



1

00:00:12,500 --> 00:00:16,900

NARRATOR: America's next generation of human-rated spacecraft is being designed to be flown from

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00:00:16,900 --> 00:00:22,810

launch through landing... by computers!. Complex maneuvers including rendezvous and docking

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00:00:22,810 --> 00:00:28,119

will be automated and precise to a level not capable with earlier machines.

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00:00:28,119 --> 00:00:32,029

But that doesn't mean the spacecraft won't need a pilot to take control should there

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00:00:32,029 --> 00:00:32,770

be a problem.

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00:00:32,770 --> 00:00:37,600

CHRIS FERGUSON: It's designed to be largely autonomous but the pilot will always be there to

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00:00:37,600 --> 00:00:40,949

back up the autonomy in the event something unexpected happens.

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00:00:40,949 --> 00:00:46,410

So we always have the ability to take over from the vehicle and execute something whether

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00:00:46,410 --> 00:00:48,449

it be a docking or a re-entry.

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00:00:48,449 --> 00:00:52,600

NARRATOR: Boeing Space Exploration, one of several companies working with

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00:00:52,600 --> 00:00:57,780

NASA's Commercial Crew Program to develop a new American spacecraft capable of carrying

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00:00:57,780 --> 00:01:02,550

people to low-Earth orbit, recently showed that a pilot safely can assume control

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00:01:02,550 --> 00:01:07,520

of the CST-100 in almost any circumstance.

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00:01:07,520 --> 00:01:10,370

Working in a simulator at the company's Houston office,

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00:01:10,370 --> 00:01:16,210

Ferguson, a former NASA space shuttle commander, demonstrated what flying the CST-100

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00:01:16,210 --> 00:01:20,370

will look like with a person sitting in for the computers at the controls.

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00:01:20,370 --> 00:01:23,520

FERGUSON: This is the first opportunity that we have that we can show we have a vehicle

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00:01:23,520 --> 00:01:27,000

that can fly. We've used actual flight software,

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00:01:27,000 --> 00:01:29,700

we've used our model displays and our

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00:01:29,700 --> 00:01:31,390

real jet models to show that we

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00:01:31,390 --> 00:01:36,830

have a vehicle that can stay under control, can dock with the International Space Station

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00:01:36,830 --> 00:01:37,850

and fly a re-entry.

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00:01:37,850 --> 00:01:43,350

NARRATOR: The test's significant accomplishments underscored two years' worth of work by

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00:01:43,350 --> 00:01:45,690

the simulator and flight software development team.

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00:01:45,690 --> 00:01:49,220

Lynna WOOD: It's very exciting for us, it's a very exciting day.

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00:01:49,220 --> 00:01:54,170

It's been a long journey where we've learned a lot. A lot of lessons learned, a lot of

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00:01:54,170 --> 00:01:55,360

exciting progress was

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00:01:55,360 --> 00:01:59,330

made. We did start this about a year ago when we started writing the requirements for our

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00:01:59,330 --> 00:01:59,980

partner who

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00:01:59,980 --> 00:02:04,170

built the simulator as well as starting to put the pieces together, see the switches

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00:02:04,170 --> 00:02:10,619

go in, the displays together. The team has just done a fantastic job pulling this together.

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00:02:10,619 --> 00:02:15,670

NARRATOR: The demonstration a milestone under Boeing's Commercial Crew Integrated Capabilities

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00:02:15,670 --> 00:02:17,220

agreement with NASA.

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00:02:17,220 --> 00:02:21,990  
The simulator will next see increasingly demanding conditions as it's connected with

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00:02:21,990 --> 00:02:27,380  
NASA's Mission Control Center at nearby Johnson Space Center for mission simulations that

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00:02:27,380 --> 00:02:31,020  
include flight controllers and malfunction conditions.

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00:02:31,020 --> 00:02:37,140  
The CST-100 design will undergo a series of reviews this spring that will take the plans

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00:02:37,140 --> 00:02:37,810  
for the capsule-