THE MISSION:
Space shuttle Discovery’s STS-128 mission is dedicated to the assembly and maintenance of the International Space Station. The seven-member crew will deliver the Multi-Purpose Logistics Module Leonardo, containing life support and science racks, as well as the Colbert treadmill. A Lightweight Multi-Purpose Experiment Support Structure Carrier, or LMC, also will be delivered to the space station.

STS-128 is Discovery’s 37th mission, the 128th space shuttle flight, and the 30th mission to the station.

THE CREW:
Commander Rick Sturckow will lead the STS-128 mission, and Kevin Ford will serve as pilot. Mission Specialists are Patrick Forrester, Jose Hernandez, John “Danny” Olivas, Nicole Stott, and European Space Agency astronaut Christer Fuglesang.

During the mission, Stott will transfer to the space station to replace Tim Kopra as Expedition 20 flight engineer. Kopra will return home aboard Discovery.