



Tuesday, March 1, 2005

LAUNCHING THE VISION

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## ET successfully mates to SRB

## NASA TV to cover arrival of Russian Progress Wednesday

▲ **Return to Flight Update:** In the Vehicle Assembly Building, paint and cork repairs are complete on the Solid Rocket Boosters' (SRBs) aft inactive stub ring, an attach ring surrounding the booster, located about 10 feet below the External Tank (ET) attach point. The ET was moved from the checkout cell to the integration cell and mated, or attached, to the twin SRBs Monday.

▲ **ISS Update:** The next Russian Progress supply spacecraft lifted off Monday. After a two-day journey, docking is scheduled on Wednesday at 3:15 p.m. NASA TV will provide live coverage of the docking beginning at 2:30 p.m. This will be the 17th Progress to dock with the Station.

The new Progress is loaded with more than two tons of supplies and food, including 2,932 pounds of spare parts, equipment, experiment hardware and life support system gear, 386 pounds of propellant, 242 pounds of oxygen and air, and 1,071 pounds of water. Eighty-six food containers are also loaded into the Progress to provide more than 160 days of additional provisions in the Station's pantry.

Last week Johnson Space Center engineers completed a two-day test of new software that was loaded into the Canadarm2 robotic arm in January to allow remote control operation of the space crane from Mission Control,

rather than by the crew on board. The test was declared a success.

On the research front, Expedition 10 Commander and NASA Science Officer Leroy Chiao conducted a session last week with the Dust and Aerosol Measurement Feasibility Test, or DAFT. The experiment, developed at NASA's Glenn Research Center in Cleveland, is designed to test the effectiveness of a device that counts ultra-fine dust particles in a microgravity environment. This is a precursor to the next generation of fire detection equipment for space exploration vehicles.

■ **Volunteers for the Annual KSC All-American Picnic** — The annual KSC All-American Picnic scheduled for April 9 needs you! With all of the fun-filled games and activities, a large number of volunteers are necessary. Anyone interested in helping with ANY of the activities should visit the picnic Web page <http://ksepicnic.ksc.nasa.gov/volunteers.html> and select the registration page (link at the top left). To get your favorite and most desired activity and time slot, please register as soon as you can!

Employees who work a minimum of two hours will earn a volunteer T-shirt. For more information, please contact [Robert.A.Gerron@nasa.gov](mailto:Robert.A.Gerron@nasa.gov).

■ **Florida Science Olympiad Needs Judges** — The Florida Science Olympiad on March 5 still needs

judges! The Science Olympiad is a program that encourages excitement in science and is patterned after the Olympics. There are 23 events at the middle and high school level, and many judges are needed for the state competition. To get more information about the Florida Science Olympiad, please go to <http://www.fso.ocps.net>. You can check out the history link at the top of the page for some background. Please note -- this event occurs on a Saturday, so this is strictly a volunteer event! If you wish to volunteer, e-mail [patricia.j.gillis@nasa.gov](mailto:patricia.j.gillis@nasa.gov).

■ **Women's History Month Kickoff** — You have heard of the Mercury 7. Now hear about the Mercury 13, the untold story of America's first women space pioneers. **When:** Wednesday **Where:** KSC Training Auditorium **Time:** 1– 2:30 p.m.

■ **Did You Know?** A SWAT SUV driving course is being held March 1-3. The course will be conducted in the South Industrial Area March 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; March 2, from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m., and March 3, from 6 to 10 p.m. Roads and sites affected are 5th Street, 4th Street, A Ave. and B Ave., and Security Patrol Headquarters off Schwartz Rd. Please find alternate routes. For more information, contact Ron Storey, NASA Security, 867-3456.