

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

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PECULIARITIES OF OPEN COMPETITIVE COSMONAUT SELECTION IN RUSSIA IN 2012

Abstract

The first open competitive cosmonaut selection was held in Russia in 2012. Before, the competitions had been held within departments and then the selected cosmonauts were enrolled in the corps. The united cosmonaut corps of Roscosmos was created as an organizational unit of Y.A.Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center in 2011. The total time of selection process, beginning from the announcement of selection in mass-media to the moment when the selected candidates were enlisted into the cosmonaut corps was 9 months. The competition consisted of two large stages – by correspondence and intramural. During the correspondence stage the experts examined the biographical data, diplomas and medical certificates, presented by applicants, for compliance with the requirements. After going through this type of screening about 78So, 22The procedure of psychological selection included interviewing, testing, and participation of psychologists in other types of selection, such as: the evaluation of the physical and educational levels of the applicants. When evaluating the physical fitness of applicants the attention was paid to such professionally significant capabilities as an endurance, strength, quickness, dexterity as well as to the evaluation of the prospects of onboard training to prevent harmful effects of space flight factors. The procedure of selection was focused on the requirements for education and professional competence included: discussion by the committee of experts of all selected persons and their testing in 11 various disciplines. A part of the disciplines (of technical and human profile) allowed to evaluate educational level, some other - professional competence of applicants. The medical examination was carried out in accordance with the adopted norms, and included various laboratory, radiological, electrophysiological and functional studies (centrifuge, pressure chamber), and also checkup by clinical specialists. The results of cosmonaut selection are analyzed on the basis of statistical data.