

Infrared Hunt Begins: WISE Starts All-Sky Survey

January 14 2010



This artist's conception shows NASA's Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer, or WISE, mapping the whole sky in infrared. The mission will unveil hundreds of thousands of asteroids, and hundreds of millions of stars and galaxies. Image credit: Ball/NASA/JPL-Caltech

(PhysOrg.com) -- NASA's Wide Field Infrared Survey Explorer (WISE) began its survey of the infrared sky today.

The mission will spend nine months scanning the sky one-and-a-half times in [infrared light](#), revealing all sorts of cosmic characters -- everything from near-Earth asteroids to young galaxies more than ten billion light-years away.

WISE, which launched Dec. 14, 2009, from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California, will uncover hundreds of thousands of asteroids, and hundreds of millions of stars and galaxies. Its vast catalog of data will

provide astronomers and other missions with data for mine for decades to come.

Provided by JPL/NASA

Citation: Infrared Hunt Begins: WISE Starts All-Sky Survey (2010, January 14) retrieved 28 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2010-01-infrared-wise-all-sky-survey.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.