station this is Houston are you ready

for the event

Houston station is ready for the event

Houston please call station for a voice

check standby I’ve always wanted to say

currently

this International Space Station this is

Brian Williams of NBC News in New York

how do you read hello Brian we hear you

loud and clear nice to have you and I

guess we’ll get underway first off

what’s it like working with Sandra

Bullock we have yet to see Sandra

Bullock up here but we continue to look
for her oh yeah that's what I hear from

so many astronauts who enjoy the movie

well we'll get serious first it is true

that gravity was probably the best

Geographic lesson and the confines of

the ISS that a lot of Americans have had

since the inception of the ISS but

recently you were in the news of a few

people here on earth had some fun with

you with the snorkel and the helmet and

the absorbent pads to keep from drowning

but you had you had a couple of

spacewalks to fix a problem NASA loves

redundancies there was a redundancy for
the pump that broke but still it
required you to go out and do some
repair work the two of you talk us
through that in lay terms what it
required and how things are running now
yeah I'll give you a big picture
basically we have two cooling systems up
here at that cool basically half the
equipment these cooling systems are
external they cool the internal systems
and one of the pump modules had a
problem basically a valve wasn't working
properly so we lost half our cooling
very simply we had to go outside and
replace the pump module unit it's a big

44  
00:01:57,140 --> 00:02:02,599
800-pound unit and that required a

45  
00:01:59,599 --> 00:02:04,039
series of EVS or spacewalks so the

46  
00:02:02,599 --> 00:02:05,868
ground team got together this is

47  
00:02:04,040 --> 00:02:07,820
something we practice on a regular basis

48  
00:02:05,868 --> 00:02:10,250
in the large swimming pool in Houston

49  
00:02:07,819 --> 00:02:13,489
the ground folks got together sent us up

50  
00:02:10,250 --> 00:02:16,278
some procedures and the first spacewalk

51  
00:02:13,489 --> 00:02:18,289
a couple of weeks ago we removed the old

52  
00:02:16,278 --> 00:02:20,150
pump module

53  
00:02:18,289 --> 00:02:22,068
and then in the second spacewalk we

54  
00:02:20,150 --> 00:02:24,170
installed the new pump module space

55  
00:02:22,068 --> 00:02:26,238
stations backup everything is running

56  
00:02:24,169 --> 00:02:31,039
perfectly we're back to do in science on

57  
00:02:26,239 --> 00:02:33,468
a regular basis and back to life on
board the spacecraft you orbit roughly every 90 minutes you travel the distance from the earth to the moon on a daily basis how cognizant are you at any one time about where you are over the the earth yeah it's very interesting because when you get busy inside here there's not a lot of windows to look out and so you can kind of forget where you are and you we have what we call a world map on board that is always tracking where the station is so a lot of times you'll get busy and you want to know where you are so you have to take a look at that world
map and if it's somewhere you're interested in taking a picture then you can run to one of the windows and try and get a picture of it but other than that it's a working environment there's no sense of speed or motion at 17,500 miles an hour and it's just another day / night on board the ISS correct yeah that's correct you really don't get the sense of that speed until you do look out the windows and you see just how fast the the earth is going by below you it's quite incredible when we have a pass that goes over the United States
and that's probably less than 10 minutes

that will it takes two to go over the United States so it happens quick but

but on a normal day we kind of control night and day just by turning on and off the lights in here homesickness can't be an option for people in your line of work but what what is it like being up there for the holidays the some terrific college football games the NFL playoffs whatever it is that you follow here on earth yeah anytime you're away from home during the holidays it's hard you know there's a thousand hundreds of thousands
of military folks and a lot of folks who

spend time away from the families during the holidays and they all know how it feels and we feel the same way but if you have to be the way we think about it is if you have to be away from home during the holidays there's not too many places better than being here on board the International Space Station in low Earth orbit but we have pretty good connectivity with our families at home we have what we call the IP phone a telephone that we can call home almost any time of the day we have video conferencing with our
families about once a week and of course

we have email so we're pretty well

connected to our families and as far as

football games go we Mike and I both

enjoy football and the ground is more

than happy to send us up a football game

every now and then judging from

where you're both from I'm taking a

guess here that we are Chiefs Patriots

but that could be wildly off the mark

what are your teams well unfortunately

the the Chiefs have already gone home

for the season but yeah I would say the

Chiefs the rail or the the Rams I guess
would be but right now we're down in Houston so I've kind of become a texan fan well you're going to do very well in the next draft I'll put it that way and Rick what about you yeah Brian I grew up in Connecticut kind of halfway between new york and boston and I grew up as a Giants fan of New York Giants fan and I'm still a big fan of the Giants and of course of a fan of the Texans also I knew I liked you for some reason we all believe giants blew all the good people down here moving on to the Olympic Games how much how much of the Olympics will
you be able to see either live or tape
delay i don't know of the the extent of
your television viewing and of course
you'll get a better view of sochi russia
than most of us looking right down
during your orbits on the venues
themselves yeah actually we passed the
right over sochi area yesterday and i
actually got some great photographs of
the area and tweeted some of those as
far as the olympic goes i’m sure that
the the NASA folks are more than willing
to give us some actually some live feed
and also some tape delay stuff that they
could uplink some video for so I'm sure

