TO THE STARS

Conversations with Astronauts and Cosmonauts. Contents.

CONTENTS

Preface	7
Method of work	10
THE QUALITIES NEEDED TO MAKE IT TO SPACE ARE PATIENCE AND HARD WORK	11
William Surles "Bill" McArthur, Jr.: "The qualities needed to make it to space are patience and hard work. Patience because it takes a long time, and hard work because the education and experiences needed to become an astronaut require significant effort."	12
Expedition 12 commander and NASA science officer to ISS	18
What is the International Space Station?	30
ABOUT SPACE WITH YURI PAVLOVIC GIDZENKO AND MARC PAUL CIUPITU FOR THE MAGAZINE CURIERUL ROMÂNESC	33
Yuri Pavlovic Gidzenko: "Cosmonauts and astronauts have to create their own view about their future life as a cosmonaut or astronaut."	34 ,
Colonel Yuri Pavlovic Gidzenko has an extensive space travel resume!	44
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO FLY IN SPACE	51
Christer Fuglesang: "I wasn't specifically determined to become an astronaut, but I've always wanted to fly in space."	52
Astronaut Christer Fuglesang training session in the	64

TO THE STARS

Conversations with Astronauts and Cosmonauts. Contents.

Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory (NBL) near the Johnson Space Center (JSC).	
Space Shuttle mission STS-116, by Marc P. Ciupitu.	72
FROM OUTER SPACE A STRONG SPECIAL EMOTION	81
Dumitru Dorin Prunariu: "From out there, from outer space, Romania is the size of loaf of brown home baked bread. Whenever I flew above my homeland, I used to feel a strong special emotion."	82
Dumitru Dorin Prunariu: "Experience has shown that from 27-29 years to 77 years people have already flown in space."	95
B612 Foundation	108
Asteroid 99942 Apophis	113
IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT SPACE IS THE FINAL FRONTIER	115
Marc P. Ciupitu: "Most important is to have the ability to work in a team!"	116
Marc P. Ciupitu manages the transfer of NASA EVA hardware between the U.S.A. and Russia.	125
A great day at the office!, by Marc P. Ciupitu.	132
As good as it gets!, by Marc P. Ciupitu.	134
An introduction to weightlessness: "25 seconds at a time", by Marc P. Ciupitu.	137
Marc P. Ciupitu, an engineer of Romanian origin, and part of the group at NASA that are experts in U.S. "FMU" and Russian "ORLAN" space suits	145

TO THE STARS

Conversations with Astronauts and Cosmonauts. Contents.

by Silvia Constantinescu.	
Different and yet so similar, a brief comparison of the American and Russian space suits, by Marc P. Ciupitu.	147
HS activities at the Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center (GCTC), Star City, Russia	149
REMEMBER THIS	153
Silvia Constantinescu: "40 years since man's first 'walk' in a spacesuit, 'spacewalk', free in outer space."	154
Silvia Constantinescu: "Omega – the first watch worn on the Moon."	160
ANNEX	169
Our sponsor, Theo A. Ciupitu: "Every person is knighting themselves through their own actions."	170
Theo A. Ciupitu – A presentation.	181
Silvia Constantinescu - A presentation.	183
Marc P. Ciupitu - A presentation.	190