

Russians end 7-hour spacewalk at International Space Station

June 2 2021



In this image taken from Roscosmos video, Russian cosmonauts Oleg Novitskiy, left, and Pyotr Dubrov, members of the crew to the International Space Station (ISS), perform their first spacewalk on Wednesday, June 2, 2021, to replace old batteries outside the International Space Station. Two Russian members of the International Space Station crew are conducting a spacewalk. Oleg Novitskiy and Pyotr Dubrov are scheduled to conduct technical works before the arrival of a new Russian module. The duo is set to prepare for undocking and disposal of the Pirs docking compartment, which will be replaced later this year by the new

Nauka (Science) multipurpose laboratory module. Credit: Roscosmos via AP

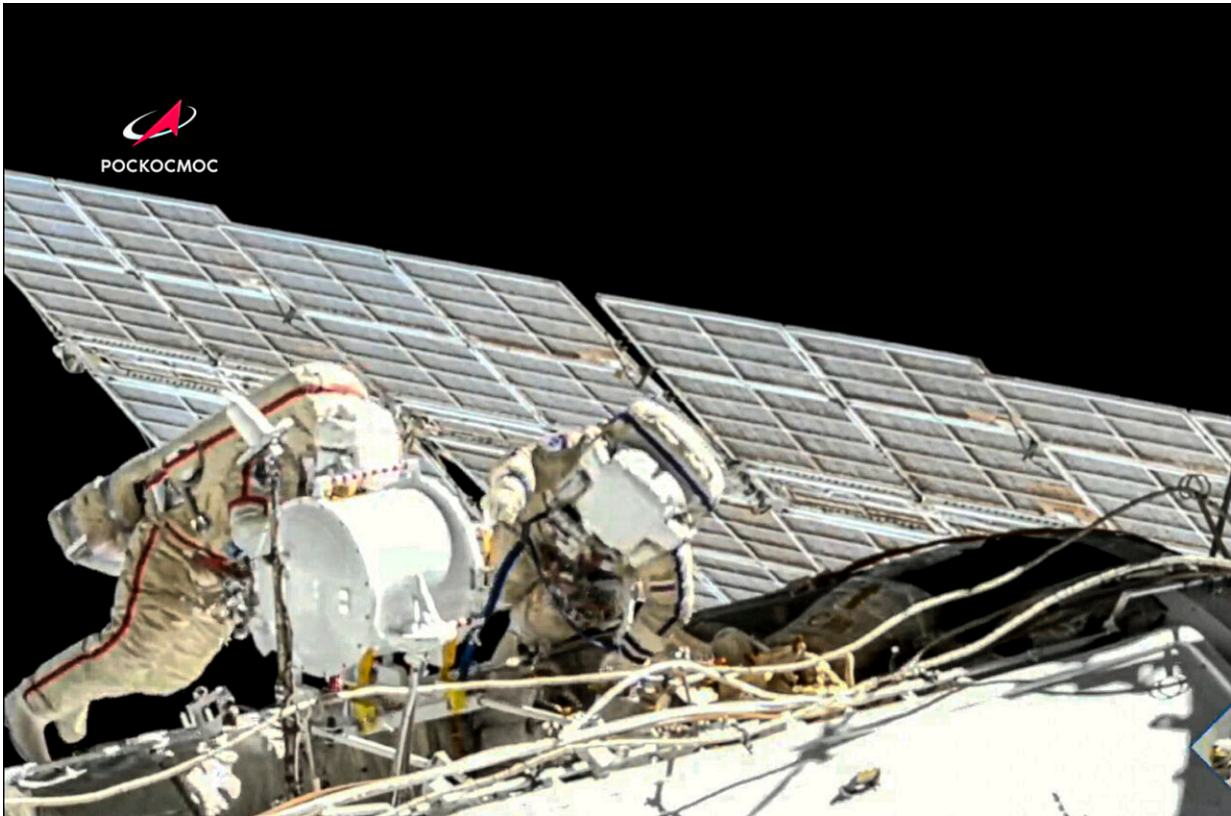
Two Russian cosmonauts ventured for more than 7 hours outside the International Space Station to prepare for the arrival of a new Russian module.

It was the [first spacewalk](#) for both Oleg Novitsky and Pyotr Dubrov, who arrived at the [space station](#) in April, and it lasted 7 hours and 19 minutes. It was broadcast live by NASA.

