



Thermal protection added on Discovery, Atlantis



▲ **Shuttle Update:** Work on **Discovery** is returning to a more normal processing flow in preparing for its future mission to the International Space Station. The conical seal installation on the Rudder Speed Brake (RSB) is continuing. Conical seals provide thermal protection for the RSB hinges and drum actuators. Work also continues on reassembling water coolant loop one, as does the routine post-operations testing on the left-hand Orbital Maneuvering System Pod thruster.

Wing leading edge work continues on **Atlantis** with 13 right-hand Reinforced Carbon-Carbon (RCC) panels hung and 17 left-hand panels hung. Installation of the nose cap blankets also continues. These thermal blankets, which are manufactured at KSC using heat-resistant fibers, line the inside of the nose cap, which is made of RCC, to provide further insulation for the orbiter. Workers checked the main landing gear door rigging last week, and also prepared water coolant loop one for draining.

▲ **ISS Update:** Aboard the International Space Station last week, Expedition 9 Commander Gennady Padalka and NASA ISS Science Officer Mike Fincke resumed scientific investigations and performed routine maintenance. During

a 4-½ hour spacewalk, they replaced experiments on the outside of the Zvezda Service Module and installed navigation aids for next year's arrival of a European cargo craft.

The crew wrapped up last week with Fincke conducting more experiments with the advanced ultrasound equipment, as well as updating software for the Station Acceleration Measurement System that collects information on the effect of crew activity on delicate micro-gravity experiments housed onboard the complex.

At the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan, final preparations are under way for Wednesday's launch of the Russian ISS Progress 15 cargo ship that will transport almost three tons of food, fuel, water and supplies for the crew, as well as clothing and supplies for the Expedition 10 crew, Commander Leroy Chiao and Flight Engineer and Soyuz Commander Salizhan Sharipov, who are scheduled to launch to the Station Oct. 9.

The Progress 15 craft is scheduled to lift off at 1:03 a.m. EDT Wednesday for a three-day trip to the Station. Docking is scheduled at 1:02 a.m. EDT Saturday. NASA Television will provide live coverage and commentary of the docking beginning at midnight Aug. 14.

■ **August Cardiovascular Disease Screening Schedule** — Wednesday,

ISS Expedition 9 crew preps for Progress cargo ship arrival

7-8 a.m., at OHF (Occupational Health Facility); and Thursday, 7-8 a.m., at LAC (Launch Area Clinic – MFF). No appointment is necessary. Please fast for 12 hours prior (water only). The 2-page CVD questionnaire can be picked up at any medical facility. The questionnaire can also be downloaded from the SGS home page/forms: <http://kschoc-forms/KSCForms2/ref/KSC28-1010.itr>. This form can be filled out online and then printed. Please print each page separately.

■ **2004 KSC Fitness Centers Inter-center Walk/Run** — The KSC Fitness Centers are sponsoring this annual event that begins 5 p.m. Sept. 14 at the Shuttle Landing Facility. The 2-mile walk or run; 5K run and 10K run are **free** for all Spaceport employees. Stop by either Fitness Center by Sept. 10 to pre-register. Late registration takes place at the race. T-shirts may be ordered at any NASA Exchange store. The order deadline is Aug. 31 for T-shirts to be delivered before the race. If you are interested in being a volunteer, please call Debra Orringer at 867-7829.

■ **Did You Know?** In the event of a hurricane, return-to-work information will be broadcast over local radio and television stations, and also will be available on the KSC Hurricane Information Hotline at 861-7900.