



**SPACESTATION**  
**LIVE**

1  
00:00:09,270 --> 00:00:07,670  
so we've been talking a lot about earth

2  
00:00:11,190 --> 00:00:09,280  
observations from the international

3  
00:00:13,110 --> 00:00:11,200  
space station this week and one

4  
00:00:15,350 --> 00:00:13,120  
experiment actually about to celebrate a

5  
00:00:17,590 --> 00:00:15,360  
very exciting anniversary and that is

6  
00:00:19,349 --> 00:00:17,600  
the high definition earth viewing to

7  
00:00:21,510 --> 00:00:19,359  
learn a little bit more i'm joined today

8  
00:00:23,349 --> 00:00:21,520  
by carlos fontana one of the principal

9  
00:00:25,269 --> 00:00:23,359  
investigators co-principal investigators

10  
00:00:27,589 --> 00:00:25,279  
for the project to learn a little bit

11  
00:00:29,669 --> 00:00:27,599  
more so carlos first off start me off

12  
00:00:31,669 --> 00:00:29,679  
where did the idea for hdev come from

13  
00:00:33,190 --> 00:00:31,679

and what was the original intent of this

14

00:00:35,030 --> 00:00:33,200

payload

15

00:00:38,150 --> 00:00:35,040

a few years ago

16

00:00:40,389 --> 00:00:38,160

the iss technology and science

17

00:00:42,310 --> 00:00:40,399

development office

18

00:00:44,389 --> 00:00:42,320

found themselves in a situation where

19

00:00:46,069 --> 00:00:44,399

there was a space available outside the

20

00:00:48,389 --> 00:00:46,079

columbus module

21

00:00:51,029 --> 00:00:48,399

where the payload had been delayed

22

00:00:53,029 --> 00:00:51,039

and the program wanted to utilize that

23

00:00:54,950 --> 00:00:53,039

space so

24

00:00:58,389 --> 00:00:54,960

the science technology

25

00:01:00,869 --> 00:00:58,399

or technology office came to me and said

26  
00:01:02,709 --> 00:01:00,879  
what about we put some cameras out there

27  
00:01:04,710 --> 00:01:02,719  
what would it take to put some cameras

28  
00:01:07,190 --> 00:01:04,720  
so i drew on a little piece of paper

29  
00:01:09,590 --> 00:01:07,200  
well we need a camera an encoder and

30  
00:01:11,750 --> 00:01:09,600  
then we need a router we can put so many

31  
00:01:13,270 --> 00:01:11,760  
cameras in the enclosure and drew in a

32  
00:01:16,870 --> 00:01:13,280  
little piece of paper

33  
00:01:19,270 --> 00:01:16,880  
and my colleagues went on their way

34  
00:01:21,109 --> 00:01:19,280  
a couple weeks later a few weeks later i

35  
00:01:23,510 --> 00:01:21,119  
get a call you are the principal

36  
00:01:26,710 --> 00:01:23,520  
investigator for this payload we are

37  
00:01:28,390 --> 00:01:26,720  
going to build an enclosure and put it

38  
00:01:30,149 --> 00:01:28,400

outside columbus

39

00:01:31,270 --> 00:01:30,159

and the

40

00:01:34,469 --> 00:01:31,280

design

41

00:01:37,830 --> 00:01:34,479

build certification and delivery will be

42

00:01:40,870 --> 00:01:37,840

done in a short period of time and we

43

00:01:43,510 --> 00:01:40,880

broke a record nine months from

44

00:01:45,270 --> 00:01:43,520

conception to delivery and so what was

45

00:01:46,789 --> 00:01:45,280

the real purpose i mean it's more than

46

00:01:48,710 --> 00:01:46,799

just let's put some cameras on the

47

00:01:50,389 --> 00:01:48,720

station what was kind of the scientific

48

00:01:52,550 --> 00:01:50,399

purpose for building this payload and

49

00:01:54,389 --> 00:01:52,560

putting it on the station absolutely as

50

00:01:57,350 --> 00:01:54,399

you know the space environment

51  
00:02:00,630 --> 00:01:57,360  
and the radiation in space is very harsh

52  
00:02:03,749 --> 00:02:00,640  
to electronics so you may observe from

53  
00:02:07,670 --> 00:02:03,759  
time to time that some of our images

54  
00:02:10,309 --> 00:02:07,680  
have white little dots those are pixels

55  
00:02:13,030 --> 00:02:10,319  
that are missing because of radiation

56  
00:02:16,229 --> 00:02:13,040  
and the sensors

57  
00:02:19,510 --> 00:02:16,239  
get damaged because of it so we are

58  
00:02:22,550 --> 00:02:19,520  
studying uh you know we count

59  
00:02:26,070 --> 00:02:22,560  
missing pixels on the images on the

