

Return to Flight Task Group



Final Report
July 2005

A photograph of the Space Shuttle Columbia during launch. The shuttle is ascending vertically, leaving a massive, bright white plume of smoke and fire. The scene is captured from a low angle, with the shuttle appearing to rise from a body of water in the foreground. The sky is a clear, pale blue. The text of the report is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Final Report

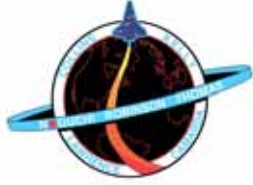
of the

Return to Flight Task Group

**Assessing the Implementation of the
Columbia Accident Investigation Board
Return-to-Flight Recommendations**

July 2005

On the Front Cover



The STS-114 patch design signifies the return of the Space Shuttle to flight and honors the memory of the STS-107 *Columbia* crew. The blue Shuttle rising above Earth's horizon includes the Columbia constellation of seven stars, echoing the STS-107 patch and commemorating the seven members of that mission. The crew of STS-114 will carry the memory of their friends on *Columbia* and the legacy of their mission back into Earth orbit. The dominant design element of the STS-114 patch is the planet Earth, which represents the unity and dedication of the many people whose efforts allow the Space Shuttle to safely return to flight. Against the background of the Earth at night, the blue orbit represents the International Space Station (ISS), with the EVA crewmembers named on the orbit. The red sun on the orbit signifies the contributions of the Japanese Space Agency to the mission and to the ISS program. The multi-colored Space Shuttle plume represents the broad spectrum of challenges for this mission, including Orbiter inspection and repair experiments, and bringing supplies to the International Space Station. (Courtesy of NASA)

On the Title Page

Discovery heads for the International Space Station during the STS-114 return-to-flight launch on July 26, 2005.

On the Back Cover

The seven stars of the Columbia constellation are in memory of the crewmembers lost on STS-107.

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