



**American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics**  
HOUSTON SECTION • P.O. Box 57524 • Webster, Texas 77598  
Web site: [www.aiaahouston.org](http://www.aiaahouston.org)

## Aerospace News

November 19, 2016

[www.aiaahouston.org/iac/#news](http://www.aiaahouston.org/iac/#news)

## Sister Sections since 2007

l'Association Aéronautique et Astronautique de France (3AF)

3AF MP ([www.3af-mp.fr](http://www.3af-mp.fr)) *Philippe Mairat*

AIAA Houston Section ([www.aiaahouston.org](http://www.aiaahouston.org)) *Douglas Yazell*

AIAA Houston Section International Activities Committee (IAC) mirrors the AIAA IAC.

# Russian Soyuz Launches Expedition 50 Crew For ISS Rendezvous

AIAA Daily Launch. [NASA Space Flight \(11/17\)](#) reports that Roscosmos launched the Soyuz MS-03 spacecraft and carrying crew for Expeditions 50/51 to the ISS on Thursday evening from the Baikonur cosmodrome, "beginning a two-day orbital rendezvous with the orbital laboratory." The article profiles each member of the crew, which includes NASA astronaut Peggy Whitson, who will take over command of the ISS, Roscosmos cosmonaut Oleg Novitskiy, and ESA astronaut Thomas Pesquet. The article notes that Pesquet is a member of both AIAA and the French Aeronautics and Astronautics Association, and is the youngest member of the European Astronaut Corps.



Recent links from Philippe Mairat about Thomas Pesquet, an ESA astronaut who is a citizen of France (Use the PDF version of this presentation slide.):

- 1) This is the patch of the first ever ESA-trained European astronaut class, the "Shenanigans", recruited in 2009. Samantha Cristoforetti, Alexander Gerst, Andreas Mogensen, Luca Parmitano, Timothy Peake, Thomas Pesquet. Artwork by Vincent Gibaud. [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:ESA\\_Astronaut\\_Class\\_2009\\_patch\\_Vincent\\_Gibaud.jpg#mw-jump-to-license](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:ESA_Astronaut_Class_2009_patch_Vincent_Gibaud.jpg#mw-jump-to-license)
- 2) [Replay] CNES website video interview with the French press (in French), August 30, 2016: <https://cnes.fr/fr/live-thomas-pesquet-en-direct-de-houston-30082016>
- 3) ESA website; Final Exams; Gallery of images with ESA astronaut Thomas Pesquet at the Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Centre near Moscow, Russia, October 2016: [http://www.esa.int/Our\\_Activities/Human\\_Spaceflight/Proxima/Highlights/Final\\_exams](http://www.esa.int/Our_Activities/Human_Spaceflight/Proxima/Highlights/Final_exams)
- 4) The city of Toulouse in France; Cité de l'espace; Follow the launch of Thomas Pesquet in real time: <http://www.cite-espace.com/evenements/mission-proxima-depart-de-thomas-pesquet/>

**Image credits:**  
**NASA, Roscosmos, ESA, Wikipedia.**

