

DUSTY PLANETARY DISKS AROUND TWO NEARBY STARS RESEMBLE OUR KUIPER BELT (STsci-PRC06-05)

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These two bright debris disks of ice and dust appear to be the equivalent of our own solar system's Kuiper Belt, a ring of icy rocks outside the orbit of Neptune and the source of short-period comets. The disks encircle the types of stars around which there could be habitable zones and planets for life to develop. The disks seem to have a central area cleared of debris, perhaps by planets.

For images and more information about this research on the Web, visit:
<http://hubblesite.org/news/2006/05>
http://www.berkeley.edu/news/media/releases/2006/01/19_kuiper.shtml

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