



countdown

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Discovery ready on transporter for Saturday rollover



◆ **Shuttle Update:** Workers secured the Orbiter Transport System, or OTS (left), under space shuttle Discovery Tuesday. The OTS will help move the orbiter to the Vehicle Assem-

bly Building on Saturday.

In the meantime, in the Space Station Processing Facility, the Japanese Experiment Module -Pressurized Module was transferred into the payload canister. The canister will be delivered to Launch Pad 39A next week for space shuttle Discovery's STS-124 mission.

◆ **NASA Update:** NASA will hold a series of news media briefings May 1 to discuss Discovery's STS-124 mission. NASA Television and the agency's Web site will provide live coverage of the briefings from the Johnson Space Center, beginning at 9 a.m. EDT.

Mark Kelly will command the seven-member crew of STS-124, which includes Pilot Ken Ham, Mission Specialists Karen Nyberg, Ron Garan, Mike Fossum, Greg Chamitoff and Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency astronaut Akihiko Hoshide. Chamitoff will replace Expedition

16/17 Flight Engineer Garrett Reisman and remain aboard the station as a member of the Expedition 17 crew. Reisman will return to Earth with the STS-124 crew.

The schedule of briefings follows:

- *9 a.m.: Space Shuttle and International Space Station Program overview
- *10:30 a.m.: mission overview
- *12:30 p.m.: spacewalk overview
- *2 p.m.: crew news conference

For NASA TV streaming video, schedules, and downlink information, visit <http://www.nasa.gov/ntv>.

■ **KEA 20: Constellation Program Status** — The KSC Engineering Academy will host a Constellation Program status technical talk from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Tuesday in the KSC Training Auditorium, located between Headquarters and the Operations & Checkout buildings. Presented by Jon Cowart, this technical talk will highlight the current status of the Constellation Program. A question-and-answer session will follow.

NASA and contractor personnel are invited to attend this event. If you have any questions, please contact Gisele Altman at gisele.altman-1@nasa.gov or 867-4000.

Please visit the Web site <http://kea.ksc.nasa.gov> to view past KEA events or presentations.

NASA to hold briefing May 1 on STS-124 mission

■ **Blood Drive Reminder** — The Florida Blood Center's blood drive is taking place from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. **today** at the Orbiter Processing Facility and Thermal Protection System Facility.

■ **NASA Science** — Going to the moon? Don't forget your duct tape. Thirty-six years ago when Apollo 17 astronauts found themselves a quarter million miles from home with a damaged moon buggy, a roll of good old-fashioned American gray tape saved the day. You can read the full story, titled "Moondust and Duct Tape," at http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2008/21apr_ducttape.htm?list947891.



■ **April 25 Is Arbor Day** — A good follow-up to Earth Day is Arbor Day, assigned to the last Friday in April. It was first proclaimed in 1872 in Nebraska by J. Sterling Morton. He encouraged civic organizations to plant trees both for beautification and preservation of the soil.

Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday for NASA KSC employees. Deadlines are 10 a.m. Mondays & Wednesdays. E-mail news to anita.barrett@jbsc.ksc.nasa.gov. For questions or information, e-mail or call 321-867-2815. You can also find pdf editions of *Countdown* on the Web at http://www.nasa.gov/centers/kennedy/news/countdown/countdown_toc.html.