

Boeing Delta II Set to Launch NASAs Mars Exploration Rover-A

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A Boeing Delta II rocket is scheduled to launch the first of two Mars Exploration Rover (MER) missions for NASA on June 8.

The launch of MER-A will occur at an instantaneous window of 2:05:55 p.m. EDT from Space Launch Complex 17A, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Fla. A second launch opportunity exists on June 8 at 2:44:07 p.m. EDT, if necessary.

MER-A will be launched aboard a Delta II 7925-9.5 configuration launch vehicle and will be deployed approximately 37 minutes after liftoff.

The second of the two missions, MER-B, is scheduled for launch on June 25, also from Cape Canaveral.

The primary goals of the MER missions are to: determine if life existed on Mars; characterize the climate of Mars; characterize the geology of Mars; and prepare for human exploration of Mars.

Boeing Delta website

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