

EXPEDITION 22

GROWING LAB IN ORBIT

The Expedition 22 crew will be instrumental in setting up and activating new research facilities, installing a new International Space Station module brought by a Space Shuttle crew, and they will welcome a new Russian docking module and a Progress resupply ship.

NASA Astronaut Jeff Williams, and Russian Flight Engineer Max Suraev launched to the Space Station on September 30, 2009 from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan aboard the Russian Soyuz TMA-16 spacecraft. Williams and Suraev served as Expedition 21 flight engineers until European Space Agency Astronaut Frank DeWinne of Belgium,

Cosmonaut Roman Romanenko of Russia and Canadian Astronaut Robert Thirsk returned to Earth December 1 after 187 days in orbit. Williams then assumed command of the Expedition 22 crew.

The first crew exchange of the program resulted in Williams and Suraev being alone for 16 days before the arrival of Russian Cosmonaut Oleg Kotov, NASA Astronaut Timothy (T. J.) Creamer and Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency spaceflight veteran Soichi Noguchi. They launched from Baikonur on December 21 aboard the Soyuz TMA-17 spacecraft.

During three months together as a crew of five, Williams, Suraev, Kotov, Creamer and Noguchi will continue station research and outfitting activities, using Canadarm 2 to move Pressurized Mating Adapter 3 from its current location on the port side of the Harmony module to Harmony's Earth-facing common berthing mechanism port. The crew will also transfer External Stowage Platform 3 to the opposite side of the station's truss structure.

During Expedition 22, Shuttle mission STS-130 is scheduled to arrive in February, delivering the final pressurized U.S. module, Tranquility, and its seven-window cupola. Tranquility will be installed on the newly vacated port berthing mechanism, and spacewalkers will connect its external utilities over the course of three spacewalks.



The ISS as seen from the Shuttle Atlantis over the Mediterranean Sea during STS-129.

The crew will integrate regenerative life support systems into the new Tranquility module, which will become the station's utility and exercise

room. They will move the Air Revitalization System, the Water Recovery System, the Oxygen Generation System and a crew quarters rack, freeing up research space in the Destiny Laboratory.

Williams will hand over command of the station to Kotov, when he and Suraev depart the station in their Soyuz, with landing in Kazakhstan set for March 2010. The next expedition crew members are set to arrive at the station in early April.

CREW PROFILE



Jeffrey Williams

Jeffrey Williams (Colonel, US Army, Ret.)

Commander

Born: January 18, 1958 in Superior, Wisconsin, but considers Winter, Wisconsin to be his hometown.

Education: Earned a bachelors degree in Applied Science and Engineering from the U.S. Military Academy in 1980, a masters in Aeronautical Engineering and the degree of Aeronautical Engineer from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School, both in 1987, and a masters in National Security and Strategic studies from the U.S. Naval War College in 1996.

Experience: Selected as an astronaut in May 1996, Williams was a mission specialist on STS-101 in 2000 and worked on the Space Station for six months in 2006 as a member of the Expedition 13 crew.



Oleg Kotov

Oleg Kotov, M.D. (Colonel, Russian Air Force)

Flight Engineer

Born: October 27, 1965, in Simferopol, Russia

Education: Graduated from the Kirov Military Medical Academy in 1988.

Experience: Selected as a cosmonaut in 1996, Kotov was a flight engineer on OSS Expedition 15



Timothy Creamer

Timothy (T.J.) Creamer, M.D. (Colonel, U.S. Army)

Flight Engineer

Born: November 15, 1959 in Ft. Huachuca, Arizona, but considers Upper Marlboro, Maryland, to be his hometown.

Education: Earned a bachelors degree in Chemistry from Loyola College in 1982 and a masters in Physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1992.

Experience: Selected as an astronaut in 1996, Expedition 22 is his first trip into space.



Soichi Noguchi

Soichi Noguchi

Flight Engineer

Born: 1965 in Yokohama, Kanagawa, Japan, but considers Chigasaki, Kanagawa, Japan, to be his hometown.

Education: Received a bachelors degree in Aeronautical Engineering from the University of Tokyo in 1989, and a masters degree in Aeronautical Engineering from the University of Tokyo in 1991.

Experience: Selected as an JAXA astronaut in 1996, he previously flew on the STS-114 flight of Discovery in 2005.



Russian Cosmonaut Oleg Kotov (foreground) along with NASA Astronaut T. J. Creamer (center) and JAXA Astronaut Soichi Noguchi, participate in a training session in an International Space Station mock-up/trainer at the Johnson Space Center.

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