60  
00:02:27,670 --> 00:02:26,080  
views and specifically on the view on

61  
00:02:30,070 --> 00:02:27,680  
the nader view

62  
00:02:32,150 --> 00:02:30,080  
we have seen a couple of pixels missing

63  
00:02:35,030 --> 00:02:32,160

but we're very surprised because we

64

00:02:38,229 --> 00:02:35,040

thought it would be much more so the

65

00:02:41,910 --> 00:02:38,239

enclosure where the cameras are are we

66

00:02:44,470 --> 00:02:41,920

think are partially uh protecting uh

67

00:02:47,270 --> 00:02:44,480

radiation from hitting these sensors

68

00:02:48,949 --> 00:02:47,280

okay and so and it wasn't just nasa

69

00:02:51,110 --> 00:02:48,959

people building this payload you guys

70

00:02:53,190 --> 00:02:51,120

also got students involved which is

71

00:02:54,550 --> 00:02:53,200

always very fascinating when you're a

72

00:02:56,150 --> 00:02:54,560

student to say you know my i built

73

00:02:57,830 --> 00:02:56,160

something that went into the space tell

74

00:03:00,869 --> 00:02:57,840

us about how you got students involved

75

00:03:02,149 --> 00:03:00,879

well there is a program called hunch

76

00:03:05,589 --> 00:03:02,159

high school

77

00:03:08,229 --> 00:03:05,599

students united with nasa

78

00:03:10,630 --> 00:03:08,239

for creation of hardware i believe it

79

00:03:13,190 --> 00:03:10,640

stands for and these students

80

00:03:16,149 --> 00:03:13,200

participated with our team and they

81

00:03:18,630 --> 00:03:16,159

built some of the brackets that actually

82

00:03:21,830 --> 00:03:18,640

hold the cameras in place and hold the

83

00:03:25,830 --> 00:03:21,840

encoder so they built part of the little

84

00:03:28,390 --> 00:03:25,840

brackets structural pieces that hold the

85

00:03:30,710 --> 00:03:28,400

payload you can see here the payload on

86

00:03:32,309 --> 00:03:30,720

the right there is an enclosure that's

87

00:03:33,910 --> 00:03:32,319

the finished payload in those little

88

00:03:37,110 --> 00:03:33,920

windows that you see the cameras are

89

00:03:39,190 --> 00:03:37,120

behind and those cameras partially are

90

00:03:42,149 --> 00:03:39,200

held by these brackets that the hunch

91

00:03:43,990 --> 00:03:42,159

folks built very cool and so this video

92

00:03:46,229 --> 00:03:44,000

so april 30th marks the two-year

93

00:03:49,110 --> 00:03:46,239

anniversary of yes

94

00:03:50,710 --> 00:03:49,120

tomorrow so this has been streaming live

95

00:03:52,470 --> 00:03:50,720

the whole time and students were even

96

00:03:54,550 --> 00:03:52,480

involved with the streaming of this

97

00:03:56,550 --> 00:03:54,560

video too so first off tell people where

98

00:03:58,869 --> 00:03:56,560

they can go watch this right now and

99

00:03:59,670 --> 00:03:58,879

again how are students involved in this

100

00:04:02,509 --> 00:03:59,680

well

101  
00:04:06,309 --> 00:04:02,519  
you can watch this around the clock at

102  
00:04:11,509 --> 00:04:06,319  
http colon forward slash forward slash

103  
00:04:16,390 --> 00:04:12,830  
slash

104  
00:04:19,509 --> 00:04:16,400  
hdf you go to that website and you not

105  
00:04:22,069 --> 00:04:19,519  
only see the downlink but you see the

106  
00:04:24,629 --> 00:04:22,079  
track of the station going over the

107  
00:04:28,070 --> 00:04:24,639  
earth so you can tell when the station

108  
00:04:31,670 --> 00:04:28,080  
is at night time and unfortunately when

109  
00:04:32,629 --> 00:04:31,680  
it's night you cannot see much with hdf

110  
00:04:33,830 --> 00:04:32,639  
but then

111  
00:04:36,710 --> 00:04:33,840  
as you see

112  
00:04:38,550 --> 00:04:36,720  
the station come into the daylight uh

113  
00:04:41,590 --> 00:04:38,560

there is the picture yes

114

00:04:42,550 --> 00:04:41,600

and so you can watch this around the

115

00:04:44,629 --> 00:04:42,560

clock

116

00:04:47,030 --> 00:04:44,639

and

117

00:04:49,909 --> 00:04:47,040

we have sometimes we've had

118

00:04:52,629 --> 00:04:49,919

to get take the payload off the air for

119

00:04:54,310 --> 00:04:52,639

