

# **Personal Research - What was the root cause of the Mars Climate Orbiter (MCO) failure?**

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## **Activity Kind**

Personal Research

## **Purpose**

The purpose of this activity is to give each student time to learn the facts about the loss of the MCO and what people in positions of authority have to say about what went wrong.

## **Pre-requisite**

Students are expected to be current in the class.

## **Task**

Skim the provided materials to remind yourself what you have and then do an Internet search. What sources would you trust with information, especially if your boss tells you that this is very important and directs you to do an especially good job. Find a few more information sources and more information to augment what you have. Read all of the material you have gathered, taking raw notes. When you have finished, refine the notes and sort them with the most important item first working down to the least important. Drop any items about which you have doubts or do not add anything new or important.

## **Deliverables**

The primary deliverables for this activity are notes in your ENB that show that you are gathering relevant information and you are capturing appropriate references.

## **Submission**

You must submit a completed ENB by the end of the day.