

Science Focus

DO FACE MASKS STILL WORK?

MOON PHOTOGRAPHY MASTERCLASS

THE RACE TO SAVE WHITE RHINOS

TIRED ALL THE TIME?

We're sleepwalking into a health crisis. Here's how you can avoid it



SCIENCEFOCUS.COM
 02 >
 9 772632 284189
 ISSUE #388
 FEBRUARY 2023
 UK£5.99

IN THIS ISSUE

Psychology

It's time to stop treating the midlife crisis like a joke

Night Sky

Light pollution is drowning out the stars

COVID

All you need to know about the new variant



EYE OPENER

Stacking up nicely

TEXAS, USA

The 120m-tall Starship towers over the Gulf of Mexico at SpaceX's Starbase facility in south Texas. A fully fuelled, 'wet dress rehearsal' (everything but a launch) was successfully carried out on 23 January 2023, marking a huge milestone ahead of the craft's maiden orbital flight. It was the first time a Starship (the top part) and Super Heavy booster (the bottom part) had been integrated and fully fuelled with more than 4.5 million kilograms of propellant.

Once operational, the fully reusable vehicle will overtake NASA's Space Launch System (SLS) as the most powerful rocket ever built. Powered by 33 Raptor engines, it's capable of delivering up to 150 tonnes into a low-Earth orbit and has twice the thrust of the Saturn V. The ultimate aim is to carry cargo and people beyond Earth, and bring us closer to that long-awaited colony on Mars.

Before that, however, Starship needs a successful simultaneous test-firing of all 33 of its Raptor engines and to complete an orbital test flight.

SPACEX

VISIT US FOR MORE AMAZING IMAGES:

 @SCIENCEFOCUS

 SCIENCEFOCUS



