The Crew
Space shuttle Atlantis’ STS-125 mission crew members, from the left are Mission Specialists Mike Massimino and Michael Good; Pilot Gregory C. Johnson; Commander Scott Altman; and Mission Specialists Megan McArthur, John Grunsfeld and Andrew Feustel. During the 11-day mission, crew members will conduct five spacewalks to upgrade NASA’s Hubble Space Telescope.

The Mission
Atlantis’ STS-125 mission is the fifth and final shuttle flight to service Hubble. Upgrades will include the Cosmic Origins Spectrograph and the Wide Field Camera 3. A flight spare known as the Science Instrument Command and Data Handling system will replace one that failed on Hubble last year. This will be the third trip to Hubble for veteran astronaut John Grunsfeld and the second for Scott Altman and Mike Massimino. This is the 126th space shuttle mission and the 30th mission for Atlantis.

The Hubble Space Telescope has been in orbit for 19 years. Space shuttle Discovery launched Hubble in 1990 and additional upgrades and repairs were done between 1993 and 2002. The enhanced technologies that will be added during STS-125 will provide astronomers with improved data about the universe and ensure the orbiting observatory operates through at least 2014.

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