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A Boeing [NYSE: BA] Delta II rocket delivered to orbit today a NASA spacecraft that will monitor the afterglow of explosions in space.

The Swift observatory, named for its ability to swiftly maneuver and point its instruments, will monitor gamma-ray bursts that are believed to cause the formation of black holes in space. Swift was launched by a Delta II 7320-10C vehicle. Lift-off occurred at 12:17 p.m. EST from Space Launch Complex 17A, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Fla.

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