

Image: Astronaut tests SAFER backpack

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Image Credit: NASA

(PhysOrg.com) -- Astronaut Mark Lee tests the new backpack called Simplified Aid for EVA Rescue (SAFER), a system designed for use in the event a crew member becomes untethered while conducting an EVA.

The Lidar-In-Space Technology Experiment (LITE) is shown in the foreground.

The LITE payload employs lidar, which stands for light detection and ranging, a type of optical radar using [laser pulses](#) instead of radio waves to study Earth's atmosphere.

Unprecedented views were obtained of cloud structures, storm systems, dust clouds, pollutants, forest burning, and surface reflectance.

The STS-64 mission marked the first untethered U.S. EVA in 10 years, and was launched on September 9, 1994, aboard the Space Shuttle Orbiter Discovery.

Provided by JPL/NASA

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