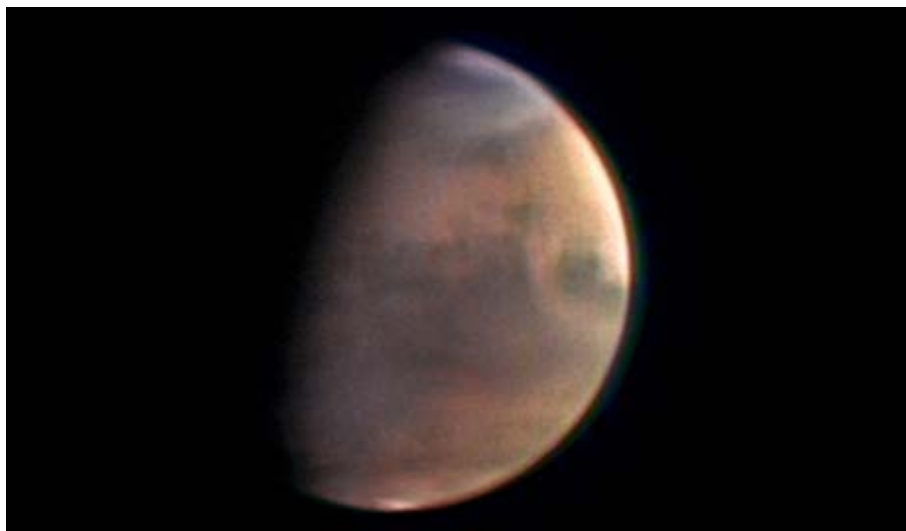


The Voice of Russia

Mock Mars Mission's midway mark

Tags: Mars, News, Russia, Sci-Tech, World, Mars 500 experiment

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Mars. Photo: EPA



Participants of the “Mars-500” project, which has been on in Moscow for over half a year, are to continue experiments on a virtual surface that simulates the terrain of the Red Planet.

Today, Russian Alexander Smoleevsky and his colleague from China Wang Yue are to step onto the surface of the imaginary Red planet and collect soil samples. This is the second such ‘exit’ on the mock Mars surface, with the first held on February 14.

The “Martian spaceship” was assembled in Moscow on the territory of the Institute of Biomedical Problems. The experiment to simulate a flight to Mars involves six people. On Friday night they are crossing the boundary between the first and second halves of the experiment. Thereafter, they will have another 260 days to go before they leave the complex that imitates a spaceship.