Boeing 702 Satellite Set to Launch with New Solar Array Design

The June 15 launch of Galaxy IIIC, a Boeing-built 702 satellite, will mark the return-to-flight of the world's highest capacity and most powerful communications satellite. Galaxy IIIC, the seventh in the Boeing 702 series, will be the first Boeing 702 to carry Boeing's latest in solar array technology.

Galaxy IIIC is scheduled to launch at 3:39 p.m. PDT (6:39 p.m. EDT, 10:39 p.m. GMT) from the Equator on a Sea Launch rocket. The satellite will provide service to the United States and Latin America and will add 77 channels of transmission capabilities to PanAmSat Corporation's fleet, one of the world's largest geostationary satellite systems. The launch marks the twenty-third satellite that Boeing has built for PanAmSat over the past two decades. Boeing Space and Communications (S&C), a unit of The Boeing Company [NYSE: BA], built the satellite.

"We have complete confidence in the quality and reliability of the Galaxy IIIC satellite," said Randy Brinkley, president of Boeing Satellite Systems, the satellite manufacturing arm of Boeing S&C. "We look forward to demonstrating the satellite's on-orbit performance, which will reassure our customers that the Boeing 702 is the world's top choice for reliability, flexibility, and the lowest-cost-per-transponder satellite service.

"The redesigned solar array is a 'tried and true' flat planar array that has served our customers well over the last 10 years on our Boeing 601 satellites," Brinkley added. Besides the classic design, we have incorporated rigorous quality standards that are based on the "Boeing Best Practices" we have implemented over the last several months."

With a 15-year contract life, Galaxy IIIC will operate at both the C-band and Ku-band frequencies from its orbital position at 95 degrees West longitude. The wide coverage area provides PanAmSat with the flexibility to adjust its market coverage accordingly. The satellite carries 24 C-band transponders and 53 Ku-band transponders.

PanAmSat Corporation [NASDAQ: SPOT], based in Wilton, Conn., is a leading provider of global video and data broadcasting services via satellite. The company builds, owns and operates networks that deliver entertainment and information to cable television systems, television broadcast affiliates, direct-to-home operators, Internet service providers, telecommunications companies and corporations.

Sea Launch Company, L.L.C., headquartered in Long Beach, Calif., is the world's only ocean-based, equatorial launch service. The international partnership of Boeing (U.S.), Energia (Russia), Yuzhmash/Yuzhnoye (Ukraine) and Kvaerner (Norway) provides reliable, affordable, high performance launch services for commercial payloads in the 4,500-6,000 kilogram range to geosynchronous transfer orbit (GTO) with the Zenit-3SL vehicle. Galaxy IIIC is the seventh Boeing-built satellite to be launched by Sea Launch.
Boeing S&C, headquartered in Seal Beach, Calif., is the world's largest space and communications company. A unit of The Boeing Company, S&C provides integrated solutions in launch services, human space flight and exploration, missile defense, and information and communications. It is NASA's largest contractor; a leading provider of space-based communications; the primary systems integrator for U.S. missile defense; and a leading provider of intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance. The global enterprise has customers worldwide and manufacturing operations throughout the United States and Australia.
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