

## 2008 Mission Overviews

### STS-122/ISS 1E = Atlantis

Launch: Feb. 7, 2008, at 2:45 p.m. EST., Pad 39A

Landing: Feb. 20, 2008 @ KSC, runway 15

#### Crew:

Stephen N. Frick, commander

Alan Poindexter, pilot

#### Mission Specialists:

Rex Walheim

Stanley G. Love

Leland D. Melvin

Hans Schlegel (ESA)

Leopold Eyharts (up)

Daniel Tani (down)



#### Mission Overview:

The mission delivered and installed the European Space Agency's Columbus laboratory. That utilization comes in the form of Columbus, a 23-by-15-foot research laboratory and the future center of the European Space Agency's activities in space. It will be followed over the next two missions by components of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency's module, called Kibo. But for now the focus is on Europe. In addition to the Columbus module itself, Atlantis will deliver experiments to be performed in orbit and two astronauts to perform them – one to visit and one to stay.

Expedition 16 Flight Engineer Daniel Tani, who flew to the Space Station on the STS-120 mission, returned home with the STS-122 crew. STS-122 delivered the European Space Agency astronaut, Leopold Eyharts to the completed.

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### **STS-123/ISS 1J/A = Endeavour**

Launch: Mar. 11, 2008 @ 2:28 a.m. EDT, Pad 39A

Landing: Mar. 26, 2008, 8:39 p.m., @ KSC runway 15

#### **Crew:**

Dominic L. Gorie, commander

Gregory H. Johnson, pilot

#### **Mission Specialists:**

Richard M. Linnehan

Garrett E. Reisman,

Robert L. Behnken

Michael J. Foreman

Takao Doi (JAXA)



#### **ISS Crew:**

Peggy A. Whitson

Daniel Tani

Yuri Malenchenko

Leopold Eyharts (ESA)

This was the first flight where all the international partners participated.

Topping the list of milestones was the delivery of part of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency's module, marking the beginning of the agency's presence on the station. The Japanese Experiment Logistics Module, Pressurized Section – called the JLP. It contains critical avionics and serves as a storage area for experiment materials. At 14.4 feet in diameter and 12.8 feet in length, it is the smaller of two pressurized Japanese modules. Combined with other elements, they will make up Kibo, the station's Japanese complex, named for the Japanese word for hope. Kibo's main facility and its robotic arm are scheduled to launch on the following shuttle mission, and a "front porch" that will allow astronauts to expose experiments directly to space will be delivered later.'

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## **STS-124/ISS 1J = Discovery**

Launch: May 31, 2008 @ 5:02 p.m. EDT- Pad 39A

Landing: June 14, 2008 @ 11:15 a.m. EDT @ KSC, r

### **Crew:**

Mark E. Kelly, commander

Kenneth T. Ham, pilot

### **Mission Specialists:**

Michael E. Fossum

Karen L. Nyberg,

Ronald J. Garan

Akihiko Hoshide, JAXA

Gregory E. Chamitoff (up)

Garrett Reisman (down)



### **ISS Crew:**

Sergei Volkov

Oleg Kononenko

### **Mission Overview:**

STS-124 launched the main segment of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency's (JAXA's) – station laboratory. Kibo's Japanese Pressurized Module (JPM). It was 14.4 feet in diameter, 36.7 feet long, and attached to the left side of the Harmony connecting node, opposite the European Columbus science lab.

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## **STS-126/ULF2 - Endeavour**

Launch: Nov. 15, 2008 @ 7:55 p.m. EDT - Pad 39A

Landing: Nov. 30, 2008 @ 4:25 p.m. EDT @ Edwards AF Base, CA

### **Crew:**

Chris Ferguson, commander

Eric Boe, pilot

### **Mission Specialists:**

Donald R. Pettit

Stephen G. Bowen

Robert S. Kimbrough

Heidemarie M. Stefanyshyn-Piper

Sandra H. Magnus (up)

Gregory Chaitoff (down)



### **ISS crew:**

Mike Fincke

Gregory Chaitoff

Yury Lonchakov

### **Mission Overview**

This mission will give the International Space Station the ability to support twice the crew currently living there. But since the most recent inspection of the station's solar alpha rotary joint, it's also become the mission that will ensure the station can generate the power those extra crew members will require.

The solar alpha rotary joints are two 10-foot-wide, wagon-wheel-shaped joints on the station's truss that allow the electricity-generating solar arrays to rotate so that they're always getting as much sun as possible. Flight controllers on the ground noticed a year ago that it was taking more power than normal to rotate the SARJ on the station's starboard – or right – side, and it was vibrating more than it should.

The power generated by the two SARJs will be put to good use next year when the station increases to a crew of six, rather than the current three. STS-126's main purpose is to get the station ready for the expansion, and space shuttle Endeavour is bringing with it a multi-purpose logistics module loaded with about 32,000 pounds of equipment with which to do so.