

SPACE SHUTTLE
STS-102/DISCOVERY



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The primary objective of STS-102, the eighth flight to the International Space Station (ISS), is to berth the Multipurpose Logistics Module (MPL) to the Station. The MPL, also known as Leonardo, was built by the Italian Space Agency. It is the first of three pressurized modules that will serve as "moving vans," carrying laboratory racks filled with equipment, experiments and supplies to and from the Station. Space Shuttle Discovery will also provide transportation back to earth for the first crew, Expedition One, and the ride up to the ISS for the Expedition Two crew.

THE STS-102 CREW – The seven-member crew of STS-102 will be commanded by **James D. Wetherbee**, a veteran astronaut of four spaceflights, has logged more than 955 hours in space since his first space trip in 1990. First-time space flier **James M. Kelly** will be the Shuttle pilot. He was one of the Group 16 astronauts selected by NASA in 1996. The two mission specialists are: **Andrew S.W. Thomas** will be making his third Shuttle flight since astronaut selection in 1992. He spent nearly five months aboard the Mir Space Station in 1998; Selected to the astronaut program in 1996. **Paul W. Richards** will be flying in space for the first time aboard STS-102. Expedition Two crew members are: **James S. Voss** is a veteran mission specialist astronaut of four previous space flights. He has logged more than 832 hours in space since becoming an astronaut in 1987; **Susan J. Helms**, a veteran mission specialist, has flown in space four times since her selection to the astronaut corps in 1990; Russian cosmonaut **Yuri Usachev** has flown twice on Russia's Mir Space Station. He has logged 376 days in space and performed six spacewalks.

THE STS-102 CREW INSIGNIA – The crew patch for STS-102 depicts the ISS in a building configuration. The orbiting Station is shown viewed along the direction of the flight as it will be seen by Discovery's crew during their final approach and docking. The names of the Shuttle crew are depicted in gold around the top of the patch and the names of the Expedition crews being exchanged are shown in the lower banner. The three ribbons swirling up to, and around the Station, signify the rotation of these ISS crew members. The number 1 is for the Expedition One crew who then return to Earth. The Flags of the countries that are the major contributors to this effort—the United States, Russia, and Italy—are also shown in the lower part of the emblem. The build-sequence number of this ISS flight in the overall Station assembly sequence, 5A.1, is captured by the constellations in the background.