



Apr 13, 2000

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NASA Develops a Drill for the Future



It's an invention that may eventually end up in the hands of every craftsman and orthopedic surgeon. Scientists at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory,

Pasadena, CA, together with engineers from a Pennsylvania company, have developed an ultrasonic device that can drill and core very hard rocks and also has medical applications. Potential medical uses include extracting pacemaker leads and the drilling necessary during surgical or diagnostic procedures involving the human skeletal structure. Future space missions could include drilling for samples using lightweight landers with robotic arms and small rovers that roam the surface of an asteroid or planet. ([Full Story](#)) (4/12/00)

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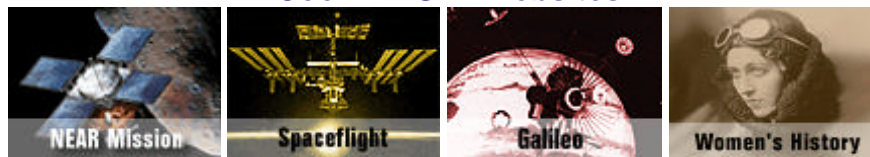
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