several reasons and we get calls you

120

00:04:56,390 --> 00:04:54,320

know there are

121

00:04:59,350 --> 00:04:56,400

folks in europe folks all over the world

122

00:05:02,070 --> 00:04:59,360

and they say where is my h death

123

00:05:06,150 --> 00:05:02,080

now there's other ustream

124

00:05:09,590 --> 00:05:06,160

also streams hdf and you stream it makes

125

00:05:11,830 --> 00:05:09,600

hdf available to many people out there

126  
00:05:14,710 --> 00:05:11,840  
there is an outfit that builds little

127  
00:05:17,270 --> 00:05:14,720  
boxes that tell you when this station is

128  
00:05:19,670 --> 00:05:17,280  
coming above you and shows you the hdf

129  
00:05:22,390 --> 00:05:19,680  
images so there's several

130  
00:05:27,510 --> 00:05:22,400  
companies that have used

131  
00:05:29,749 --> 00:05:27,520  
hdf as well as museums schools and uh

132  
00:05:32,310 --> 00:05:29,759  
universities so how is how are school

133  
00:05:33,350 --> 00:05:32,320  
how have schools been using hdev with

134  
00:05:36,310 --> 00:05:33,360  
students

135  
00:05:38,550 --> 00:05:36,320  
it's a very interesting we got a call

136  
00:05:39,749 --> 00:05:38,560  
from our partners in europe and germany

137  
00:05:41,590 --> 00:05:39,759  
in particular

138  
00:05:43,430 --> 00:05:41,600

and they were very interested in

139

00:05:44,950 --> 00:05:43,440

development developing

140

00:05:47,510 --> 00:05:44,960

materials

141

00:05:50,070 --> 00:05:47,520

curricula for the students

142

00:05:53,909 --> 00:05:50,080

in their geography lessons and what

143

00:05:57,909 --> 00:05:53,919

better than using live views from earth

144

00:06:00,629 --> 00:05:57,919

and identify those land masses now hdf

145

00:06:03,510 --> 00:06:00,639

has a limited capability but you can

146

00:06:06,070 --> 00:06:03,520

control certain functions you can switch

147

00:06:08,870 --> 00:06:06,080

cameras the forward viewing camera the

148

00:06:09,830 --> 00:06:08,880

native viewing camera the aft cameras

149

00:06:12,550 --> 00:06:09,840

through

150

00:06:15,110 --> 00:06:12,560

just a workstation that's connected

151  
00:06:17,430 --> 00:06:15,120  
through our systems and so you can

152  
00:06:20,550 --> 00:06:17,440  
command the cameras so we

153  
00:06:21,590 --> 00:06:20,560  
partnered with a university of bonn in

154  
00:06:24,390 --> 00:06:21,600  
germany

155  
00:06:26,390 --> 00:06:24,400  
and we schedule their participation

156  
00:06:28,150 --> 00:06:26,400  
where they can command the camera so the

157  
00:06:30,710 --> 00:06:28,160  
students comment the camera switch

158  
00:06:32,870 --> 00:06:30,720  
cameras and see the results as they're

159  
00:06:34,309 --> 00:06:32,880  
flying over certain

160  
00:06:36,710 --> 00:06:34,319  
parts of the world that they're

161  
00:06:38,870 --> 00:06:36,720  
interested in okay well so we're about

162  
00:06:41,110 --> 00:06:38,880  
to hit the two-year mark how

163  
00:06:42,950 --> 00:06:41,120

how has it been going you you mentioned

164

00:06:45,350 --> 00:06:42,960

you've only seen a couple of pixels had

165

00:06:47,990 --> 00:06:45,360

the cameras held up as well as you

166

00:06:49,510 --> 00:06:48,000

thought are they much exceeding

167

00:06:52,150 --> 00:06:49,520

exceeding

168

00:06:54,390 --> 00:06:52,160

every expectation now radiation

169

00:06:57,270 --> 00:06:54,400

sometimes affects electronics and we

170

00:06:59,430 --> 00:06:57,280

have encoders we have switchers and we

171

00:07:02,710 --> 00:06:59,440

have had a few instances where all of a

172

00:07:04,950 --> 00:07:02,720

sudden the system locks up we have not

173

00:07:07,430 --> 00:07:04,960

only seen that on the external payload

174

00:07:08,870 --> 00:07:07,440

but also inside the vehicle with our

175

00:07:09,909 --> 00:07:08,880

television system

176  
00:07:10,790 --> 00:07:09,919  
so

177  
00:07:12,150 --> 00:07:10,800  
we

178  
00:07:13,990 --> 00:07:12,160  
rigorously

179  
00:07:16,550 --> 00:07:14,000  
studied what happened

180  
00:07:19,350 --> 00:07:16,560  
