but the ESMO Project and Terra Mission Director remain committed to maximizing Direct Broadcast coverage.</P>

Plans

 Finalize preparations for and conduct the Lunar Deep Space Calibration Maneuver for Terra

on April 14, 2003;

 The next lunar roll maneuver for MODIS calibration will be conducted on April 20, 2003,

about 1 week after the Lunar Deep Space Calibration Maneuver on April 14; and

 Continue planning for eventual execution of Deep Space and Lunar Calibration Maneuvers.

