

Re: Endeavour Butchered

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.space.shuttle/2005-08/msg02217.html>

- *From:* John Doe <jdoe@xxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 19 Aug 2005 02:07:27 -0400
-

Andrew Lotosky wrote:

- > With the delays for 121, NASA will probably get Endeavour back flying,
- > and use all three orbiters, retire Atlantis after a few flights,
- > forgoing an OMM, then close off the program with Discovery and
- > Endeavour.

If the goal is to complete the station and possibly a flight to Hubble to outfit it with a de-orbit engine, then NASA will need all shuttles it can use, especially when you consider the delays because of foam.

The question then becomes:

With KSC facilities and staffing levels, does having 3 orbiters allow for greater launch rates than with just 2 orbiters ?

Once one shuttle 1 is rolled to the pad, the shuttle 2 goes from OPF to VAB, and the shuttle 3 can then begin its turn around processing at OPF after having landed. With 2 shuttles, there is a window where not all facilities are used. With 3 shuttles, you fill your facilities.

Can NASA sustain high flight rates for 4 years ? I would hope that during this stand down until March 2006, NASA would use this time to do any maintenance to OPF , VAB and MPLs that would allow uninterrupted use between 2006 and 2010.

Also, NASA should now look at transforming at least one MPLM to have micrometeorite protection so it can be left on station permanently.

Because of the rush between 2006 and 2010 to complete the station, NASA must now use the next 6 months to make damned sure its facilities will be ready for high flight rates.

.

-
- *Follow-Ups:*

◆ **Re: Endeavour Butchered**

◇ From: Tim K.

• **References:**

◆ **Endeavour Butchered**

◇ From: alicat5

◆ **Re: Endeavour Butchered**

◇ From: Derek Lyons

◆ **Re: Endeavour Butchered**

◇ From: Brian Thorn

◆ **Re: Endeavour Butchered**

◇ From: Mike Scott

◆ **Re: Endeavour Butchered**

◇ From: genedigennaro

◆ **Re: Endeavour Butchered**

◇ From: Brian Thorn

◆ **Re: Endeavour Butchered**

◇ From: Tim K.

◆ **Re: Endeavour Butchered**

◇ From: Andrew Lotosky

- Prev by Date: **Re: Endeavour Butchered**
- Next by Date: **Re: Prior to 1981**
- Previous by thread: **Re: Endeavour Butchered**
- Next by thread: **Re: Endeavour Butchered**
- Index(es):
 - ◆ **Date**
 - ◆ **Thread**