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00:00:04,180 --> 00:00:07,790

REED: The international space station, one of the nation's greatest assets for research

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and discovery, is in low earth orbit, and the commercial crew program will be providing

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transportation to ISS to support that first step as a gateway to space.

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BRADY: The research that we do in low earth orbit is very important to develop the systems

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that we'll need, and the capabilities that we'll need, to protect our crews for these

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deep space exploration missions.

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MASSA: The International Space Station is our orbiting laboratory, and it allows us

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to do research on life and physical sciences, and really understand the impact of living

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without gravity.

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MASSA: If we understand how organisms respond to gravity and to a lack of gravity, then

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we'll be able to think about how humans and other organisms might survive

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on other planets.

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It really is a test bed for how do I, how do I go away from Earth for three years, and go to Mars and get back.

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00:00:58,160 --> 00:01:02,379
O'NEILL: Right now one of the biggest constraints that we have on station is the available hours

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00:01:02,379 --> 00:01:05,530
for astronauts to be dedicated strictly towards research.

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MASSA: And that's why we're so excited by the commercial crew program, because it'll

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be bringing additional astronauts to the space station, so we're going to have a lot more

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time to do science.

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BRADY: A lot of the technology we've developed on space station has come back home here to

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earth in order to benefit people.

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For example, the robotics that have been so important in the building and the maintaining

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of the space station have come down to earth
in the form of robotic surgery.

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00:01:31,479 --> 00:01:36,259

O'NEILL: Think about that crazy day when,
instead of just having astronauts that represent

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00:01:36,259 --> 00:01:40,590

NASA interests, you're now able to have
private researchers that go up to help and

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00:01:40,590 --> 00:01:44,840

look at research that might enhance life on
earth, or looking at ways to go and better

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create drugs, or therapies that can improve
patient care on the ground.