



Edwards, California, March 2025



NASA's X-59 Completes Electromagnetic Testing

Scan to Read This Month's Stories NASA's F-15D research aircraft is positioned adjacent to the X-59 during electromagnetic compatibility testing at U.S. Air Force Plant 42 in Palmdale, California. Researchers activated the F-15D's radar, C-band transponder, and radios at different distances from the X-59 to evaluate potential electromagnetic interference with the aircraft's flight-critical systems, ensuring the X-59 can operate safely with other aircraft. These tests showed that the aircraft's integration is maturing and cleared a major hurdle that moves it one step closer to first flight.

NASA/Carla Thomas

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New Technology Helps NASA Understand Wildfires



NASA/Steve Freeman

The January wildfires in California devastated local habitats and communities. To better understand wildfire behavior, NASA scientists and engineers tried to learn from the events by testing new technology.

The new instrument, the Compact Fire Infrared Radiance Spectral Tracker (c-FIRST), was tested when NASA's B200 King Air aircraft flew over the wildfires in the Pacific Palisades and Altadena, California. Based at NASA's Armstrong Flight Research Center in Edwards, California, the aircraft used the c-FIRST instrument to observe the impacts of the fires in near real-time.

NASA Guidance System Explores Earth Science



NASA/Carla Thomas

NASA and its partners recently tested an aircraft guidance system that could help planes maintain a precise course even while flying at high speeds up to 500 mph. The instrument is Soxnav, the culmination of more than 30 years of development of aircraft navigation systems.

NASA's G-IV aircraft flew its first mission to test this navigational system from NASA's Armstrong Flight Research Center in Edwards, California, in December 2024. The team was composed of engineers from NASA Armstrong, NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Southern California, and the Bay Area Environmental Research Institute (BAERI) in California's Silicon Valley.



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