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The Dec. 19 launch of NASA's ICESat and CHIPSat satellites aboard a Boeing [NYSE: BA] Delta II 7320-10 rocket from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., has been postponed due to a launch vehicle hardware issue discovered during a pre-launch test.

Launch officials identified an ordnance box on the second stage did not operate properly during testing. The unit will be replaced and re-tested.

The Delta team is targeting Jan. 8, 2003 for the rescheduled launch date.

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