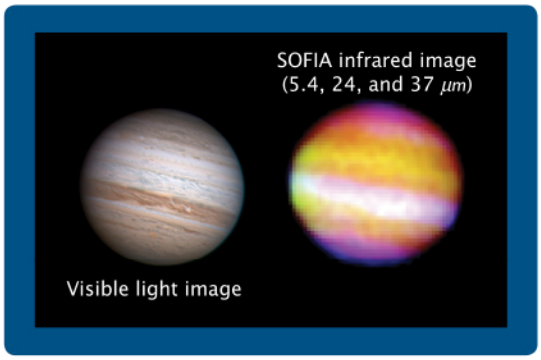
# SOFIA

## STRATOSPHERIC OBSERVATORY FOR INFRARED ASTRONOMY

1 NASA's Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA), shown during a test flight above the snowy Sierra Nevada range. SOFIA consists of the "Clipper Lindbergh" Boeing 747SP aircraft modified to carry a 2.5-meter (100-inch), 17-ton telescope to altitudes of 12 to 14 km (39,000 to 45,000 feet), above the terrestrial water vapor layer. (NASA)


2 Astronomers and mission operations staff monitor data at their consoles during a science flight aboard the SOFIA flying observatory. The FORCAST instrument is mounted on the blue pressure bulkhead; the telescope itself is mounted on the other side of the bulkhead. (NASA/DLR/USRA/DSI/N. Veronico)

3 Infrared image of Jupiter from SOFIA's First Light flight composed of individual images at wavelengths of 5.4 (blue), 24 (green), and 37 microns (red) made by Cornell University's FORCAST camera. (Infrared image: NASA/SOFIA/USRA/ FORCAST Team/James De Buizer; Visible light image: Anthony Wesley)




For more information about SOFIA, visit: http://www.nasa.gov/sofia • http://www.dlr.de/en/sofia
For information about SOFIA's science mission, visit: http://www.sofia.usra.edu • http://www.dsi.uni-stuttgart.de/index.en.html

SOFIA
Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy

NASA DLR USRA DSI