

Checklist to become astronaut

ESA astronaut - An absolute
DREAM job, but you have to like to
live in uncertainty

Remember:

- As an astronaut, with the exception of a few (like Thomas Reiter), you spend very little time in space. For me, it was 15 days of my time as an astronaut. You must be convinced that you will like the in-between activities before you sign-up...

but...

I still recommend that you sign up, because

...what we do there is very meaningful
(exploration and discovery, science, working
together), and:

... time spent in space is the most amazing thing
that you can imagine

Checklist to become astronaut

- Have motivation and faith
- Study the right discipline(s), keep learning
- Stay healthy, run, play tennis, go to the gym
- Learn to fly, scuba diving, climb mountains
- Brush up your English, learn Russian, Chinese also

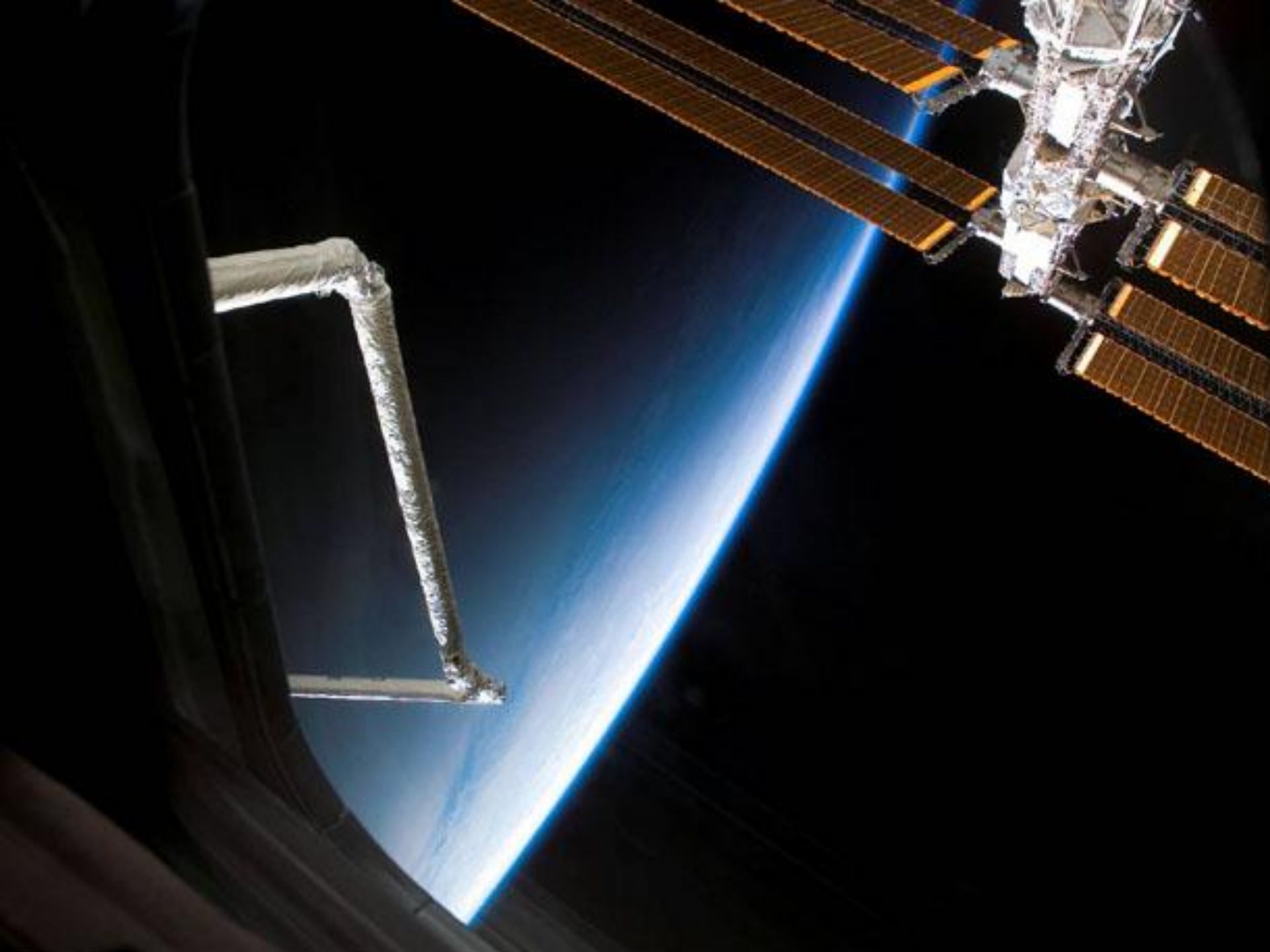
Checklist to become astronaut

- Get comfortable with an international environment
- Speak in public - You'll have to do this all the time
- Do not listen to the ones who say it must be too hard
- Play the piano, or the guitar, read books
- Stay cool, and be happy!

See what you might miss if you do
not sign up...