component by component analyze the the

181  
00:07:21,189 --> 00:07:19,360  
telemetry and it was just a latch what

182  
00:07:23,670 --> 00:07:21,199  
you call a latch up

183  
00:07:25,270 --> 00:07:23,680  
and um so

184  
00:07:28,150 --> 00:07:25,280  
all we did is what you do with your

185  
00:07:31,430 --> 00:07:28,160  
computer when it freezes up we

186  
00:07:34,390 --> 00:07:31,440  
cycled it rebooted it in some cases

187  
00:07:36,309 --> 00:07:34,400  
powered it down powered back up bingo

188  
00:07:39,670 --> 00:07:36,319

there it is sometimes the simple stuff

189

00:07:41,830 --> 00:07:39,680

works absolutely absolutely so what's

190

00:07:43,189 --> 00:07:41,840

what's next for hdev you know it's been

191

00:07:44,869 --> 00:07:43,199

two years how long do you think the

192

00:07:47,029 --> 00:07:44,879

experiment's going to go and you know

193

00:07:49,670 --> 00:07:47,039

what what's maybe the next step is there

194

00:07:51,990 --> 00:07:49,680

going to be an hdev2 well

195

00:07:54,710 --> 00:07:52,000

as i said before the reason why we're on

196

00:07:57,830 --> 00:07:54,720

board is because a payload was late

197

00:08:03,430 --> 00:07:57,840

so that payload will be taken into space

198

00:08:05,110 --> 00:08:03,440

now with spacex 13. that is sometime in

199

00:08:09,430 --> 00:08:05,120

2017

200

00:08:11,670 --> 00:08:09,440

and when this payload arrives our hdf

201

00:08:13,350 --> 00:08:11,680

will be taken robotically off the

202

00:08:15,589 --> 00:08:13,360

columbus module

203

00:08:16,629 --> 00:08:15,599

and the new payload will be placed where

204

00:08:19,270 --> 00:08:16,639

we were

205

00:08:20,629 --> 00:08:19,280

and they bring it down so i'm looking at

206

00:08:24,150 --> 00:08:20,639

the fall

207

00:08:25,270 --> 00:08:24,160

of 2017 year and a half from from now

208

00:08:28,309 --> 00:08:25,280

more or less

209

00:08:31,430 --> 00:08:28,319

and we expect hdf to continue working

210

00:08:32,550 --> 00:08:31,440

the way it has been for two years now

211

00:08:36,389 --> 00:08:32,560

when

212

00:08:39,269 --> 00:08:36,399

we bring down hdf or take it off station

213

00:08:40,389 --> 00:08:39,279

we have been looking at the

214

00:08:42,389 --> 00:08:40,399

any

215

00:08:45,190 --> 00:08:42,399

places where we can

216

00:08:47,670 --> 00:08:45,200

attach a new payload build a new payload

217

00:08:49,990 --> 00:08:47,680

however there aren't very many places we

218

00:08:52,150 --> 00:08:50,000

need data we need power we need certain

219

00:08:54,470 --> 00:08:52,160

requirements so i'm thinking that rather

220

00:08:56,790 --> 00:08:54,480

than replacing their hardware we may

221

00:08:59,670 --> 00:08:56,800

just replace the function because we're

222

00:09:02,310 --> 00:08:59,680

putting new high-definition cameras so

223

00:09:05,509 --> 00:09:02,320

we may just leverage the function of

224

00:09:07,829 --> 00:09:05,519

those cameras and train them to the

225

00:09:11,350 --> 00:09:07,839

earth when they're not being used and

226

00:09:13,910 --> 00:09:11,360

have that as a substitute or future hdf

227

00:09:17,190 --> 00:09:13,920

we're working that plan it's not a done

228

00:09:19,670 --> 00:09:17,200

deal but that would make sense okay well

229

00:09:21,430 --> 00:09:19,680

again the high definition earth viewing

230

00:09:22,870 --> 00:09:21,440

cameras marking their two-year

231

00:09:24,470 --> 00:09:22,880

anniversary now on board the

232

00:09:26,230 --> 00:09:24,480

international space station been

233

00:09:27,990 --> 00:09:26,240

providing some spectacular views and

234

00:09:29,110 --> 00:09:28,000

they will be for only another year and a

235

00:09:31,030 --> 00:09:29,120

half so if you haven't been checking

236

00:09:33,110 --> 00:09:31,040

them out make sure you go do that right

237

00:09:34,630 --> 00:09:33,120

now carlos thanks again so much for

238

00:09:36,470 --> 00:09:34,640

joining me always a pleasure to talk to

239

00:09:38,630 --> 00:09:36,480

you here in mission control