

Image: Astronaut Alexander Gerst training at Star City, Russia

March 4 2014



Credit: Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Centre

ESA astronaut Alexander Gerst during training at Star City, Russia, on 13 February 2014. The exercise provides training for operations that

Alexander would have to perform to attach himself safely in case he had to be airlifted by rescue helicopters.

Survival training is an important part of all Soyuz mission training. When a Soyuz spacecraft returns to Earth there is always the possibility that it could land in water.

Alexander Gerst is [flight engineer](#) for Expedition 40/41, which will be launched to the International Space Station in May 2014 on a long-duration mission to run science experiments and maintain humankind's space base.

Provided by European Space Agency

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