



outpost will have two common ports enabling expanded opportunities for visiting vehicles, including new spacecraft designed to carry humans for NASA's Commercial Crew Program. The docking adapters are the physical connections spacecraft like SpaceX's Crew Dragon, Boeing's CST-100 Starliner, as well as future, yet-to-be designed international spacecraft will use to autonomously attach to station. The adapters are important because the plans are readily available for spacecraft builders to standardize a host of docking requirements. The Falcon 9 first stage from this launch will land 8-1/2 minutes after launch at Cape Canaveral's Landing Zone 1. This should be visible to launch viewers on shore. A double sonic boom is expected within a minute after the landing.

SpaceX-18, the 18th Commercial Resupply Services mission provided by SpaceX for NASA, is an unmanned cargo mission to the ISS (International Space Station). It is packed with more than 5,000 pounds of research equipment, crew supplies and hardware. The SpaceX Dragon spacecraft will launch on a Falcon 9 rocket from Space Launch Complex 40 at the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. About 2-1/2 minutes after launch, the second stage is released pushing the Dragon capsule into a matching orbit with the ISS. At 9-1/2 minutes into the mission, the second stage releases the Dragon cargo craft to continue on to the ISS. As Dragon reaches its preliminary orbit, it will deploy its solar panels and begin a series of thruster firings to reach the International Space Station. It will take 2 days to arrive at Station. In addition to bringing research to station, the Dragon's unpresurized trunk is carrying an International Docking Adapter, called IDA-3. When installed on the space station, the one-of-a-kind

SpX-18



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SPX-18

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