

Edwards AFB Welcomes Home Discovery



The space shuttle Discovery touched down safely on August 9, marking the 50th landing at the Mojave Desert's Edwards Air Force Base (AFB). It was the first shuttle mission by NASA since Columbia broke apart during re-entry in February 2003.

Discovery was on a 14-day mission to service the international space station and to improve safety on future shuttle missions. The shuttle spent most of the mission docked to the space station, delivering supplies and performing maintenance. In addition, astronaut Steve Robison performed an unprecedented shuttle repair mission by plucking two pieces of filler material protruding between tiles on Discovery's underside.

After about a week at Edwards, Discovery took off for its cross-country trip and final destination, Cape Canaveral, Florida.