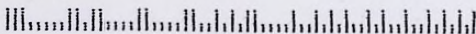




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SPACE SHUTTLE (STS-129 / ATLANTIS)

Space Shuttle Atlantis on Mission STS-129 will focus on storing spare hardware on the exterior of the International Space Station (ISS). The planned 11-day flight, also designated as ISS Assembly Flight ULF3, will include 3 spacewalks and the installation of two platforms to the station's truss, or backbone. The platforms will hold spare parts such as gyroscopes, pumps, tanks and other orbital replacement units to sustain station operations after the shuttles are retired. Atlantis also will bring back a station crew member; the final shuttle crew rotation flight to or from the orbiting outpost.

THE STS-129 CREW — A veteran of 2 spaceflights, **Charles O. Hobaugh**, will lead the STS-129 crew. He has logged 612 hours in space since becoming an astronaut in 1996. First-time space flier **Barry E. Wilmore**, an astronaut since 2000, will be the shuttle pilot. The STS-129 mission specialists are: **Leland D. Melvin**, from the astronaut class of 1998, is a veteran of 1 shuttle trip; Lead spacewalker **Michael J. Foreman**, an astronaut since 1998, is a veteran of a shuttle flight with more than 19 spacewalk hours; **Randolph J. Bresnik**, a first-time shuttle flier since becoming an astronaut in 2004, is part of the crew's spacewalk team, along with fellow astronaut classmate **Robert L. Satcher**, also assigned to the STS-129 spacewalk team. Returning from the station with Atlantis' crew will be Nicole P. Stott after more than a 2-month stay aboard the space station.

THE STS-129 CREW INSIGNIA — For STS-129 the sun shines brightly on the ISS above the United States below, representing the bright future of U.S. human spaceflight. The integrated shapes of the patch design signify the two carriers providing equipment ensuring the station's longevity. The shuttle is vividly silhouetted by the sun and ascends on the astronaut symbol portrayed by the red, white, and blue swoosh bounded by the gold halo. The 13 stars on the emblem are symbolic of our children who are the future. The moon and Mars represent just how close humans are to reaching those heavenly bodies and how the current shuttle and station missions are laying the essential ground work for those future endeavors.