



1  
00:00:06,240 --> 00:00:04,800  
we're here in the International Space

2  
00:00:07,829 --> 00:00:06,250  
Station flight control room here at the

3  
00:00:09,960 --> 00:00:07,839  
Johnson Space Center and it's my

4  
00:00:11,880 --> 00:00:09,970  
privilege today to have European Space

5  
00:00:13,470 --> 00:00:11,890  
Agency astronaut Luca parmitano joining

6  
00:00:14,790 --> 00:00:13,480  
us thank you so much for making the time

7  
00:00:16,620 --> 00:00:14,800  
with us this morning thank you for

8  
00:00:19,079 --> 00:00:16,630  
having me it's a pleasure to be here so

9  
00:00:20,310 --> 00:00:19,089  
it's an exciting weekend even the tempo

10  
00:00:22,050 --> 00:00:20,320  
here in the flight control room is a

11  
00:00:24,239 --> 00:00:22,060  
little up everybody's getting ready

12  
00:00:26,970 --> 00:00:24,249  
turning their focus for the departure

13  
00:00:28,980 --> 00:00:26,980

and re-entry of the ATV vehicle one is a

14

00:00:30,929 --> 00:00:28,990

Capcom I find that this room is always

15

00:00:33,210 --> 00:00:30,939

exciting but of course today there is a

16

00:00:35,400 --> 00:00:33,220

heightened sense of happening because of

17

00:00:38,340 --> 00:00:35,410

all the operations going on on station

18

00:00:39,840 --> 00:00:38,350

it's a been a hallmark program for the

19

00:00:41,610 --> 00:00:39,850

European Space Agency can you tell us

20

00:00:46,710 --> 00:00:41,620

some of the highlights for the ATV from

21

00:00:49,860 --> 00:00:46,720

your standpoint well c5 absolutely

22

00:00:52,320 --> 00:00:49,870

flawless missions and it I call the ATV

23

00:00:54,450 --> 00:00:52,330

the flagship of the International Space

24

00:00:56,250 --> 00:00:54,460

Station Cargo Fleet because it is the

25

00:01:00,890 --> 00:00:56,260

biggest it's the one with the most cargo

26  
00:01:03,450 --> 00:01:00,900  
and on on the European western side of

27  
00:01:06,630 --> 00:01:03,460  
the station is the only one that is

28  
00:01:09,690 --> 00:01:06,640  
completely automated and I like to

29  
00:01:11,880 --> 00:01:09,700  
remind how it launches from kourou in

30  
00:01:14,609 --> 00:01:11,890  
French keenya it travels for little

31  
00:01:17,130 --> 00:01:14,619  
millions of miles or kilometers and it

32  
00:01:20,010 --> 00:01:17,140  
docks with a precision of about one

33  
00:01:21,989 --> 00:01:20,020  
centimeter or half an inch completely

34  
00:01:23,940 --> 00:01:21,999  
automated it's it's a fantastic

35  
00:01:26,969 --> 00:01:23,950  
demonstration of Technology European

36  
00:01:29,789 --> 00:01:26,979  
technology there is a lot of of Italy in

37  
00:01:31,709 --> 00:01:29,799  
an ATV and as an Italian astronaut I'm

38  
00:01:34,709 --> 00:01:31,719

almost obviously very proud of it too so

39

00:01:36,300 --> 00:01:34,719

it's been a fantastic program and it's

40

00:01:38,849 --> 00:01:36,310

been a little bit of sadness that I see

41

00:01:40,649 --> 00:01:38,859

it coming to a conclusion we can

42

00:01:42,239 --> 00:01:40,659

understand one thing that I found

43

00:01:44,309 --> 00:01:42,249

fascinating is we all tend to think of a

44

00:01:47,010 --> 00:01:44,319

TV is just a cargo craft but really it's

45

00:01:49,679 --> 00:01:47,020

capable of a lot more and this ATV 5

46

00:01:51,330 --> 00:01:49,689

especially has done a few more extra

47

00:01:52,760 --> 00:01:51,340

special things can you talk us through a

48

00:01:56,749 --> 00:01:52,770

little bit more about those capabilities

49

00:01:59,639 --> 00:01:56,759

absolutely first of all the the

50

00:02:00,989 --> 00:01:59,649

pressurized volume of the ATV is really

51

00:02:03,719 --> 00:02:00,999

is really being is really nice so

52

00:02:05,609 --> 00:02:03,729

