

Image: Fresh impact craters on asteroid Vesta

December 9 2011

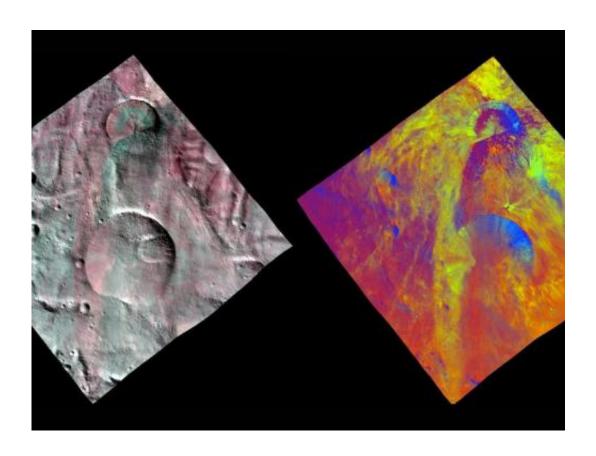


Image Credit: NASA, JPL-Caltech, UCLA, MPS, DLR, IDA

(PhysOrg.com) -- This image, taken December 6, 2011, combines two separate views of the giant asteroid Vesta obtained by NASA's Dawn spacecraft.

The images were taken by Dawn's framing camera.



The far-left image uses near-infrared filters where red is used to represent 750 nanometers, green represents 920 nanometers and blue represents 980 nanometers.

The image on the right is an image with colors assigned by scientists, representing different rock or mineral types on Vesta, revealing a world of many varied, well-separated layers and ingredients.

The fresh impact craters in this view are located in the south polar region, which has been partly covered by landslides from the adjacent crater.

This would suggest that a layer of loose material covers the <u>Vesta</u> surface.

Provided by JPL/NASA

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