Boeing Delta IV Deploys Final DSCS Satellite for U.S. Air Force

The third flight of the Boeing Delta IV today successfully deployed the U.S. Air Force's Defense Satellite Communications System (DSCS) spacecraft, DSCS III B6.

The Delta IV Medium launch vehicle carrying DSCS III B6 lifted off at 7:13 p.m. EDT from Space Launch Complex 37B, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Fla. Approximately 42 minutes after liftoff, the Delta IV delivered the communications satellite to a geosynchronous transfer orbit.

Today's mission was the final installment for the Air Force's DSCS program. The Air Force Space Command operates 10 Phase III DSCS satellites that provide defense officials and battlefield commanders secure voice and high rate data communications. The DSCS III system also transmits space operations and early warning data to various systems and users.

"This was a great mission and our second successful launch this week. Our team did a great job in preparing the vehicle and executing the mission. I am very proud of the entire Delta family," said Dan Collins, vice president and program manager, Boeing Delta Programs.

The Delta IV Medium configuration launch vehicle features the Boeing-built Common Booster Core first stage, RS-68 main engine, and four-meter composite payload fairing, all of which have flown successfully in three consecutive missions so far.

The next scheduled Delta launch is another mission for the Air Force. A Delta II will deploy the Global Positioning System satellite, GPS IIR-10. The launch is planned for October from Cape Canaveral.

A unit of The Boeing Company, Integrated Defense Systems is one of the world's largest space and defense businesses. Headquartered in St. Louis, Boeing Integrated Defense Systems is a $25 billion business. It provides systems solutions to its global military, government, and commercial customers. It is a leading provider of intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance; the world's largest military aircraft manufacturer; the world's largest satellite manufacturer and a leading provider of space-based communications; the primary systems integrator for U.S. missile defense; NASA's largest contractor; and a global leader in launch services.

Boeing Delta web site

Media Kit

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For further information:
Robert Villanueva
Boeing Expendable Launch Systems
(714) 372-2089
robert.s.villanueva@boeing.com
Madonna Walsh
Boeing IDS News Bureau
(314) 234-1362
madonna.a.walsh@boeing.com
Communications
(714) 896-1301
Boeing Launch Hotline
(714) 896-4770