00:06:49.930 --> 00:06:55.360
once we give them a list of the

00:06:52.959 --> 00:06:57.250
different events that we want to see

00:06:55.360 --> 00:07:02.860
they'll be good happy to send them up to

00:07:02.860 --> 00:07:10.090
us of course it's tough to top you guys

00:07:05.589 --> 00:07:10.090
had commander Chris Hadfield of Canada

00:07:10.089 --> 00:07:15.089
up there who famously became kind of the

00:07:12.430 --> 00:07:18.218
Station he he made some fabulous

00:07:15.089 --> 00:07:19.929
instructional how-to videos how to brush

00:07:18.218 --> 00:07:22.810
your teeth and how a sandwich is made

00:07:19.930 --> 00:07:26.848
and how the how the bathroom works up

00:07:22.810 --> 00:07:29.918
there and famously commander Hadfield

00:07:26.848 --> 00:07:32.709
produced and recorded Space Oddity

00:07:29.918 --> 00:07:34.779
ground control to Major Tom from space
the first time that's ever been done I don't know what you plan to top that whether there's a spring production of Hello Dolly in the works well it would be hard to to top commander Hatfield Chris Hatfield and and really to be all honest you don't you don't want to hear Rick or I sing it wouldn't be very good there's a lesson in that though he really did personalized space travel and if you look at some of the sessions he did QA with especially Canadian students it was really terrific what would be your wish if the American people knew
one thing and would really concentrate

on the fact that this many adults are hurtling around the earth every 90 minutes conducting experiments on this massive football-field-sized spacecraft

that slowly been growing and growing and growing over the years what is it that you'd like people to know and understand about the International Space Station yeah I think actually partly what you just said is the fact that we we do have the International Space Station up here and it's been going now for over 10 years and for over 10 years we've had an
American presence a human presence in space 365 days out of the year and that's and that's pretty incredible and we're doing a lot of citing things up here particularly in the fields of science and what that is going to lead to is eventual exploration beyond low Earth orbit and so I think that's very exciting and I'd like to see people all across the country get excited about that as well Rick same question yeah I guess I'd like to add to that I worked the shuttle program for many years and got the
opportunity to fly on the shuttle many
times and I've heard from many different
times and I've heard from many different
folds so is NASA going out of business
and I think the most important thing to
know is NASA never went out of business
the shuttle program ended but the space
station program is going strong and like
Mike said we're up here doing research
365 days a year and have been doing so
for many many many years and will
continue to do so and we're also
building in designing new vehicles and
NASA has a bright future ahead of it I
guess the American astronauts during
this era do have to get used to
splashdown on land because the Soviets

are our ride how much of a transition

has that been Rick yeah it's been quite

a bit of a transition you know that

going from shuttle training to saw use

training was was quite interesting for

me and it was a it was a heck of a

challenge actually but it was very

enjoyable to actually learn how to fly

and operate another spacecraft was a

rare opportunity for an astronaut so I

really enjoyed it the biggest challenge

of course is the language just learning

how to speak in use the Russian language
in a way so that you can operate the
vehicle and talk with Mission Control of course I just called them Soviets
proving that I'm about 20 years out of date what did as in your civilian life
as you relate to family and friends what has the movie gravity done to the astronaut business and to the understanding of the International Space Station and other than the fact that Sandra Bullock's hair is not like flying around in the movie and experts have found little knits to pick about the movie has it been you think overall
good thing

I think anytime you bring attention to the space program I know I personally am very very excited about it because again it's we really enjoy what we do up here.

we're very proud of what NASA has accomplished and we think it's great when the American public pays attention and understands exactly what we're doing.

