



Solar Orbiter: a mission update

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ESA's Solar Orbiter mission will determine in situ the properties of fields and particles in the unexplored near-Sun heliosphere in three dimensions, investigate remotely the fine-scale structures and events in the magnetically coupled layers of the Sun's atmosphere, identify through near-corotation the links between activity on the solar surface and the resulting evolution of the inner heliosphere, and observe the polar regions and equatorial corona from relatively high latitudes. In this presentation, we will review the current status of the preparations for the mission, including the key findings from the recent industrial and ESA internal assessment studies.