basically it becomes an extra module one

53

00:02:08,490 --> 00:02:05,619

sea dogs on the space station and it's

54

00:02:11,490 --> 00:02:08,500

nice to have the storage area to have

55

00:02:13,230 --> 00:02:11,500

that it also very quiet too so it's a

56

00:02:15,420 --> 00:02:13,240

nice environment to be in

57

00:02:17,700 --> 00:02:15,430

to start with also because of its

58

00:02:19,170 --> 00:02:17,710

powerful engines and the way it docks to

59

00:02:22,410 --> 00:02:19,180

the other part of the space station it's

60

00:02:26,540 --> 00:02:22,420

been used several times through its five

61

00:02:30,330 --> 00:02:26,550

missions for PM's maneuvers they are the

62

00:02:33,780 --> 00:02:30,340

two avoidance maneuver in order to

63

00:02:36,090 --> 00:02:33,790

change the orbit of the space station in

64

00:02:38,820 --> 00:02:36,100

case there is any chance of a collision

65

00:02:41,660 --> 00:02:38,830

with one of those space debris or other

66

00:02:47,130 --> 00:02:41,670

things coming in so that is a fantastic

67

00:02:52,190 --> 00:02:47,140

way to employ it also it because it

68

00:02:55,680 --> 00:02:52,200

brings it brings cargo but also fuel

69

00:02:58,590 --> 00:02:55,690

water all kind all kinds of different

70

00:03:01,170 --> 00:02:58,600

gases it's it's also a way to keep the

71

00:03:03,330 --> 00:03:01,180

station pressurize it's a it's a good so

72

00:03:06,570 --> 00:03:03,340

it's a great source of all resources and

73

00:03:10,010 --> 00:03:06,580

then it also obviously it's used to

74

00:03:12,570 --> 00:03:10,020

dispose of trash which is a incredibly

75

00:03:15,060 --> 00:03:12,580

incredibly big problem the space station

76

00:03:16,950 --> 00:03:15,070

get getting rid of the trash show that

77

00:03:18,390 --> 00:03:16,960

big volume of the other activity really

78

00:03:19,830 --> 00:03:18,400

helps in that sense yeah absolutely

79

00:03:21,690 --> 00:03:19,840

that's probably something people don't

80

00:03:23,010 --> 00:03:21,700

think about so much is everything that

81

00:03:24,510 --> 00:03:23,020

we're bringing up you know there's only

82

00:03:26,640 --> 00:03:24,520

so much room in the space station and

83

00:03:28,530 --> 00:03:26,650

managing all of that stowage and getting

84

00:03:30,600 --> 00:03:28,540

rid of unneeded items is a big priority

85

00:03:33,330 --> 00:03:30,610

and a big logistical issue so this is

86

00:03:36,180 --> 00:03:33,340

key for that it is I like to remind the

87

00:03:38,010 --> 00:03:36,190

ATV that when we see it compared to the

88

00:03:40,350 --> 00:03:38,020

space station we don't get a sense of

89

00:03:41,820 --> 00:03:40,360

the size but for people on the ground I

90

00:03:44,340 --> 00:03:41,830

like to remind them it's as big as a

91

00:03:46,560 --> 00:03:44,350

double-decker from London one of those

92

00:03:49,040 --> 00:03:46,570

big buses that deter around and that's

93

00:03:52,080 --> 00:03:49,050

how big the ATV is it's really a big

94

00:03:53,730 --> 00:03:52,090

spacecraft so you touched on this a

95

00:03:55,110 --> 00:03:53,740

little bit earlier in the interview but

96

00:03:57,240 --> 00:03:55,120

can you talk to us a little bit about

97

00:03:58,230 --> 00:03:57,250

what this program has meant for ISA and

98

00:03:59,610 --> 00:03:58,240

the European countries and especially

99

00:04:01,680 --> 00:03:59,620

you were talking before an interview

100

00:04:02,850 --> 00:04:01,690

about coming from Italy and what that

101  
00:04:06,720 --> 00:04:02,860  
means because they've had a role with a

102  
00:04:09,570 --> 00:04:06,730  
TV well certainly first of all a TV has

103  
00:04:12,270 --> 00:04:09,580  
been a very successful program and it

