

Magnetic coupling at the Sun -the view from STEREO

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The STEREO mission, due to be launched in the latter half of 2006, will provide the first stereoscopic view of the Sun and its magnetic environment. A suite of identical instruments on two continuously separating spacecraft will monitor the onset of eruptive phenomena on the Sun and track it as it makes its way through the heliosphere. The combination of remote sensing and in-situ instrumentation will give new insights into the onset processes of eruptions, the extent of their effects on the global structure of the low corona, and their subsequent evolution through the interplanetary medium, providing vital new constraints to distinguish between competing models of eruptive phenomena.