

Russian spaceship docks at the ISS

April 26 2006



Russian officials say the Progress M-56 supply spacecraft launched Monday docked Wednesday with the orbiting International Space Station.

The docking at 1:14 p.m. EDT was reported as automatic and without incident.

"The cosmonauts, Pavel Vinogradov and Jeffrey Williams, will open the hatches of the supply craft in about three hours' time," Russian Space Agency spokesman Valery Lyndin at mission control near Moscow told the Interfax news agency.

Before opening the spaceship's hatches the Progress crew was to, among other things, check whether the craft was securely airtight and take air

samples.

Progress was launched from the Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.

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