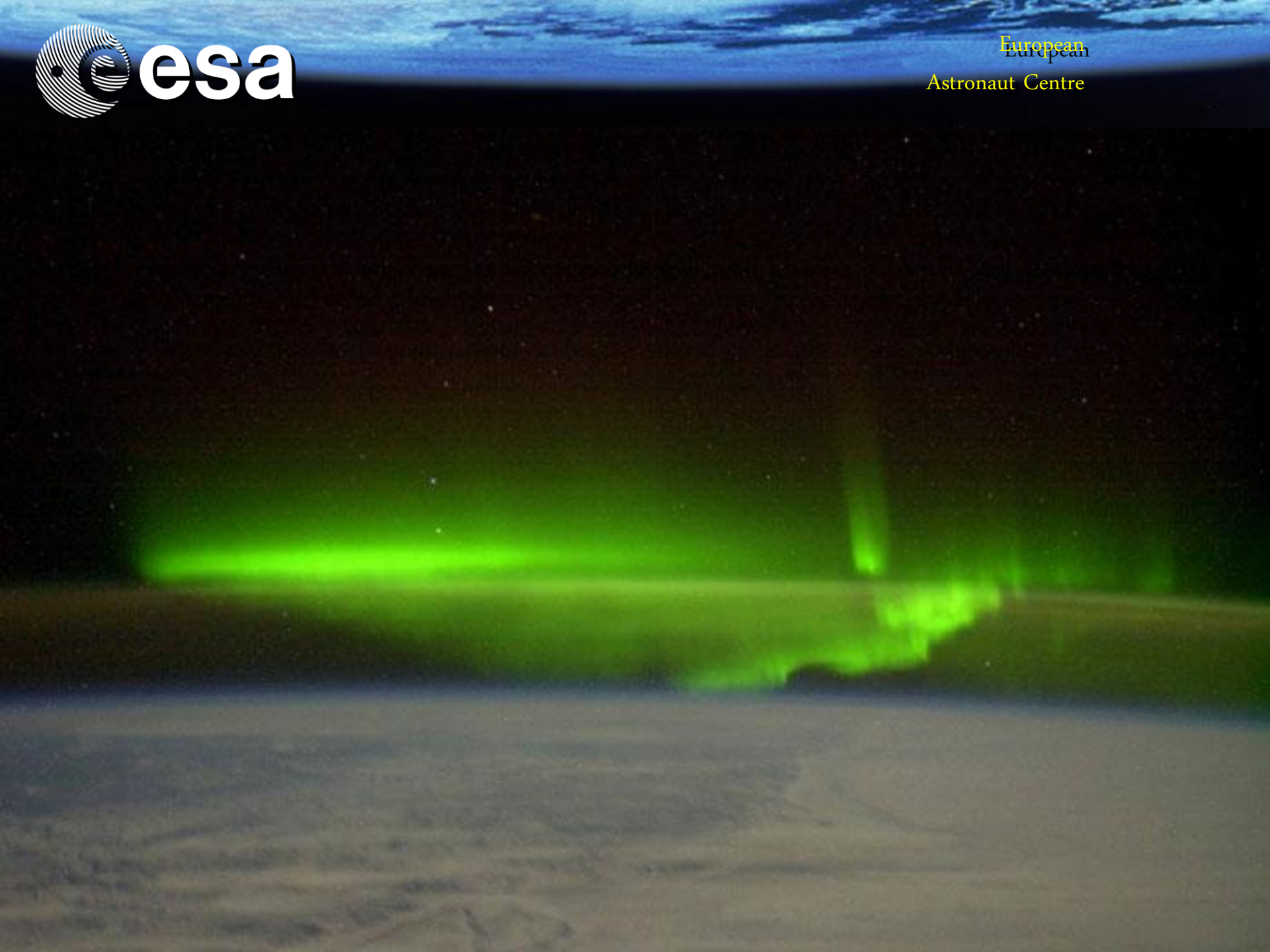


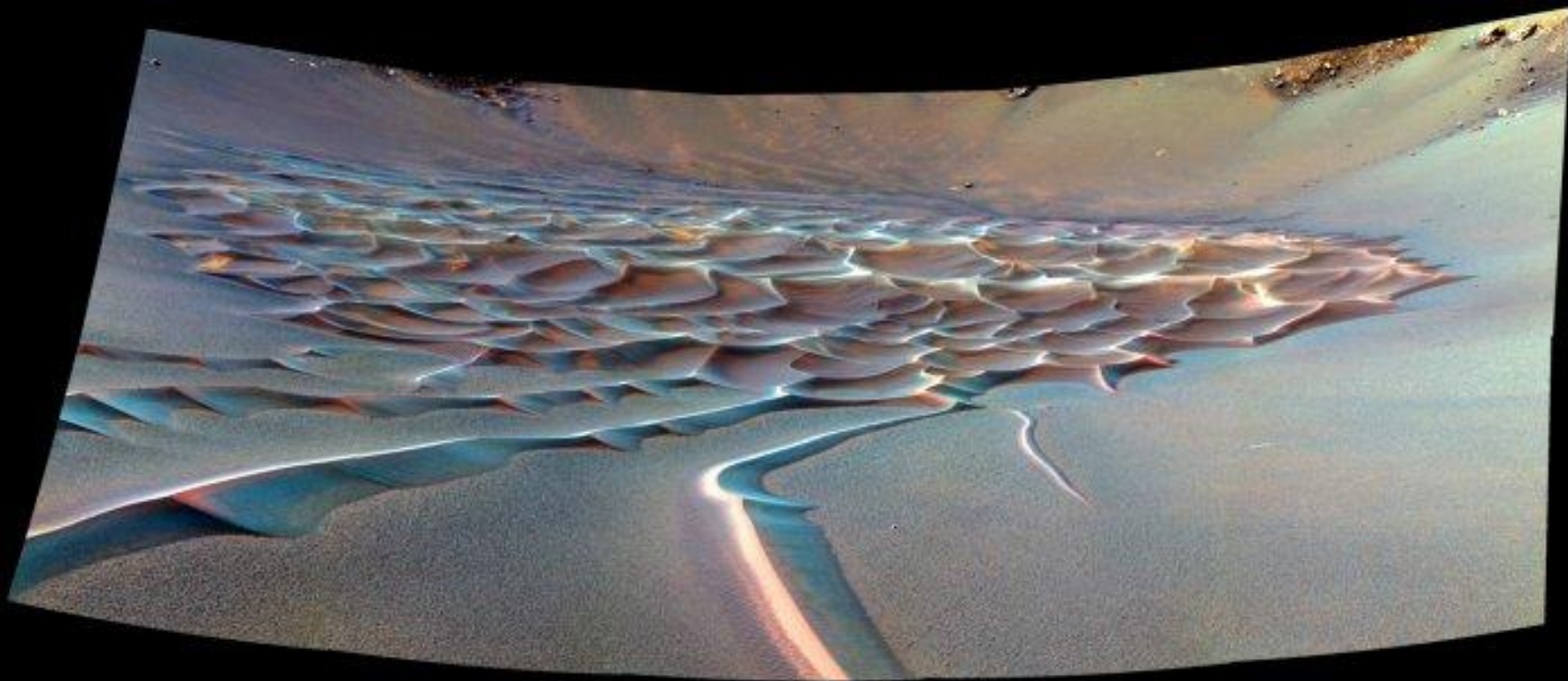












...sand dunes in the Victoria crater (Mars!)





