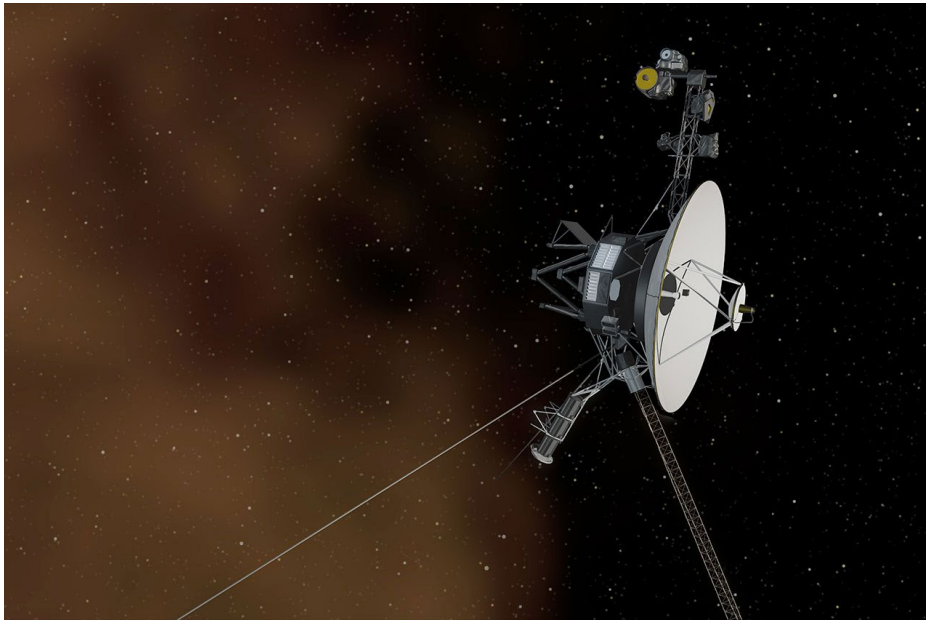


25 August 2012



(Picture credits: *NASA/JPL-Caltech*)

***Anniversary of the first human-made object to reach interstellar space***

**Space agency/country:** NASA  
**Mission:** *Voyager 1*

After 36 years of travelling, *Voyager 1* made history as the first human-made object to ever leave our solar system. The spacecraft first reached this milestone in August 2012. At that time, it was about 19 billion kilometers from the Sun. NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory stated that *Voyager 1* is travelling at around 17 kilometers per second. It is one of the longest-lived missions to ever have been developed, and it still sends pictures and data back to Earth. The spacecraft is powered by three radio-isotope thermoelectric generators, which allow it to convert heat into electricity and power. The spacecraft was launched on 5 September 1977.

**For more information:**

<http://www.collectspace.com/news/news-091213a.html>  
<https://www.space.com/17688-voyager-1.html>