

HUMAN SPACEFLIGHT SYMPOSIUM (B3)
Governmental Human Spaceflight Programs (Overview) (1)

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PRESENT AND NEAR-TERM HUMAN SPACE FLIGHT PROGRAMMES

Abstract

The International Space Station (ISS) has been working in Earth orbit since November 1998. Currently it consists of 14 core modules with five of them are Russian. In future the Multipurpose Laboratory Module (MLM) "Nauka" (Science) and Node Module (UM) "Prichal" (Berth) will be integrated into the Russian Segment of the ISS. Summarizing the 40-year history of manned space stations one can confidently say that our scientists, engineers and workers not only learned how to create manned stations and not only taught them to fly but have developed and matured technologies and technical components that are already being implemented into public domain and that in the coming years will bring more tangible benefits. In accordance with the Russian strategy of manned spaceflight, goals of the RS-ISS should be focused on implementation of future space exploration programs. The main challenge of these efforts is to develop means to reduce risks associated with flight on the International Space Station and future manned space complexes as well as providing of optimal technical conditions for their utilization that will enable to move to practical development of manned exploration of the Solar System with primarily missions to the Moon, as well as flights to other space destinations. Building a modern space station on the basis of the advanced system of space habitats (ASSH) should be implemented in a stepwise manner. The prototypes of a future mini-station within the ISS program will be presented during the report.