



SpaceX Loses Contact Before Private Astronaut Spacewalk

Description

Allegedly, during SpaceX's Polaris Dawn mission, ground control encountered a significant loss of communication for an hour before two private astronauts embarked on the first-ever commercial spacewalk. This groundbreaking event was detailed in a report by Reuters.

The Polaris Dawn mission, spearheaded by tech mogul Jared Isaacman, launched on September 10 with a crew of four aboard SpaceX's Crew Dragon. The mission achieved a record orbital altitude of 870 miles above Earth, marking a milestone for crewed missions in terms of Earth-orbit apogee. On September 12, the mission made history as the first private expedition to conduct a spacewalk, with Isaacman and another astronaut venturing outside the Dragon capsule.

However, behind the scenes at SpaceX's mission control, a power outage in California led to a loss of ground control. This mishap raised concerns as the mission operators briefly lost the ability to command the spacecraft, highlighting the critical role of ground control in addressing unforeseen events.

Although these incidents were not publicly disclosed due to SpaceX's private nature, the FAA oversees safety regulations for commercial space operators launching within U.S. territory. Congress's 2004 moratorium limits the FAA's jurisdiction over the safety of individuals on board private spacecraft to avoid stifling the budding space industry.

SpaceX's partnership with NASA, responsible for ferrying astronauts to the International Space Station, underscores the company's reliability in space missions. However, a NASA safety panel recently advised SpaceX to prioritize crew safety as it expands its commercial spaceflight activities.

With President-elect Donald Trump nominating Isaacman to lead NASA, the future of private sector involvement in the nation's space program is uncertain. Regulations ensuring crew safety may become more stringent under Isaacman's potential leadership, safeguarding against similar incidents in the future.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Allegedly** /ə'ledʒɪdli/ (adverb): According to what is said but not yet proven.
2. **Milestone** /'maɪlstəʊn/ (noun): An important event or point in development.
3. **Unforeseen** /ˌʌn.fər'si:n/ (adjective): Not anticipated or predicted.
4. **Mishap** /'mɪs.hæp/ (noun): An unfortunate accident.
5. **Jurisdiction** /ˌdʒʊərə.ɪs'dɪk.jən/ (noun): The official power to make legal decisions and judgments.
6. **Stringent** /'strɪn.dʒənt/ (adjective): Strict precise and exacting.



Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. Which word describes something that introduces new ideas or methods?

- Option: Anticipation
- Option: Substantial
- Option: Captivating
- Option: Innovative

2. Which word means worthy of attention or striking?

- Option: Encounter
- Option: Mysteries
- Option: Remarkable
- Option: Astounding

3. Which word means expected or looked forward to?

- Option: Withstand
- Option: Extreme
- Option: Introduce
- Option: Anticipated

4. Which word refers to a significant stage or event in development?

- Option: Allegedly
- Option: Milestone
- Option: Unforeseen
- Option: Mishap

5. Which word means strict or precise?

- Option: Jurisdiction
- Option: Stringent
- Option: Connectivity
- Option: Optimization

6. Which word is used to describe an extreme and sudden failure?

- Option: Resolved
- Option: Eliminated
- Option: Unresponsiveness
- Option: Crashes

7. Which word means an improvement or upgrade?



- Option: Substantial
- Option: Significant
- Option: Innovation
- Option: Enhancement

8. Which word is used to describe something revolutionary or pioneering?

- Option: Groundbreaking
- Option: Anticipation
- Option: Innovative
- Option: Encounter

9. Which word means settled or concluded?

- Option: Mysteries
- Option: Resolved
- Option: Epitomizes
- Option: Astounding

10. Which word refers to the state of being connected or interconnected?

- Option: Withstand
- Option: Extreme
- Option: Connectivity
- Option: Introduction

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. Despite thorough planning the project encountered several _____ challenges.

12. The new discovery has a _____ impact on the field of medicine.

13. Continuous monitoring and adjustments are essential for the _____ of the system.

14. Through effective measures the risk of errors was _____.

15. The team faced a minor _____ during the experiment but it did not affect the overall results.

16. The court has the _____ to rule on matters of law.

17. The artist presented a _____ performance that held the audience's attention.



18. The magician's tricks were truly _____ leaving the spectators in awe.
19. The structure was built to _____ strong winds and harsh weather conditions.
20. Continuous _____ drives progress and development in various industries.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The explorers were thrilled to a rare species of bird during their expedition.
22. After lengthy discussions the committee finally the dispute.
23. The defendant committed the crime but there was insufficient evidence.
24. The iconic building modern architectural design.
25. The company made a investment in research and development.
26. The new software enhances between different devices.
27. The team faced an setback but quickly adapted to the new situation.
28. The artist's talent was truly drawing admiration from all who saw the exhibit.
29. The novel had an plot that kept readers guessing until the very end.
30. The new update provides a significant to the user experience.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Innovative 2. Remarkable 3. Anticipated 4. Milestone 5. Stringent 6. Crashes
7. Enhancement 8. Groundbreaking 9. Resolved 10. Connectivity

Gap-Fill: 11. unforeseen 12. significant 13. optimization 14. eliminated 15. mishap 16. jurisdiction
17. captivating 18. astounding 19. withstand 20. innovation

Matching sentence: 1. encounter 2. resolved 3. allegedly 4. epitomizes 5. substantial 6. connectivity
7. unexpected 8. remarkable 9. intriguing 10. enhancement

CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL6

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