

Re: Shuttle proves being superb manned spacecraft

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech--archive.net/Archive/sci.space.shuttle/2007-11/msg00388.html>

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- *From:* [fairwater@xxxxxxxx](mailto:fairwater@xxxxxxxx) (Derek Lyons)
  - *Date:* Wed, 28 Nov 2007 19:03:38 GMT
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behlingjo@xxxxxxxx wrote:

On Nov 28, 9:32 am, "Jeff Findley" <[jeff.find...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:jeff.find...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

And don't forget that sticking a man in the loop increases the overall reliability of the craft itself. Look at how many times a Soyuz crew has performed a manual docking. In many ways, people are a backup for automated systems that can, and do, fail.

Actually the opposite. It reduces reliability and introduces more failure modes with the additional systems. Failures in the life support systems and anything else related to crew now can end a mission.

How many times has a life support failure ended a mission? How many times has astronaut intervention recovered a mission? My recollection is the latter is a far larger number than the former.

The reality is, though it does decrease overall reliability – the decrease is minimal because of the high reliability of the added systems.

D.

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Touch—twice life. Eat. Drink. Laugh.

<http://derek1963.livejournal.com/>

—Resolved: To be more temperate in my postings.  
Oct 5th, 2004 JDL

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