

Book review in May / June 2005 issue of

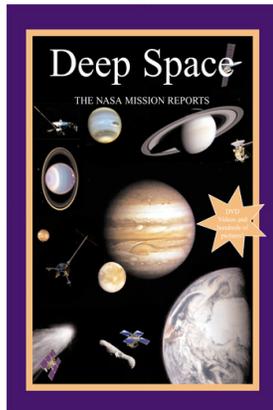
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THE CANADIAN MAGAZINE OF ASTRONOMY & STARGAZING

Deep Space: The NASA Mission Reports

Edited by Robert Godwin and Steve Whitfield
Apogee Books (www.cgpublishing.com),
\$44.95 softcover, ISBN 1-894959-15-9

SEVERAL DOZEN NASA MISSION REPORTS are now available in this series from Collector's Guide Publishing of Burlington, Ontario. It's a successful formula, offering in book form the complete set of NASA press releases about a specific mission—or, in this case, several robotic probes to the outer planets and other objects beyond Mars. (Mars and the inner planets are covered in separate volumes in the series.)



The robot explorers include five whose primary explorations are complete (Pioneers 10 and 11, Voyagers 1 and 2 and Galileo), which fill three-quarters of the book; three ongoing missions (Cassini/Huygens at Saturn, Stardust and Deep Impact); and several smaller-scale projects in various stages of completion (Deep Space 1, Dawn and Jupiter Icy Moons Orbiter).

Here, between two covers, are all the facts about each spacecraft, the launch vehicles, the interplanetary trajectories

and the expected environments at each destination. This is the official stuff, the NASA illustrations, diagrams and descriptions in their entirety. For example, the NASA news-media reference material reproduced in this book for the first flyby of Saturn by Pioneer 11 in September 1980 is exactly the same as the package I received when I arrived at mission control at Ames Research Center, Mountain view, California, to cover the event for Maclean's 25 years ago. Not insignificantly, the book also includes a two-sided DVD-Video/DVD-ROM with a wealth of background material, images and documentary footage. —TD

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