***PRESS RELEASE***

**Out of this world!**

**International removals specialist launches shipping container into Space**

John Mason International achieved a world’s first this week - launching one of its [cargo containers into Space](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L3dhB9Maru4&feature=youtu.be).

Proving it is capable of taking anything anywhere, the international removals specialist teamed up with global experts Sent into Space to accomplish the spectacular feat.

“Our business is all about taking people where they want to go - whether our customers are moving their lives to Australia, New Zealand or any other far flung corner of the Earth,” said John Mason International director, Simon Hood.

“We are well versed in transporting treasured belongings safely across the oceans to the other side of the world - so we wanted to really push ourselves. Could we send a specially-made removals container into Space? Of course we could. And we filmed the entire flight to boot.”

Equipped with an on-board camera, the John Mason International crate went where no removals company container has gone before and beamed back some [out-of-this-world footage](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lFrHHvTlQlI&feature=youtu.be) from heights of around 40km - double the point where astronauts require Space suits. The film clearly shows the curvature of the Earth and the thin blue line of its atmosphere.

“That’s one small step for man, one giant leap for international removals,” added Simon. “Our precious container went on an arduous adventure - experiencing temperatures of -70ºC and 0º pressure. And when it re-entered the Earth’s atmosphere, it travelled at speeds of up to 150 mph.

“I’m pleased to say, just like our customers’ possessions, it reached its destination safe-and-sound. Who knows? One day John Mason International may be helping Earthlings relocate to Mars - so we’re proud to be the first removals company to begin work on such an ambitious mission.”

Al Globus, National Space Society Board of Directors, commented: “Very clever. Nice work. I think it all be at least a few decades before there are permanent residents in space. There are a couple of companies planning to fly tourists. There might be opportunities to ship recreational equipment for 0g play (and sports) by the crew and guests.”

**Facts and figures:**

* **Peak altitude at balloon burst - 35,936m**
* **Time to balloon burst - 1 hour, 44 minutes and 16 seconds**
* **Time from balloon burst to landing - 39 minutes and 44 seconds**
* **Descent rate on landing - 5.4m/s (12 mph). However, with no air to fill the parachute at the top of the flight, the payload will have fallen at over 150mph for the first half of its descent.**

For more details about the flight and to watch the video of the flight, please visit [www.johnmason.com/space](http://www.johnmason.com/space)

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**Notes to Editors**

**About John Mason**

John Mason is an expert shipping and international removals company helping businesses and families relocate worldwide. Founded in 1884 and with 133 years’ experience in removals and logistics, the business has a proven pedigree in helping people relocate for business or pleasure.

John Mason helps thousands of families every year move across the world to Australia, New Zealand, the USA, South Africa and Canada.

The company is accredited by the British Association of Removers (BAR) and the International Federation of International Movers (FIDI).