Boeing Delta Team Plans Repeat Performance with Next Globalstar Launch

Boeing is poised to deliver a repeat performance with its next Delta II rocket launch in support of Space Systems/Loral and the Globalstar satellite system scheduled for July 8.

The launch, following close on the heels of the June 10 Delta II launch, will place four spacecraft into orbit, bringing the total number of Globalstar satellites in orbit to 28. It is the second of four planned Boeing Delta II launches within a 90-day period, resulting in the placement of 16 Globalstar satellites.

The Delta team will target one of two three-minute windows on launch day. The first window opens at 5:17 a.m., while the second window opens at 8:17 a.m. EDT. The decision to load liquid oxygen and attempt to launch during the first window or to wait for the second window will be made at approximately T-85 minutes in the countdown.

"The Delta program has developed a proud partnership with Globalstar," said Darryl Van Dorn, Boeing director of NASA and commercial programs. "Delta rockets launched the first eight Globalstar satellites in February and April of last year. We are pleased to offer our continued support which will allow Globalstar to begin offering commercial service by the third quarter of this year."

The next Delta II launches for Globalstar are scheduled for late July, and mid August. An additional Delta launch for Globalstar is slated for fourth quarter. Boeing is using a scaled-down, two-stage version of the Delta II rocket to place four satellites into orbit with each launch.

The Delta II is manufactured in Huntington Beach, Calif., with final assembly in Pueblo, Colo., and is powered by the RS-27A engine built by Boeing in Canoga Park, Calif. Alliant Techsystems, Magna, Utah, builds the graphite epoxy motors for boost assist. Aerojet, Sacramento, Calif., manufactures the second-stage engine; and AlliedSignal, Teterboro, N.J., builds the guidance and flight control system.

The Globalstar network is a planned constellation of 48 satellites orbiting at 764 nautical miles (1414 km) above the Earth that will supply global mobile telephony service.

Live Satellite Broadcast Feed

Boeing and Loral will broadcast the launch live at 5 a.m. EDT. The US satellite Ku-band transmission will be on: Telstar V, Transponder 19, vertical polarity at 97 degrees west longitude. The downlink frequency in Ku-band is 12053 MHz.

The European satellite broadcast will be carried on Intelsat K, H-5 upper, horizontal polarity at 338.5 degrees longitude. The downlink frequency is 11498.5 MHz.

Bars and tone will be broadcast starting at 4:30 a.m. EDT.

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