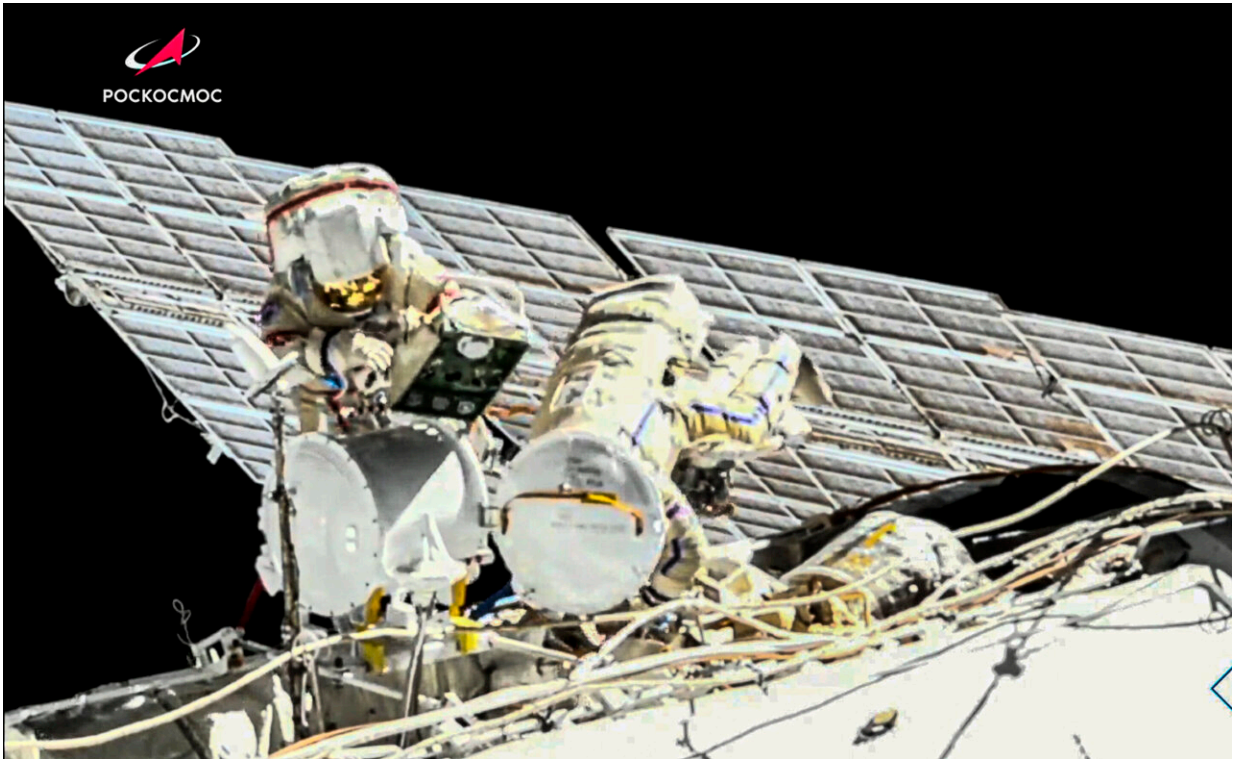
The two focused on getting the space station ready for the undocking and disposal of the Pirs docking compartment, which is set to be replaced next month by the new Nauka (Science) multipurpose laboratory module.

They disconnected an antenna and other equipment from the Pirs and stowed them on the outside of the station for future use in preparation for the module's disposal.

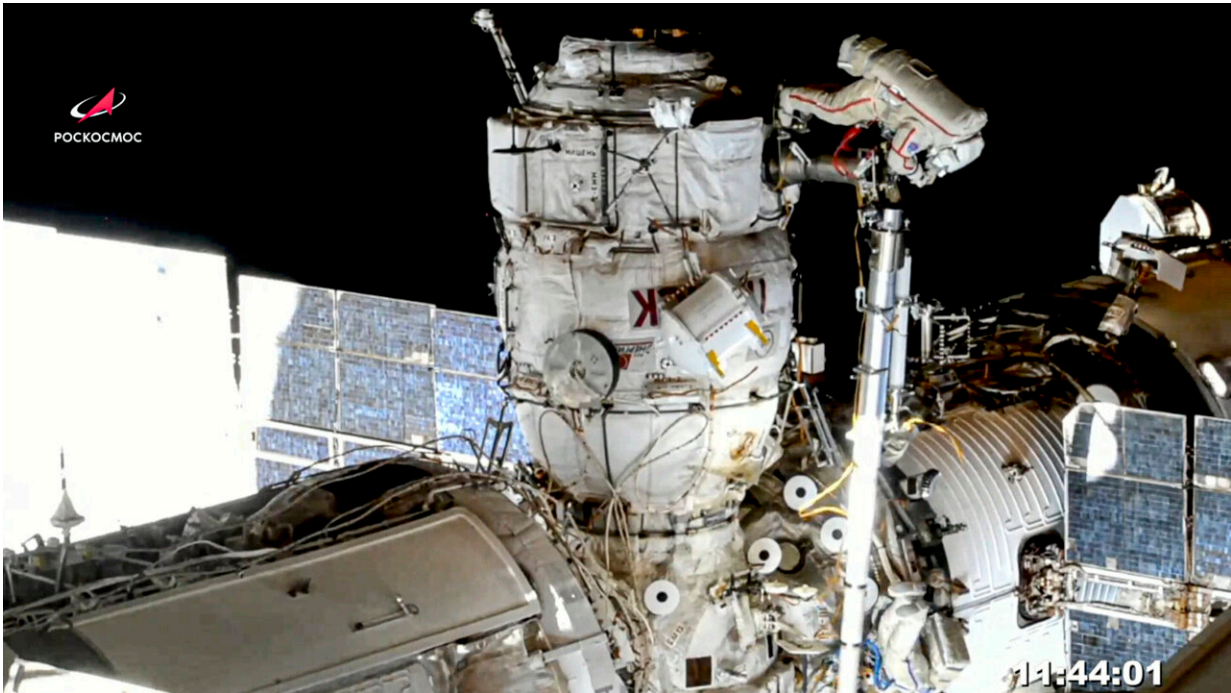
Novitsky and Dubrov also replaced a fluid flow regulator and two sets of biological and material science samples on the exterior of the Russian modules.



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The two Russians currently team up at the space outpost with NASA astronauts Mark Vande Hei, Shane Kimbrough and Megan McArthur; Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency astronaut Akihiko Hoshide; and European Space Agency astronaut Thomas Pesquet.

The launch of the Russian Nauka lab module has been continuously pushed back over technical issues. Russian space officials have said it will finally be launched in July.

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Citation: Russians end 7-hour spacewalk at International Space Station (2021, June 2) retrieved 25 May 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2021-06-russians-hour-spacewalk-international-space.html>

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