

Image: Spinning station

October 14 2016



Credit: ESA/JL Lopez

On 10 October, ESA's deep-space radio dish in Cebrenos, Spain, transmitted an 866 sec interstellar message towards the North Star as part of the international "[A Simple Response](#)" project.

This 30 sec exposure was taken just as the 35 m-diameter dish

completed rotating from pointing at the the North Star back to the vertical parked position.

This week and next, the Cebreros antenna will play a crucial role in the arrival of ESA's ExoMars orbiter and [lander](#) at the Red Planet, set for 19 October. It will communicate with both the ExoMars Trace Gas Orbiter and the older Mars Express.

Provided by European Space Agency

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