104  
00:04:14,690 --> 00:04:12,280  
has given us an opportunity to cooperate

105  
00:04:17,610 --> 00:04:14,700  
with NASA and the other space agency and

106  
00:04:22,260 --> 00:04:17,620  
to be part of the International Space

107  
00:04:25,320 --> 00:04:22,270  
Station program it is let us develop

108  
00:04:27,210 --> 00:04:25,330  
engines navigation systems again I

109  
00:04:29,580 --> 00:04:27,220  
reminded earlier how precise a

110  
00:04:31,670 --> 00:04:29,590  
navigation system is and this will help

111  
00:04:35,309 --> 00:04:31,680  
us in the future without a spacecraft

112  
00:04:36,960 --> 00:04:35,319  
the legacy of the ATV doesn't disappear

113  
00:04:40,430 --> 00:04:36,970

with the conclusion of the program

114

00:04:44,189 --> 00:04:40,440

because the evolution of the ATV will be

115

00:04:46,320 --> 00:04:44,199

the service module for or I on the next

116

00:04:48,180 --> 00:04:46,330

great cooperation between the European

117

00:04:51,540 --> 00:04:48,190

Space Agency Europe and the United

118

00:04:54,719 --> 00:04:51,550

States and NASA and so what we learned

119

00:04:57,149 --> 00:04:54,729

in this f and this amazing years of

120

00:05:01,649 --> 00:04:57,159

using the spacecraft will be will be

121

00:05:04,920 --> 00:05:01,659

really come useful when we develop the

122

00:05:06,540 --> 00:05:04,930

new service module that's a very good

123

00:05:08,040 --> 00:05:06,550

point you know as you said this might be

124

00:05:09,450 --> 00:05:08,050

a little sad for some people who've

125

00:05:11,520 --> 00:05:09,460

supported a TV through all these

126

00:05:12,839 --> 00:05:11,530

missions but what a great testament to

127

00:05:15,499 --> 00:05:12,849

the capabilities that it's going to be

128

00:05:19,860 --> 00:05:15,509

part of Orion and continuing forward

129

00:05:21,629 --> 00:05:19,870

absolutely and again this is a little

130

00:05:24,570 --> 00:05:21,639

bit comparable to what happened with the

131

00:05:26,850 --> 00:05:24,580

shuttle programs the shuttle program ATV

132

00:05:29,249 --> 00:05:26,860

these are great programs they helped us

133

00:05:31,589 --> 00:05:29,259

a lot during the years that we have

134

00:05:33,450 --> 00:05:31,599

employed them but everything comes to an

135

00:05:35,670 --> 00:05:33,460

end and it doesn't it doesn't end there

136

00:05:38,670 --> 00:05:35,680

it continues into the evolution of the

137

00:05:39,959 --> 00:05:38,680

program and I think it's great that the

138

00:05:44,370 --> 00:05:39,969

evolution of both the shuttle program

139

00:05:47,370 --> 00:05:44,380

and an ATV comes together in a common

140

00:05:51,330 --> 00:05:47,380

ground which is the Orion during program

141

00:05:53,370 --> 00:05:51,340

for to go beyond low-earth orbit and I'm

142

00:05:54,870 --> 00:05:53,380

sure that the people and the different

143

00:06:00,990 --> 00:05:54,880

control centers are thinking about that

144

00:06:03,050 --> 00:06:01,000

right now as a tv5 the orbit and comes

145

00:06:04,769 --> 00:06:03,060

to find these final resting place

146

00:06:06,600 --> 00:06:04,779

absolutely well that's something the

147

00:06:07,709 --> 00:06:06,610

teams here now as well and like you said

148

00:06:09,499 --> 00:06:07,719

it just leads to bigger and better

149

00:06:11,640 --> 00:06:09,509

things for future space exploration

150

00:06:13,080 --> 00:06:11,650

speaking of the control center i'm

151  
00:06:15,719 --> 00:06:13,090  
assuming that you've been to the control

152  
00:06:17,189 --> 00:06:15,729  
center for a TV and what do you think

153  
00:06:18,360 --> 00:06:17,199  
that they're doing today and you've

154  
00:06:19,740 --> 00:06:18,370  
