

A close-up portrait of a woman with curly hair, smiling slightly. The lighting is dramatic, with one side of her face in shadow. The background is dark.

Jessica Mejia

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00:00:00,789 --> 00:00:05,100

"Here's some of the stories trending This Week at NASA!"

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00:00:05,100 --> 00:00:09,580

NASA has selected four astronauts to work closely with two U.S. commercial companies

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00:00:09,580 --> 00:00:14,030

that will return human spaceflight launches to Florida's Space Coast.

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00:00:14,030 --> 00:00:20,470

NASA named veteran astronauts and experienced test pilots Robert Behnken, Eric Boe, Douglas

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00:00:20,470 --> 00:00:25,550

Hurley and Sunita Williams to work closely with Boeing and SpaceX.

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00:00:25,550 --> 00:00:30,360

NASA contracted with Boeing and SpaceX to develop crew transportation systems and provide

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00:00:30,360 --> 00:00:35,260

crew transportation services to and from the International Space Station.

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00:00:35,260 --> 00:00:39,090

The agency will select the commercial crew astronauts from this group of four for the

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00:00:39,090 --> 00:00:43,780

first test, which is scheduled for 2017.

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00:00:43,780 --> 00:00:48,440

After two years of intensive training, NASA has eight new astronauts who will help advance

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00:00:48,440 --> 00:00:52,731

scientific knowledge on the space station
and help pave the way for America's new

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00:00:52,731 --> 00:00:56,170

space launch capabilities and journey to Mars.

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00:00:56,170 --> 00:01:01,300

The new astronauts, which were announced in
June 2013, were selected from more than 6,300

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00:01:01,300 --> 00:01:05,550

applicants - the second largest number NASA
has ever received.

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00:01:05,550 --> 00:01:09,140

The group reported to Johnson Space Center
in August of that year to begin technical

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00:01:09,140 --> 00:01:14,080

space system training, robotics instruction
and specialized hardware and science training

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00:01:14,080 --> 00:01:15,460

around the globe.

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00:01:15,460 --> 00:01:20,360

As of July 7, they had successfully completed
their training and will now support mission

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00:01:20,360 --> 00:01:25,850

operations and technical duties while awaiting
spaceflight assignments.

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00:01:25,850 --> 00:01:30,979

After a July 4 anomaly caused NASA's New
Horizons spacecraft to go into "safe mode,"

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00:01:30,979 --> 00:01:37,640

the mission is back to normal operations and

is on track for its July 14 flyby of Pluto.

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00:01:37,640 --> 00:01:42,330
Investigators concluded the underlying cause of the incident was a hard-to-detect timing

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00:01:42,330 --> 00:01:47,880
flaw in the spacecraft command sequence, and that no hardware or software fault resulted

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00:01:47,880 --> 00:01:48,880
from the anomaly.

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00:01:48,880 --> 00:01:54,640
Before that incident, New Horizons transmitted more high-resolution views of Pluto, including

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00:01:54,640 --> 00:01:59,340
a color image showing the four mysterious dark spots on Pluto that have captured the

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00:01:59,340 --> 00:02:02,650
imagination of the world.

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00:02:02,650 --> 00:02:08,539
NASA Deputy Administrator Dava Newman, International Space Station Program Manager Mike Suffredini

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00:02:08,539 --> 00:02:13,959
and SpaceX President Elon Musk were among those in attendance at the fourth annual ISS

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00:02:13,959 --> 00:02:17,829
R&D Conference, July 7-9 in Boston.

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00:02:17,829 --> 00:02:21,829
The event brought together leading minds in scientific research from the commercial and

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00:02:21,829 --> 00:02:23,639

academic communities.

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00:02:23,639 --> 00:02:28,749

NASA also released the print version of a new NASA book at the conference titled, "Benefits

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00:02:28,749 --> 00:02:29,749

for Humanity."

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00:02:29,749 --> 00:02:34,569

The publication, which also is available online, highlights research aboard the space station

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00:02:34,569 --> 00:02:39,900

and how it helps improve lives on Earth, while advancing NASA's ambitious human exploration

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00:02:39,900 --> 00:02:42,110

goals.

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00:02:42,110 --> 00:02:46,810

The space station's Expedition 44 crew received a delivery of more than three tons of food,

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00:02:46,810 --> 00:02:52,029

fuel and supplies from an unpiloted Russian Progress cargo ship that successfully docked

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00:02:52,029 --> 00:02:53,389

to the outpost on July 5.

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00:02:53,389 --> 00:02:58,760

The Progress, which had launched from Kazakhstan two days earlier, is scheduled to remain at

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00:02:58,760 --> 00:03:01,220

the station for the next four months.

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00:03:01,220 --> 00:03:07,290

Meanwhile, NASA's Kjell Lindgren and the remaining members of the Expedition 44/45

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00:03:07,290 --> 00:03:12,090

crew continue with pre-flight training activities in Russia, ahead of their upcoming trip to

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00:03:12,090 --> 00:03:13,549

the ISS.

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00:03:13,549 --> 00:03:18,599

The launch to the station of Lindgren, Oleg Kononenko of the Russian Federal Space Agency

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00:03:18,599 --> 00:03:26,219

and Kimiya Yui of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency is targeted for July 22.

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00:03:26,219 --> 00:03:30,920

Technicians at NASA's Langley Research Center conducted a crash test with a single engine

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00:03:30,920 --> 00:03:37,650

Cessna 172 airplane to test four emergency locator transmitters, or ELTs, installed on

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00:03:37,650 --> 00:03:38,650

board.

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00:03:38,650 --> 00:03:42,999

The research, funded by the NASA Search and Rescue Mission Office at NASA's Goddard Space

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00:03:42,999 --> 00:03:47,579

Flight Center, is designed to improve the emergency transmitters' performance.

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00:03:47,579 --> 00:03:52,319

ELTs are supposed to transmit a distress signal

within 50 seconds of an airplane crash.

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00:03:52,319 --> 00:03:58,370
The signal can be picked up by passing aircraft,
nearby ground stations or a National Oceanic

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00:03:58,370 --> 00:04:02,309
and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) satellite.

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00:04:02,309 --> 00:04:04,189
And that's what's up this week @NASA ...