



# countdown

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## Atlantis connects to launch pad, receives S3/S4 truss payload

◆ **Shuttle Update:** Now that it is on the launch pad, **Atlantis'** electrical and mechanical connections to the launch pad are under way. With the refurbishment of Pad 39-A, this launch will be the first from the pad in four years. The shuttle payload, consisting of the S3/S4 truss, was scheduled to be installed into Atlantis' payload bay on Wednesday. Beginning May 23, propellants will be loaded into Atlantis' storage tanks. The propellant will be used by the orbital maneuvering system and reaction control system to move the spacecraft while it's in orbit.

Last week on **Endeavour**, technicians installed the tunnel adapter, which is located in the midbody between the external airlock and a container used to transport experiments and cargo. Completion of the installation signifies closeout of the orbiter's midbody. Technicians continued working on modifications to the orbiter's engine cutoff sensor wiring. Work also continues on closeout of the orbiter maneuvering system and the orbiter aft.

On **Discovery**, workers continue modifications to the orbiter's engine cutoff sensor wiring. Functional testing of the atmospheric revitalization pressure control system, part of the orbiter's life support system, is under way. Workers are also preparing for servicing of the ammonia boiler, which is a heat exchanger that helps cool the hydraulic system.

◆ **ISS Update:** The ISS Progress 25 launched from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan May 11 for its three-day journey to the space station. It linked up to the aft port of the Zvezda

## Progress spacecraft restocks space station

**Message From The Center Director:** "MISSION LIFE FORCE," an armed services blood program out of Fort Bragg, N.C., will be at CCAFS on May 23 and at KSC on May 24. Fort Bragg is the only Department of Defense donor center in the United States that maintains a wartime contingency stock of blood (go to: <http://www.wamc.amedd.army.mil/blood>). Due to a lack of donor participants, Womack Army Medical Center is having a difficult time maintaining an adequate supply of on-hand blood. The Armed Services Blood Program, or ASBP, needs eligible blood donors to support ongoing military operations worldwide and to replenish the military's frozen blood reserves. Our military men and women are in desperate need of our blood donations. I encourage you to participate on the following dates:

\* **May 23** – ASBP donor location: Fire Station #1, CCAFS

\* **May 24** – ASBP donor location: M6-0570, Kennedy Learning Institute (directly behind the HQ Bldg.), KSC

Service Module Tuesday as the station sailed 208 miles above the Earth off the northeast coast of Australia. The Progress delivered more than 1,050 pounds of propellant, almost 100 pounds of air, more than 925 pounds of water and 3,042 pounds of dry cargo. The docking, under the guidance of the Kurs automatic rendezvous system, was smooth and uneventful. Flight Engineer Suni Williams monitored other station systems and photographed the Progress' approach.

■ **National Employee Health & Fitness Day 2007** — On May 30, KSC will recognize National Employee Health and Fitness Day, a national day of health observance created to promote the benefits of physical activity, proper nutrition, holistic wellness and a healthier lifestyle for employees through their worksites. This year's theme is "Be Active for Life." This event will be held in the O&C Mission Briefing Room from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and will feature vendors from across the

nation who specialize in your well being. Do not miss this exciting opportunity to have your health questions and concerns addressed, while receiving free goodies in the process!



■ **Register To Win Water Park Passes** — Stop by any of the NASA Exchange stores and register for a chance to win two one-day passes to Wet 'n Wild or two annual passes.

No purchase is necessary. Just drop your name and work number in the box. The drawing will be at 1 p.m. on May 31.

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