

NASA replacing seals in leaky shuttle fuel line

October 20 2010, By MARCIA DUNN , AP Aerospace Writer



The crew of space shuttle Discovery, from left, commander Steve Lindsey, pilot Eric Boe, mission specialist's Alvin Drew, Tim Kopra, Michael Barratt and Nicole Stott attend a news conference in front of the shuttle on launch pad 39A at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla., Thursday, Oct. 14, 2010. Discovery is scheduled to launch Nov. 1. (AP Photo/John Raoux)

(AP) -- Space shuttle Discovery needs more repair work before it can take off on its last flight.

NASA said Wednesday it will empty Discovery's on-board fuel tanks, then replace two seals in a line [that had been leaking](#). The job at the launch pad will take the rest of this week. If all goes well, the shuttle will

remain on track for a Nov. 1 liftoff to the [International Space Station](#).

Technicians checked bolts on the leaky fuel line earlier this week. The bolts were tight. But for whatever reason, the leak stopped, after a week of slow seepage. Managers ordered the seal replacements as a precaution.

The fuel is used to move Discovery around in orbit.

More information: NASA:

<http://www.nasa.gov/mission-pages/shuttle/main/index.html>

©2010 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.

Citation: NASA replacing seals in leaky shuttle fuel line (2010, October 20) retrieved 27 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2010-10-nasa-leaky-shuttle-fuel-line.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--