Camera Test

Cassini tested its camera at a distance of 177 million miles from Saturn, just 20 months before Saturn Orbit Insertion.





SOI: 01 July 2004

- The Cassini spacecraft, with the Huygens Probe still attached, made history by becoming the first to orbit Saturn
- Cassini's main engines fired for 96 minutes to allow Cassini to be captured by Saturn's gravity
- This is the first time it turned on its main engines since 1998



SOI: 01 July 2004

- The Cassini spacecraft, with the Huygens Probe still attached, made history by becoming the first to orbit Saturn
- Cassini's main engines fired for 96 minutes to allow Cassini to be captured by Saturn's gravity
- This is the first time it turned on its main engines since 1998



Saturn's Faint Rings

Early in the mission, Cassini's cameras recorded this backlit image of Saturn, revealing two diffuse rings – the G and E ring.



Extent of Saturn's Rings



The extent of Saturn's rings are larger than the distance between the Earth and Moon. The Ering is the largest in the solar system and extends from Mimas' orbit to Titan's orbit.



Enceladus and the E-Ring

