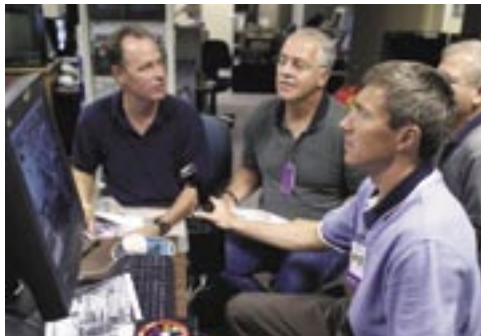


EXPEDITION 11

OPENING THE DOOR FOR RETURN TO FLIGHT

When the crew of STS-114, the mission that will return the Space Shuttle to flight, arrives at the International Space Station, Russian Cosmonaut Sergei Krikalev and American Astronaut John Phillips, will be ready to welcome them onboard the orbiting outpost.



United Space Alliance Training Team member Oscar Koehler, left, assists Cosmonaut Sergei Krikalev, right, and astronaut John Phillips as they participate in a training session in the Johnson Space Center's Virtual Reality Lab. This type of computer training helps prepare the entire team for working with Shuttle and Station elements.

The Expedition 11 crew of Krikalev, the expedition and Soyuz Commander, and Phillips, the Flight Engineer and ISS Science Officer, began their six-month mission to the ISS with a lift-off April 15, 2005, aboard a Soyuz spacecraft launched from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. Once they arrived at the Space Station, the new team replaced the Expedition 10 crew of Leroy Chiao and Salizhan Sharipov, who had been aboard the ISS since Oct. 15, 2004.

Joining the Expedition 11 crew aboard Soyuz TMA-6 was European Space Agency Astronaut Roberto Vittori, an Italian Air Force pilot. He spent eight days on the Station, conducting a variety of experiments before returning home with Chiao and Sharipov.

During the Expedition 11 mission, 15 scientific investigations are planned, most of which focus on how the human body changes and adapts to the microgravity environment of space.

The ISS experiments are part of a step-by-step program that includes astronauts returning to the Moon, and eventually exploring Mars



Orbiting 221 miles above the Earth, the International Space Station is seen with the Port One truss and Starboard One truss in place.

CREW PROFILE



Sergei Krikalev

Sergei Krikalev Expedition 11 Commander

Born: August 27, 1958 in Leningrad (now St. Petersburg), Russia

Education: Graduated St. Petersburg Technical University in 1981 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering

Experience: Selected as a cosmonaut in 1985, Krikalev has five previous space flights including missions aboard the Russian Space Station Mir and as a member of the ISS Expedition 1 crew.



John Phillips

John Phillips Expedition 11 Flight Engineer & ISS Science Officer

Born: April 15, 1951, Fort Belvoir, Virginia, but considers Scottsdale, Arizona his hometown.

Education: Graduated U. S. Naval Academy in 1972 and earned a masters degree in aeronautical systems from the University West Florida in 1974 and a masters degree as well as a doctorate in Geophysics and Space Physics from the University of California in 1984 and 1987 respectively.

Experience: Selected as an Astronaut in 1996, Phillips was aboard the Space Shuttle in 2001 as a part of the STS-100 mission to the ISS.



and beyond. The Nation's Vision for Space Exploration calls for the ISS to serve as a laboratory for studying how people adapt to the effects of long duration space flight.

The effects of long-duration space flight will be of particular interest for Krikalev who is making his sixth trip into Earth orbit. He completed two marathon missions of 152 and 311 days aboard the Russian Space Station Mir during the 1980s and '90s. After two Shuttle missions, he was a member of the first ISS Expedition. When he returns to Earth at the end of the Expedition 11, Krikalev will have accumulated 800 days in space, the record for cumulative time on orbit.

However, the highlight of the Krikalev's and Phillips' mission will be hosting the first

two Shuttle crews to visit in more than two years.

During STS-114, Discovery will be docked to the ISS for eight days while Shuttle astronauts deliver several tons of food and equipment. STS-121, scheduled for launch this fall, also will dock with the ISS during Expedition 11 for a second logistics flight.

American and Russian specialists are planning for two space walks by Krikalev and Phillips to outfit the Station with new external experiment hardware, install additional camera gear and relocate and recover Russian science equipment.

Krikalev and Phillips will end their stay on orbit in October when they will be replaced by the Expedition 12 crew.

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