



CERN Colloquium

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TITLE: **The Rosetta Mission - Where no Spacecraft has gone before**

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PLACE: Council Chamber

ABSTRACT

This Talk will provide an overview on the Scientific Highlights of the Rosetta Mission. After travelling through the Solar System for nearly 10 years Rosetta arrived at its main target, Comet 67/P Churyumov-Gerasimenko, in August 2014. Following an initial characterisation of the Comet, the lander unit Philae touched down on the partly active Nucleus on November 12 of the same year.

The data acquired from the numerous instruments onboard the Spacecraft provides a unique insight into the properties of the Comets. While most of the measurements and processing of the data are still ongoing, the results from the Mission provide continuous surprises to the scientific community. While the Lander has been reactivated with some difficulties after a few months of inactivity due to low insolation levels, the Orbiter is pursuing its main mission objectives until the end of its extended Mission in Autumn 2016.

During the long journey, the Spacecraft had encountered Earth, Mars and two Asteroids (2867 Steins and 21 Lutetia) and even performed some Astronomical observations.