2008 **Crew of STS Mission 123 (International)**

The crew of STS 123:
Dominic L. Gorie, Commander NASA Astronaut
Gregory H. Johnson, Pilot, NASA Astronaut
Robert L. Behnken, Mission Specialist, NASA Astronaut
Michael J. Foreman, Mission Specialist, NASA Astronaut
Takao Doi, Mission Specialist, JAXA Astronaut
Richard M. Linnehan, Mission Specialist, NASA Astronaut
Garrett E. Reisman, ISS Flight Engineer, NASA Astronaut
International Space Station (ISS) Assembly Mission 1E along with the Increment 16:
Peggy Whitson, Commander, NASA Astronaut
Yuri Malenchenko, Flight Engineer, RSA Cosmonaut
Leopold Eyharts, Flight Engineer, ESA Astronaut

The success of the STS-123/Increment 16 mission was extremely significant in the assembly sequence of the International Space Station with the addition of the Special Purpose Dextrous Manipulator (SPDM), the installation of the Japanese Logistics Module and the demonstration of inflight Space Shuttle Tile Repair Techniques which will contribute greatly to the future of human space flight operations.

Justification: The STS-123 mission began with a successful launch on March 11, 2008 from the Kennedy Space Center (KSC). While en-route to the International Space Station, the Endeavor crew executed multiple techniques to inspect Endeavour's thermal protection system for damage.

Following docking with the ISS, the Shuttle crew used the Space Shuttle's robotic arm in a series of integrated movements with the Space Station's Candarm2 to assemble and install the SPDM on the International Space Station. SPDM assembly also required the assistance of spacewalkers Linnehan, Reisman, Foreman and Behnken who worked on this task diligently during EVAs 1, 2 and 3. On flight day 4, Takao Doi used the Shuttle arm to attach the Japanese Logistics module to Node 2 zenith. During EVA 4, Foreman and Behnken demonstrated the first ever on-orbit shuttle tile repair techniques using STA-54. During EVA 5, Behnken and Foreman stowed the shuttle's OBSS boom on the outside of ISS with the assistance of Canadarm2. In addition to demonstrating the capability to perform an unprecedented five spacewalks during an ISS docked mission, the STS-123 crew also performed the initial check-out maneuvers on the SPDM during the longest docked mission to the ISS to date.

The STS-123 mission was completed with a nominal landing at Kennedy Space Center in Florida returning Leopold Eyharts to earth, with a record flight duration of 16 days. The crew's relentless professionalism and can-do spirit contributed greatly to the future of human space flight operations. This outstanding mission is highly deserving of the Komarov Diploma.