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UAE's Hope Probe drops more Martian wonders

Latest data sheds light into cloud movement on Mars

ABU DHABI

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The Emirates Mars Mission's 'Hope Probe' has released its ninth dataset, offering insights into the Martian atmosphere from surface to outer edges.

The data, collected over the equivalent of two Earth years, was gathered by the probe's three science instruments: the Emirates Mars Infrared Spec-

trometer (EMIRS), the Emirates Mars Ultraviolet Spectrometer (EMUS), and the Emirates Exploration Imager (EXI).

Expectations exceeded

In an extended mission, the probe seeks to understand inter-annual variations of the Martian atmosphere beyond initial expectations. The ninth dataset, covering March 1 to May 31, 2023, includes high-frequency cloud images taken by EXI, providing insights into short-term changes and cloud movement on Mars. Additionally, EMUS observed a stunning aurora display on April 27-28, 2023, as the Sun approached



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the peak of its 11-year activity cycle.

The Emirates Mars Mission has consistently exceeded expectations, identifying new types of auroras on Mars and capturing images of Mars'

moon, Deimos. The mission's three key objectives encompass lower atmospheric processes, upper atmosphere loss, and the link between the two, unravelling mysteries of the Martian atmosphere and its loss to space.

To date, the 'Hope Probe' has released 3.3 Terabytes of atmospheric data, supporting global scientific research. The International Academy of Astronautics honoured the mission at the 74th International Astronautical Congress, recognising their dedication to advancing Mars exploration and providing valuable data to the scientific community.