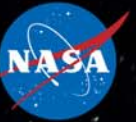


National Aeronautics and Space Administration



**Gregory Chamitoff**  
Science Officer

**Sergei Volkov**  
Commander

**Oleg Kononenko**  
Flight Engineer

INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION  
**EXPEDITION 17**



# EXPEDITION 17

# GLOBAL SCIENCE IN SPACE

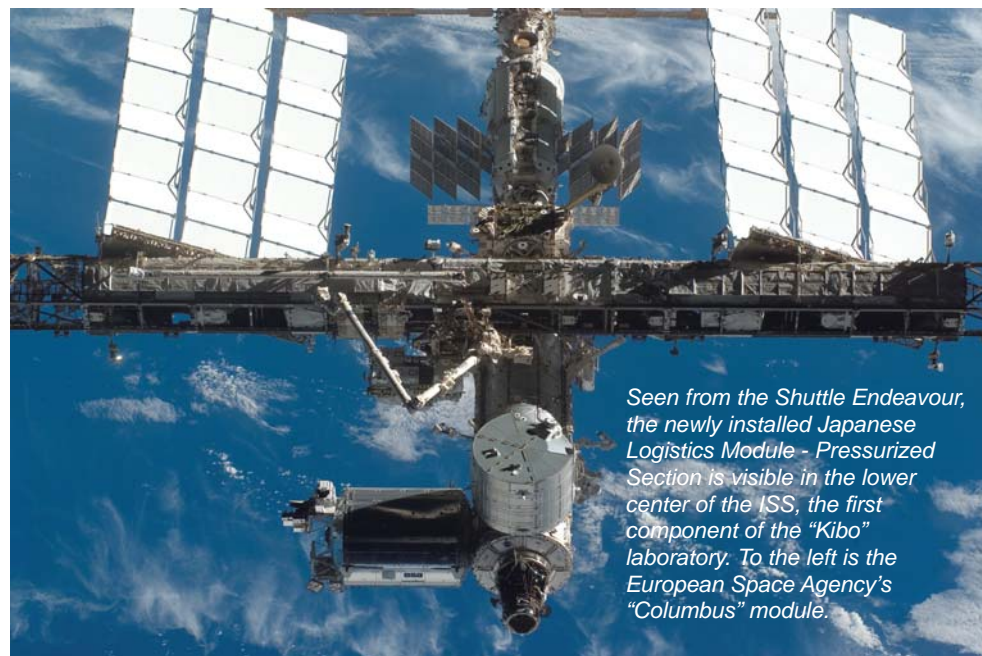
With the addition of the European Space Agency's "Columbus" module to the International Space Station in February and the first of the Japanese "Kibo" module elements in March, new flight control centers in Germany and Japan are being added to integrate science activities on the Station. During the ISS Expedition 17 mission, the Space Shuttle Discovery's STS-124 crew will deliver the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency's (JAXA's) large "Kibo" pressurized science module. Together with the additions earlier in 2008, the ISS is now a science platform in Earth orbit with truly global participation.

Expedition 17 Commander Sergei Volkov and Flight Engineer Oleg Kononenko were launched aboard the Soyuz TMA-12 spacecraft from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan on April 8. South Korean researcher and mechanical engineer So-yeon Yi, the first of her nation to fly in space, accompanied the two Russian cosmonauts.

Two days after launch, the Soyuz docked to the Space Station joining the Expedition 16 crew of Peggy Whitson and Garrett Reisman, both of the United States, and Yuri Malenchenko of Russia. Yi spent nine days on the ISS, returning to Earth in the Soyuz TMA-11 on April 19 with Whitson and Malenchenko who had been aboard the station since October 12, 2007.

The first milestone in Expedition 17's busy schedule will be the arrival of the Shuttle Discovery's STS-124 mission in the late spring delivering JAXA's "Kibo" module. The laboratory will be attached to the port side of the Harmony connecting node. "Kibo" is the Japanese word for "Hope." In addition, Discovery crewmember Gregory Chamitoff will replace Reisman as an Expedition 17 science officer and flight engineer.

Volkov, Kononenko and Chamitoff also are expected to greet three Russian Progress re-supply ships



*Seen from the Shuttle Endeavour, the newly installed Japanese Logistics Module - Pressurized Section is visible in the lower center of the ISS, the first component of the "Kibo" laboratory. To the left is the European Space Agency's "Columbus" module.*

## CREW PROFILE



Sergei Volkov

**Sergei Volkov (Lt. Col., Russian Air force)**  
**Expedition 17 Commander**

**Born:** April 1, 1973, Chuguyev, Kharkov Region, Ukraine, the son of former Russian Cosmonaut Alexander Volkov, who made three trips into space between 1985 and 1992.  
**Education:** Graduated with a degree of pilot-engineer from Tambov Air Force Academy, 1990.

**Experience:** Selected as a cosmonaut in 1997, Expedition 17 is his first flight into space.



Oleg Kononenko

**Oleg Kononenko**  
**Expedition 17 Flight Engineer**

**Born:** June 21, 1964, Chardzhow, Turkmenia  
**Education:** Graduated from the N.E. Zhukovskiy Aviation Institute in 1988 with a degree in mechanical engineering.

**Experience:** Selected as a cosmonaut in 1996, Expedition 17 is his first flight into space.



Gregory Chamitoff

**Gregory Chamitoff (Ph. D.)**  
**Expedition 17 Science Officer and Flight Engineer**

**Born:** Born August 6, 1962, in Montreal, Canada  
**Education:** Earned a bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from the California Polytechnic State University in 1984, a master's in Aeronautical Engineering from the California Institute of Technology in 1985, a doctorate in Aeronautics and Astronautics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1992 and a master's in Space Science from the University of Houston-Clear Lake in 2002.

**Experience:** Selected by NASA in June 1998, Expedition 17 is his first flight into space.



filled with food, fuel, water and equipment. The cargo will augment provisions delivered on the maiden flight of the European "Jules Verne" Automated Transfer Vehicle (ATV).

A space walk is scheduled for Volkov and Kononenko during July to install experiments on the hull of the Zvezda module. U. S. and Russian Station program specialists are reviewing other possible space walking tasks for Expedition 17.

Volkov and Kononenko's stay aboard the station is expected to last six months, at which time the Expedition 18 crew replaces them in October of 2008. Chamitoff will return home aboard the Shuttle Endeavour on mission STS-126 in the fall.



*United Space Alliance instructor Steve Marchiando, left, assists Expedition 17 flight engineer Oleg Kononenko in a vehicle approach skills training session in the Space Vehicle Mockup Facility at the Johnson Space Center.*

## FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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