→ PROGRESS

Russian un-manned cargo spacecraft

Progress is an expendable unmanned cargo spacecraft, developed to regularly re-supply the International Space Station. The Progress vehicle is derived from the Soyuz spaceship design.



The Progress Spacecraft

The Progress space craft is composed by three major modules: - the **Cargo Module** (CM), - the **Re-fuelling Module** (RM), and - the **Propulsion Module** (PM).





THE CARGO MODULE (CM)

The CM is a pressurized spherical structure which is filled with cargo supplies to the ISS. Once docked and the crew has equalized the pressure, the cargo is removed and transferred. The volume that has been left empty is filled with all the rubbish and the equipment that needs to be disposed.

This module is burned during its destructive re-entry into the Earth's atmosphere.

THE RE-FUELLING MODULE (RM)

The RM is located in the middle of the Progress and it replaces the Soyuz's DM. This is an un-pressurized propellant and refuelling compartment for safety reasons insulated from the CM (in order to avoid poisonous gases to get in contact with the ISS' internal environment).

As the CM, also the RM is burned during its destructive re-entry into the Earth's atmosphere.

THE PROPULSION MODULE (PM)

The PM is located at the rear of the spacecraft and it contains the avionics and the engines for the automatic docking.

It can also be used for the ISS' re-boosting operations.

Like the previous two modules, also the PM is burned during its destructive re-entry into the Earth's atmosphere.

Progress CM cargo locations dimensions.



Specifications

PROGRESS SYSTEM MAJOR SPECIFICATIONS AND PERFORMANCES

7,150 kg
7.23 m
2.2 m
2.72 m
7.6 m³
2,230 kg
1,800 kg
1,950 kg
10.60 m



Progress M-52 (ISS-P17) short after un-docking the International Space Station in June 2005. Photo: NASA

eesa	PROJECT: International Space Station			
TITLE: Progress		DOCUME	NT N°:	REV.
		ESA-HS	O-COU-034	2.0

Utilisation Relevant Data

LAUNCH CONFIGURATION

Launch vehicle: Launch site: First flight to ISS: Flight rate: Soyuz rocket Baikonur, Kazakhstan August 2000 Mean: 4-8/year

ON ORBIT CONFIGURATION

Deployed solar arrays, with a total span of 10.6 m that provide electrical power.

MISSION PHASES

- Spacecraft (and cargo) integration,
- Launch,
- Transfer flight to the ISS,
- Docking to the ISS,
- Docked operations,
- Cargo transfer to the ISS,
- Undocking from the ISS,
- Free flight after undocking,
- De-orbiting,
- Destructive re-entry into Earth's atmosphere.



- 1. Lift-off contact ($K\Pi$) (h=0 km; t=0 s).
- 2. Jettison the launch escape system propulsion system (h=46 km; t=115 s).
- 3. Separation of LV 1st stage (h=49 km; t=118 s).
- 4. Jettison the nose fairing (h=84 km; t=165 s).
- 5. Separation of LV 2nd stage (h=167 km; t=288 s).
- 6. LV 3rd stage shut-off command, microgravity (h=202 km; t=526 s). 3rd stage separation contact (KO) (t=530 s).
- 7. Autonomous orbital flight (prior to docking with the orbital complex) up to 1.9 days.
- 8. Mated orbital flight (as part of the orbital complex) up to 210 days.
- 9. Undocking from the orbital complex, autonomous pre-descent flight, up to 1.3 days.
- 10. Vehicle compartment separation.
- 11. Jettison primary parachute (OC**Π**) cover.
- 12. Deploy the pilot parachute and the drogue parachute, in turn, to reduce the rate of descent.
- 13. Deploy the main canopy and jettison the drogue parachute.
- 14. Jettison the heat shield, jettison external window panes, open the automatic pressure control unit (БАРД) (h=5.5 km)
- 15. Re-hook the main canopy for symmetrical suspension, HF (KB) beacon, pressurize the OC Π container ullage, release air from the ullage cylinder of the backup parachute (**3**C Π) in the CA.
- 16. Firing of soft-landing engines, opening of the ambient air ventilation system (СДВ) valves, landing, damping the landing velocity by deformation of the bottom and the shock-absorbing seats.