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Hope Probe starts 2-year science mission

DUBAI

Staff Report

The Emirates Mars Mission yesterday announced it has started a two-year study to yield the first complete picture of Mars' lower and upper atmospheres throughout the day, night and seasons of a full Martian year.

The mission has completed spacecraft and instrument exercises and is now ready to commence science data gathering for two years.

Omran Sharaf, Project Director, EMM, said: "Following a successful cruise to Mars, a near-perfect Mars Orbit Insertion manoeuvre and our transition from Hope's capture orbit to our science orbit, we have completed our commissioning, calibration and testing phase. I am delighted to be able to report that the Mars Hope probe is perfectly positioned to commence its two-year science mission."

It follows on from the Hope Probe's three instruments' activation on April 10 and a period of commissioning and testing since then. The instruments and spacecraft are performing beyond expectations.

Since the Hope probe entered orbit around Mars, the Emirates Mars Ultraviolet Spectrometer (EMUS) instrument has collected nearly 14,000 spectral-spatial images of the atmosphere.