

Re: What the.....the Shuttle can't be in space over new years day?

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"Lee Jay" <ljfinger@xxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:1162946762.397777.180290@xx>

It's one of about a dozen articles I read before posting. Basically, they haven't done it (the reload) so they aren't going to try it in space if they don't have to. If they won't fly over new years because of a self-imposed rule, they essentially can't fly without violating the rule. There are lots of risk-reduction rules that they adhere to that can prevent flight. A boat in the wrong place in the range can prevent flight. That means the shuttle can't fly with a boat in the range - a perfectly reasonable rule. This rule seems to me to mean the same thing - the shuttle can't be in space over new years. It's not a physical limit, it's a NASA rule in response to a software limit. It still prevents flight during that period.

But if they need to fly a rescue flight, they'll accept the risk and fly. The risk of a stranded Hubble crew dying in LEO would far outweigh the risk of a problem caused by the end of year roll-over.

There are always risks to be assessed, and NASA management tries its best to pick the least risky approach that will have the highest likelihood of producing a successful mission.

Jeff

"They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety"

- B. Franklin, Bartlett's Familiar Quotations (1919)

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