DAWN
EXPLORING NEW WORLDS
Dawn Explores Ceres and Vesta to Discover What They Can Tell Us About How the Terrestrial Planets Formed

Dawn is the 9th mission in NASA’s competed, low-cost Discovery Program
Dawn is the Only Mission to Orbit a Main Belt Asteroid
Giant Impacts Delivered Pieces of Vesta to Earth as Meteorites
Dawn is the First Mission to Reach a Dwarf Planet

Dawn began orbiting around Ceres on March 6, 2015
Dawn is Enabled by Ion Propulsion

Ion propulsion allows us to go places that would otherwise be extremely expensive or impossible within NASA’s constraints.
Dawn records:

**Longest powered flight:**
5.3 years of operation

+ 

**Largest propulsive velocity change:**
10,800 m/s (24,000 mph)
Dawn Contributes to the Effort...
... then to Vesta & Ceres
For More Information

http://dawn.jpl.nasa.gov

http://solarsystem.nasa.gov