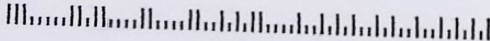


SPACE SHUTTLE
STS-106/ATLANTIS



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SPACE SHUTTLE (STS-106/ATLANTIS)

STS-106, also known as International Space Station (ISS) flight 2A.2b, will be the first flight to the ISS since the arrival of its newest component, the Russian-supplied Service Module Zvezda (Russian for star). The seven-member crew will perform support tasks on orbit, transfer supplies and prepare the Zvezda living quarters for future ISS crews. In addition, Atlantis' astronauts and cosmonauts will perform a 6 1/2 hour Extravehicular Activity (EVA) or spacewalk during the ten day flight.

THE STS-106 CREW – Shuttle commander Terrence W. Wilcutt, a veteran of three shuttle missions, has logged more than 724 hours in space. A former Marine test pilot with more than 4,400 hours in jet aircraft to his credit, he was selected as an astronaut by NASA in Jan. 1990. Pilot Scott D. Altman, a former Navy test pilot since his selection as an astronaut candidate in Jan 1990, previously flew as pilot on STS-90 and logged more than 381 hours in space. Mission Specialist Edward T. Lu has logged more than 221 hours in space aboard STS-84 and the Mir space station. STS-106 will be his second space trip since becoming an astronaut in Dec. 1994. A cosmonaut for the Russian Space Agency, Mission Specialist Yuri I. Malenchenko served as commander of Mir 16 and logged 126 days in space that included two spacewalks totaling 12 hours. Another Russian cosmonaut, Boris V. Morukov, will be making his first spaceflight aboard STS-106 as a mission specialist. He was first selected for medical-cosmonaut service in 1976. Mission Specialist Richard A. Mastracchio will be making his first shuttle flight aboard STS-106. In April 1996, he was selected as an astronaut candidate by NASA. First-time space flier Daniel C. Burbank, a mission specialist, has been working on technical issues for the Astronaut Office and the ISS since his selection to the astronaut program in April 1996.

THE STS-106 INSIGNIA – The STS-106 patch depicts the ISS as shown in orbit with Earth above as it appears from the perspective of space. At the bottom is pictured the Russian Zvezda module mated with the already orbiting U.S.-Unit Module and the Russian-built Zarya component. Docked to the rear of the Station is a Progress supply vehicle. The Astronaut Office symbol, a star with three rays of light, provides a connection between the Space Shuttle Atlantis and the ISS. Stylized versions of flags from Russia and the United States meet at the Space Station as they symbolize both the cooperation and joint efforts of the two countries during the development and deployment of the permanent outpost in space. In addition, the close working relationship of the American and Russian crewmembers is also represented.