up here as far as the movie goes we I saw the movie before launch back in Moscow a couple of months ago and it was very entertaining and we enjoyed it quite a bit I've always told folks here.
in this country there are any number of

tell you when the next over flight is of

away from light pollution it's just

a breathtaking sight to behold I saw you

guys we were in the Midwest and I saw

you guys fly over about a week ago what

is it that you have noticed about Earth

what perspective have you gained on the

whether volcanoes tragedies beauty all

in the course of a day's work what is

the one thing yeah you know it's quite
interesting what surprised me about

getting our view of Earth is there's not

a part of the earth that isn't

absolutely beautiful I was quite

surprised as we went over regions that

are like deserts and I wouldn't think

that that would would have a lot of

beauty to it but then you see how these

sand dunes are formed by the winds and

these these just amazing patterns in the

sand dunes and and and what I found then

is that as we go around the earth every

part of it there it is just absolutely

beautiful now one of the things you did
mention is perspective and it is easy to lose perspective up here because when you see things like a hurricane from our view absolutely beautiful these huge cloud formations and and it's very easy to lose sight of the fact that there's tragedy happening down below that and so we always need to keep that in mind Mike I've always wondered how much detail can you see is there a is there an earth landmark that you can make out that surprised you how big does something have to be to be visible whether it's a building or red square or
the mall in Washington give us some perspective. I guess you're roughly just north of 200 miles off.

Yeah, we're about 260 miles up in and from with the naked eye you know you can see the city's just in general, but what's really neat is when you start to use the cameras and you take the photos of them and you can zoom in and you can really start to see quite a bit of detail. You can see airplanes at the airport, you can see boats on rivers and so that's kind of exciting to be flying over.
you want to take a picture of and then

329  
00:14:11,360 --> 00:14:15,560
you take that picture and you can zoom

330  
00:14:13,039 --> 00:14:19,279
in with with quite a bit of detail on on

331  
00:14:15,559 --> 00:14:21,829
some of those features and isn't it true

332  
00:14:19,279 --> 00:14:26,230
Rick you've watched rocket launches come

333  
00:14:21,830 --> 00:14:26,230
up and go past you out into space

334  
00:14:27,309 --> 00:14:32,439
other astronauts have we have yet to see

335  
00:14:30,049 --> 00:14:34,729
I think Mike might have seen something

336  
00:14:32,440 --> 00:14:37,940
actually when I first arrived this was

337  
00:14:34,730 --> 00:14:39,829
before Rick and kuya arrived up here we

338  
00:14:37,940 --> 00:14:42,319
had the opportunity to see a test

339  
00:14:39,828 --> 00:14:44,689
missile launch out of Russia out of not

340  
00:14:42,318 --> 00:14:46,789
a Baikonur in Kazakhstan and it was

341  
00:14:44,690 --> 00:14:48,860
absolutely incredible when they you saw

342  
00:14:46,789 --> 00:14:50,539
the smoke trail as it launched into
orbit and then once it got into orbit

there was just a absolutely huge cloud

that that formed in space and and and

got very large and so absolutely

incredible view and and we actually were

lucky and got some some great pictures

of it what Mike starting with you as we

are wrapping up here what is your wish

for 2014 and your message to the folks

here on planet Earth well I know right

now obviously things have been pretty

rough down in the US and actually all

over with the with the weather and

everything so first and foremost would
be that everybody stay safe throughout

2014 and of course would would like to

say hello to my family and friends and

everybody out there and then look

forward to for both of us safe

landings this year as well same question

but yeah and for me yeah okay for me

obviously the same thing top of my head

my new year's resolution is to have a

safe landing on the planet earth

sometime this year of course but into

all the folks on earth you know there's

so many things that you wish for the

whole planet but when you are kind of
flying above all these different countries and all these different regions and you kind of see them all is just one big planet it sure makes you wish that obviously folks can put aside their differences and and I hate the quota but you know just get along with each other and I think it's great something that makes me very happy is to see the Olympics and I think it's going to be exciting to get all the countries come together and even that for those short period of time work together well a lot of us envy the vantage point
you'll have on all of it thank you

00:16:39,948 --> 00:16:43,309
gentlemen

00:16:40,549 --> 00:16:45,829
for the work you do thank you very much

00:16:43,309 --> 00:16:47,958
for representing NASA up there and thank

00:16:45,830 --> 00:16:50,330
you most of all for spending time with

00:16:47,958 --> 00:16:51,889
us today we'll have a good time with

00:16:50,330 --> 00:16:54,528
this on television and will continue to

00:16:51,889 --> 00:16:56,990
spread the story of the ISS to our

00:16:54,528 --> 00:17:01,639
viewers happy and healthy 2014 do you

00:16:56,990 --> 00:17:04,459
both thank you Brian we enjoy talking to

00:17:01,639 --> 00:17:06,230
you and we watch your show every day at

00:17:04,459 --> 00:17:09,920
lunchtime and we appreciate the

00:17:06,230 --> 00:17:11,240
information hey thanks for trying to

00:17:09,920 --> 00:17:13,308
find that house in Australia I

00:17:11,240 --> 00:17:19,459
appreciate it i won't ask for my own
house but thanks gentlemen yeah that was exciting we yeah you bet Brian thank you very much and thank you Houston and everybody down the line station this is Houston ACR thank you that concludes our event NBC Nightly News station we are now resuming operational audio communications