

# Astronauts gather for big space station build

Space shuttle *Endeavour* is scheduled for launch on a 16-day mission to deliver the final pieces of Japan's *Kibo* module to the International Space Station. Mission STS-127 will see the largest number of people together in orbit ever – six station crew and seven shuttle visitors

Astronaut  
to scale

## KIBO'S MAIN COMPONENTS

■ Delivered 2008 ■ Delivery due 2009

Experiment Logistics Module –  
Pressurized Section (ELM-PS)

Pressurized Module (PM)  
11.2m-long main section

Robotic arm

## Exposed Facility (EF)

Allows experiments  
to be conducted  
while fully exposed  
to space environment

Inter-Orbit  
Comms System

SPACE  
STATION

Experiment  
Logistics Module –  
Exposed Section (ELM-ES)  
Transportation pallet can hold  
three experiment payloads  
for Exposed Facility

New modules  
attach to existing  
Kibo structure

**Mission will require five  
spacewalks and all three robot  
arms on station and shuttle**

P6 truss

Astronauts will  
replace batteries  
on station's oldest  
set of solar arrays