

SpaceX's recovered rocket back at port after sea landing

April 12 2016, by By Marcia Dunn



In this photo made available by SpaceX, the company's Falcon 9 booster returns to Port Canaveral, Fla., early Tuesday, April 12, 2016. SpaceX is the first company to land a rocket at sea. SpaceX founder and chief executive Elon Musk

says reusability is crucial for lowering launch costs and opening access to space. His dream is to build a city on Mars. (SpaceX via AP)

The rocket that made a historic landing at sea last week is back at its home port.

SpaceX's recovered 15-story booster, still standing tall on its floating platform, pulled into Florida's Port Canaveral before dawn Tuesday. The company plans to test-fire the engines 10 times. If everything looks good, the booster could be used again on another mission as early as June.

SpaceX is the first company to land a rocket at sea. This particular first-stage booster hoisted space station supplies for NASA on Friday. Normally, it would have ended up at the bottom of the Atlantic.

SpaceX founder and chief executive Elon Musk says reusability is crucial for lowering launch costs and opening access to space. His dream is to build a city on Mars.



A boater watches as SpaceX Falcon 9 booster returns to Port Canaveral, Fla., early Tuesday, April 12, 2016. (Craig Rubadoux/Florida Today via AP)



Gabriela Liave, Kirk Elifson, Roman Larionov, Zack Kurtz and Conner Brooks watch as a SpaceX Falcon 9 booster returns to Port Canaveral, Fla., early Tuesday, April 12, 2016. (Craig Rubadoux/Florida Today via AP)



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More information: SpaceX: www.spacex.com/

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