

# Shift Change

The ascent stage of a two-stage lander soars through the tenuous Martian atmosphere on the first leg of a long trek home. This Mars outpost crew has just completed many months exploring the surface of Mars and is headed toward a rendezvous with an orbiting vehicle that will return them to Earth. This equatorial base, located near a tributary of Valles Marineris, is in the vicinity of the Viking I landing site. These future missions of discovery and exploration will employ humans where their capabilities are unique and critical: physical adaptability, intellectual flexibility, capacity for innovation and ability to inspire. Today's youth will watch humans explore Mars in their lifetimes and will see the understanding of the universe expand through discoveries we have not yet imagined.

## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

*Pat Rawlings creates images based on scientific and technical themes that appeal to both rocket scientists and regular folk. His extraterrestrial "snapshots" of future events give viewers a sense of "being there" as explorers hop from one world to the next using the best technology of the 21st century. Rawlings' desire to travel in space and time motivates him to make scenes that are as accurate as possible. After consulting with numerous space experts around the country, he uses hand-built and computer models, topographical maps, and space and family vacation photos to mentally create his worlds.*



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SPACE CENTER

# Roundup

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