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September 7 – September 20, 2017

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I, ROBOT

First automaton in Spain

The Elder Museum of Science and Technology in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria recently received the first humanoid robot in Spain. The automaton is 'female', called Ada and is of Russian origin. The robot measures 1.6 metres, has short grey hair and is the latest attraction at the Elder Museum. "Ada is undirected, free-moving, and will act as a guide for visitors. The robot is programmed to contain all information about the museum", said Elder director, José Gilberto Moreno. The museum head also said that anyone can own a basic model like Ada in their home for around €20,000.

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→ Ada, the first humanoid robot in Spain

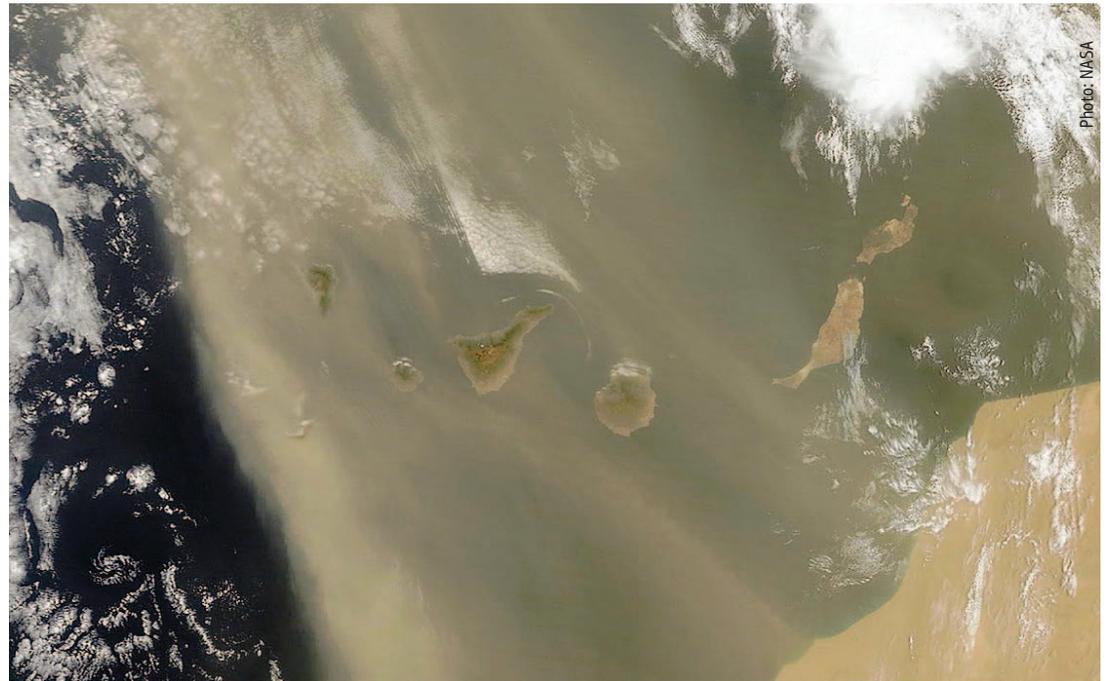
ALGAE CARPETS

NASA collaboration with Tenerife scientists

As highlighted on our front page last issue, the reappearance of algal blooms around the Islands has started a controversy that is nowhere near being solved; especially now a further possible cause has been cited by volcanologists.

Experts, councils, tourism bodies and members of the public have all pointed the finger at each other and a wild array of reasons for the unsightly cyanobacteria that has dogged some shores over summer. It is undoubtedly a natural phenomenon, but the question remains unanswered as to whether man's actions have worsened the situation. Stepping bravely into the fray, Juan Ramón García Martel from the Faculty of Marine Sciences at Gran Canaria's Las Palmas University (ULPGC) reminded people about the work of one of his former colleagues.

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↑ Research by NASA in collaboration with scientists from the Tropical Medicine and Public Health Institute of Tenerife is studying the impact of calimas on man and nature

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BLACKTOWER FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT GROUP

Contact our Tenerife office:

T +34 822 047 044

M +34 636 933 616

E michael.mcseveney@blacktowerfm.com