

HUMAN SPACE ENDEAVOURS SYMPOSIUM (B3)

Human Space Endeavour: Overview (1)

Author: Mr. William H. Gerstenmaier

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), United States, william.h.gerstenmaier@nasa.gov

Mr. Jacob Keaton

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), Ames Research Center, United States,
jacob.keaton@nasa.gov

ON THE GROUND AND IN THE SKY: INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION OPERATIONS

Abstract

With the addition this year of the European Columbus laboratory and the Japanese Kibo laboratory to the International Space Station, the operation of the ISS is more global than ever. The operation of control centers in Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Russia, and the United States means that human spaceflight aboard the ISS entails a complex communications network requiring intense trust in both physical hardware and human ingenuity and flexibility. As the ISS program moves towards a permanent six person crew, this complexity is set to only increase, and will provide a model for future international cooperation in science and technology- both in space and on the ground.