Boeing Delta II Rocket Prepared to Launch Four Satellites

(Revised)

The first of four Boeing Delta II launches in a three month period for Space Systems/Loral and the Globalstar satellite telephony system is scheduled to take place from here on June 8.

The three-minute launch window opens at 10:20:50 a.m. EDT.

Boeing will utilize a scaled-down, two-stage version of the Delta II rocket, to place four satellites into orbit with each launch. Globalstar already has 20 satellites in orbit. The first eight spacecraft were launched on two Delta launch vehicles on February 14 and April 24, 1998 from Pad A at Space Launch Complex 17, CCAS. The June launch will take place from Pad B also located at SLC-17.

Utilizing both pads at the Florida launch site, the Delta launch team is scheduled to place 16 satellites into orbit in less than 90 days.

Globalstar announced the accelerated launch schedule in April. With a minimum of 32 satellites in orbit, Globalstar can begin offering commercial service, according to officials at the San Jose, Calif., communications company.

Boeing has a total of five Delta II launches scheduled in support of Globalstar, with the fifth slated for the fourth quarter of this year.

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For further information:
Media Relations
Boeing Communications Expendable Launch Systems
(714) 896-1301
Boeing Launch Hotline
(714) 896-4770