ESA ASTRONAUT SELECTION

The Process

Process Overview

1. Online Application
2. Psychological Stage 1
3. Psychological Stage 2
4. Medical Evaluation
5. Professional Interview



Online Application

1st medical screening step



- Obtain a JAR-FCL 3, Class 2 medical examination certificate, or equivalent
- Upload a pdf. of the certificate
- Fill-in the application form

Psychological Stage 1

1st round of
psychological
screening

- Assessment on:
 - Basic aptitudes
 - Personality factors

Psychological Stage 2

2nd round of psychological screening

- Focus on:
 - Group exercises
 - Role-playing
 - Computer-based simulations
 - Interviews

Psychological Stage 2

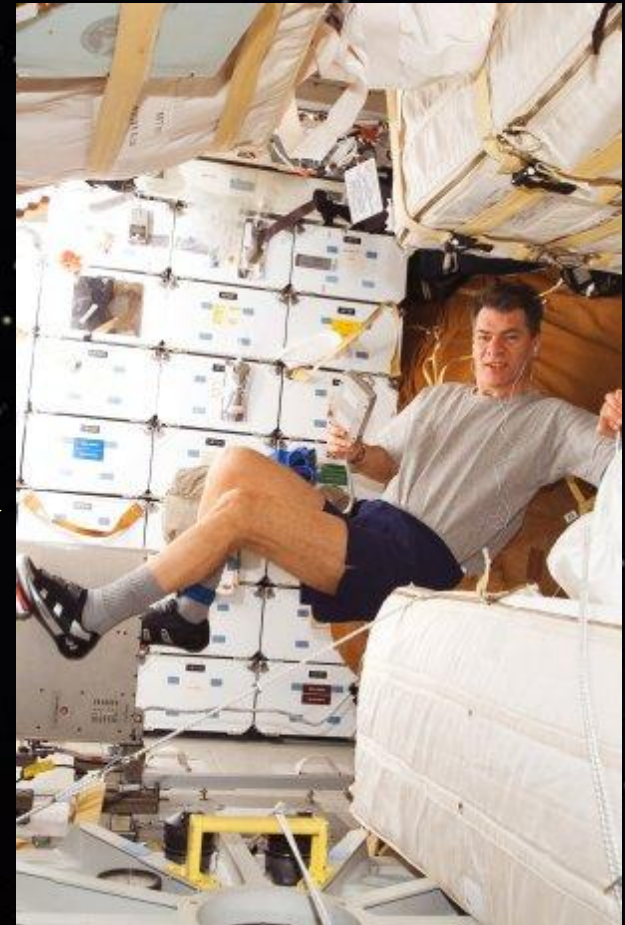
- Verification of:
 - Personality
 - Behaviour
 - Qualification

Psychological Stage 2

*Aptitude to perform the
tasks & duties of an
astronaut*

Medical Evaluation

- Medical questionnaires
 - Medical history
 - Current health
 - Social habits & lifestyle
 - History of disease in the family
 - Etc.



Medical Evaluation

- Focus on:
 - Assess current health status
 - Determine risks for developing diseases
- Purpose:
 - Screen for candidates that:
 - are free from disease
 - are in excellent health
 - have the least likelihood for developing disease

Medical Evaluation

1. General Medicine
2. Ears, Nose, Throat
3. Ophthalmology
4. Pulmonology
5. Cardiovascular
6. Hematology
7. Abdomen and Digestive System
8. Endocrine and Metabolic
9. Genitourinary
10. Musculoskeletal and Orthopedics
11. Dermatology
12. Neurology
13. Psychiatry and Human Behavior
14. Obstetrics and Gynecology
15. Dental
16. Infectious Diseases
17. Anthropometry
18. Radiation Exposure
19. Nutrition
20. Physical Fitness

ESA Medical Board

- Board comprised of European experts representing the various disciplines

Makes recommendations for candidates to continue in the selection process



Professional Interview

As future ESA staff members, the astronaut candidates will have to meet an ESA Selection Board for further professional evaluation

Opening Application Form

19 May / 15 June 2008

www.esa.int/astronautselection



See you soon !