spoken a little bit about how they might

155  
00:06:21,659 --> 00:06:19,750  
be feeling but any other words you want

156  
00:06:23,909 --> 00:06:21,669  
to it's hard to say how they might be

157  
00:06:27,029 --> 00:06:23,919  
feeling I remember how I felt when I let

158  
00:06:28,860 --> 00:06:27,039  
go of a TV for a year and a half ago it

159  
00:06:31,649 --> 00:06:28,870  
was my privilege to be on board I

160  
00:06:32,890 --> 00:06:31,659  
captured and let go of a TV for Albert

161  
00:06:34,600 --> 00:06:32,900  
Einstein

162  
00:06:37,030 --> 00:06:34,610  
if felt that it would be like letting go

163  
00:06:38,650 --> 00:06:37,040

of a friend because it was with us the

164

00:06:40,810 --> 00:06:38,660

whole six months on my permanency

165

00:06:43,870 --> 00:06:40,820

brought he brought our food our clothes

166

00:06:47,200 --> 00:06:43,880

so for us he was a for me was a very

167

00:06:50,409 --> 00:06:47,210

special feeling it way it was you know I

168

00:06:52,990 --> 00:06:50,419

always tend to say that it came bring he

169

00:06:54,460 --> 00:06:53,000

brought up not only our our food or

170

00:06:57,129 --> 00:06:54,470

clothes our experiment but also all the

171

00:06:59,620 --> 00:06:57,139

dreams of the people that that built the

172

00:07:01,540 --> 00:06:59,630

spacecraft that put their work and their

173

00:07:04,210 --> 00:07:01,550

hours and all their passion into what

174

00:07:07,659 --> 00:07:04,220

they do a little bit of that will be

175

00:07:10,840 --> 00:07:07,669

certainly today present in a DTV control

176

00:07:13,180 --> 00:07:10,850

center into loose but right now they are

177

00:07:15,010 --> 00:07:13,190

probably focusing on the myriad of

178

00:07:17,350 --> 00:07:15,020

operations that they need to do in order

179

00:07:18,850 --> 00:07:17,360

to the orbit the spacecraft correctly

180

00:07:21,279 --> 00:07:18,860

even though it's not automatic vehicle

181

00:07:22,629 --> 00:07:21,289

the man is always in the loop they have

182

00:07:24,430 --> 00:07:22,639

to make sure that all the all the

183

00:07:26,890 --> 00:07:24,440

progress are working correctly that the

184

00:07:29,080 --> 00:07:26,900

data they're receiving are the ones that

185

00:07:31,390 --> 00:07:29,090

are expected that the past the

186

00:07:34,240 --> 00:07:31,400

spacecraft is taking is according to the

187

00:07:36,640 --> 00:07:34,250

plan and they will be sending command at

188

00:07:39,490 --> 00:07:36,650

time from time to time allowing the

189

00:07:42,159 --> 00:07:39,500

spacecraft computers to go on to the

190

00:07:43,210 --> 00:07:42,169

next step well we will definitely be

191

00:07:45,060 --> 00:07:43,220

following along with all of those

192

00:07:47,439 --> 00:07:45,070

activities and of course covering that

193

00:07:49,300 --> 00:07:47,449

starting tomorrow on s TV so

194

00:07:51,219 --> 00:07:49,310

congratulations to you and all of the

195

00:07:52,899 --> 00:07:51,229

European Space Agency team and we'll be

196

00:07:55,300 --> 00:07:52,909

following along and looking forward to

197

00:07:56,500 --> 00:07:55,310

and things yet to come well I'll uh I

198

00:07:58,450 --> 00:07:56,510

think that right now we need to

199

00:08:01,060 --> 00:07:58,460

congratulate the crew on orbit that I

200

00:08:04,600 --> 00:08:01,070

did a great job with the unlocking and

201

00:08:07,920 --> 00:08:04,610

certainly the the European engineers and

202

00:08:10,480 --> 00:08:07,930

and throughout the space agency that

203

00:08:13,810 --> 00:08:10,490

started this program and brought it to a

204

00:08:15,730 --> 00:08:13,820

successful conclusion and it thank you

205

00:08:18,610 --> 00:08:15,740

for having me here and let me let me