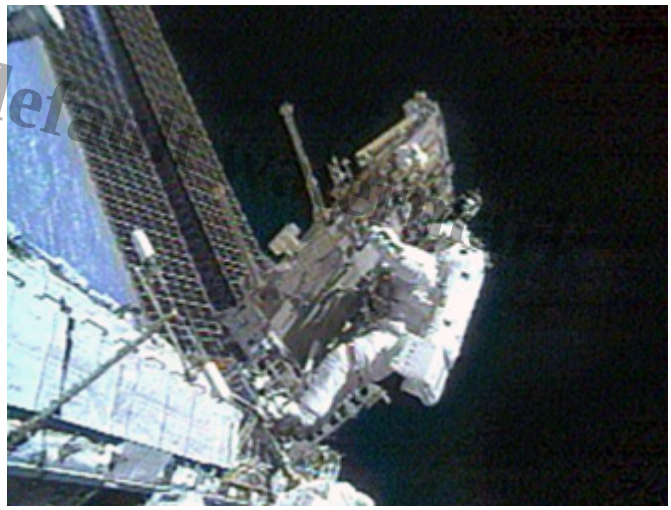
Hope the Packup Included This

Description

I can hear it now, a new parody song for NASAâ€™s shuttle crews:

â€œGround Control to Major Tom:
â€œGo out there and put some Duct Tape onâ€•
You can work on the rest of the replacement lyrics yourself. You also can get credit for preforming it on YouTube.



NASA Photo: Expedition 15 Flight Engineer Clay Anderson holds a Crew Equipment Translation Aid cart as he rides on the end of the International Space Stationâ€™s robotic arm during STS-118â€™s third spacewalk. Image: NASA TV

Anyhow, if you check out the link above, youâ€™ll see itâ€™s not so much a joke.Now, on the more serious side, think about being a bona fide astronaut and, having scoffed at skydivers all these years (for no real aviator would jump out of a â€˜perfectly goodâ€™ airplane) and now you are in orbit, above the atmosphere and the safety of being able to depart a potential soon to be disaster and put some space age fabric in the shape of a wing above your head, mumbling to yourself while on the EVA, what Bill Cosby said (â€œHope the plane donâ€™t crash!â€•) and praying that itâ€™s Duct Tape to the rescue on reentryâ€¦

Iâ€™m thinking it might not be such a silly idea to see if you can make a spacesuit and integrated lifesaving parachute for future Shuttle flights, but then again, I know how much fun freefall really is. Now that I think about it, in WWI, only the Germans supplied their air crews with parachutes, with the Allies believing that, once so equipped, pilots would rather jump than work to get the plane back to home plate. Oh, how wrong they were in that assessment.

If youâ€™d like some real data on the STS-118 â€œissue,â€• check this page out to see several videos of the damage.

Category

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