



Discovery STS-131



THE MISSION:

NASA's STS-131 mission aboard space shuttle Discovery will carry the multi-purpose logistics module Leonardo and an ammonia tank assembly to the International Space Station.

During the 13-day flight, mission specialists will perform three spacewalks to switch out a rate gyro assembly on the station's S0 truss, replace an ammonia tank assembly and retrieve a Japanese experiment from the station's exterior.

Crew members also will transfer science, supply and utilization racks from Leonardo to the station and retrieve used supplies and equipment for return to Earth.

STS-131 is Discovery's 38th flight, the 131st shuttle mission and the 33rd shuttle flight to the space station.

THE CREW:

Commander Alan Poindexter will lead the seven-member crew on his second spaceflight. James P. Dutton Jr. will serve as pilot on his first spaceflight. Mission specialists are Rick Mastracchio, Clayton Anderson, Dorothy Metcalf-Lindenburger, Stephanie Wilson and Naoko Yamazaki of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency.

