

HUMAN SPACE ENDEAVOURS SYMPOSIUM (B3)
Astronauts: Those Who Make It Happen (5)

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JAXA'S NEW STRATEGIES FOR ASTRONAUT TRAINING

Abstract

JAXA has contributed to the successful assembly operations for the International Space Station (ISS) and the Japanese Experiment Module known as KIBO. With the retirement of the American Space Shuttle and the completion of the ISS assembly phase, JAXA faces a major transitional phase in human space flight. First of all, we rely more on the Russian Soyuz spacecraft for human space transportation. Secondly, we are getting ready for commercial cargo service and/or possibly a new vehicle to transport cargo and humans to the ISS. Thirdly, as training period tends to grow longer, we must establish a new astronaut career path on a long-term basis. Therefore, we have developed new strategic plans for astronaut training to meet this new challenge. The training plan provides effective, efficient and reliable training for International Space Station (ISS) astronauts and contributes to the success of the Japanese Experiment Module (JEM) and H-II Transfer vehicle missions. This paper describes the uniqueness of our new training plans, and introduces astronaut training facilities of JAXA.