Cargo-packed Dragon arrives at space station

April 4 2018

SpaceX's unmanned Dragon cargo ship arrived Wednesday at the International Space Station, packed with food, gear and science experiments for the astronauts living in orbit.

"We have capture confirmed," a NASA commentator said as the space station's robotic arm latched onto the gum-drop shaped spacecraft at 6:40 am (1040 GMT), at a moment when the spacecraft was over the southern part of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The spacecraft was bolted onto the orbiting outpost at 9 am (1300 GMT).

Due to full crew schedules on Wednesday, astronauts will likely begin unpacking the spaceship on Thursday, NASA said.

The cargo ship is carrying 5,800 pounds (2,600 kilograms) of food, supplies and science experiments to enable the study of thunderstorms, anti-cancer drugs, and technology to remove debris in orbit.

The mission is the 14th for SpaceX under a $1.6 billion contract with NASA to resupply the space station over multiple years.

Both the Dragon cargo vessel and the Falcon 9 booster that launched in on Monday were flown to space before, marking the second time SpaceX has used a recycled spaceship and rocket to reach the ISS.

© 2018 AFP

Citation: Cargo-packed Dragon arrives at space station (2018, April 4) retrieved 24 April 2024 from https://phys.org/news/2018-04-cargo-packed-dragon-space-station.html

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.