Hispasat 30W-6 Mission

Mission Overview

SpaceX is targeting a Falcon 9 launch of the Hispasat 30W-6 satellite to a Geostationary Transfer Orbit (GTO) on Tuesday, March 6 from Space Launch Complex 40 (SLC-40) at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Florida. The two-hour launch window opens at 12:33 a.m. EST, or 5:33 UTC. The Hispasat 30W-6 satellite will be deployed approximately 33 minutes after launch.

A two-hour backup launch window opens on Wednesday, March 7 at 12:33 a.m. EST, or 5:33 UTC.

SpaceX will not attempt to land Falcon 9’s first stage after launch due to unfavorable weather conditions in the recovery area off of Florida’s Atlantic Coast.

Payload

Hispasat 30W-6 (previously Hispasat 1F) will be located at 30° W and serve as a replacement for the Hispasat 30W-4 (former Hispasat 1D) satellite, providing television, broadband, corporate networks and other telecommunications solutions. Built on the SSL 1300 satellite platform, Hispasat 30W-6 is expected to have a useful life of 15 years with 10.5 kW power and a multi-mission payload distributed across 40 Ku band transponders, 6 Ka band beams and 10 C band transponders.

Hispasat 30W-6 will provide HISPASAT additional Ku and C band capacity in Europe, the Mediterranean and the Americas, reinforce the distribution of audiovisual content in Latin America and provide connectivity in mobile environments. Utilizing the satellite’s Ka band transponders, Hispasat 30W-6 will enable HISPASAT to expand its broadband service offering in the European region and Northwest Africa.

HISPASAT is a world leader in the distribution and broadcasting of Spanish and Portuguese content, and its satellite fleet is used by important direct-to-home television (DTH) and high-definition television (HDTV) digital platforms. HISPASAT also provides satellite broadband services and other added value solutions to governments, corporations and telecommunication operators in America, Europe and North Africa.
Mission Timeline (all times approximate)

COUNTDOWN
Hour/Min/Sec     Events
- 01:13:00       SpaceX Launch Director verifies go for propellant load
- 01:10:00       RP-1 (rocket grade kerosene) loading underway
- 00:35:00       LOX (liquid oxygen) loading underway
- 00:07:00       Falcon 9 begins engine chill prior to launch
- 00:01:00       Flight computer commanded to begin final prelaunch checks
- 00:01:00       Propellant tank pressurization to flight pressure begins
- 00:00:45       SpaceX Launch Director verifies go for launch
- 00:00:03       Engine controller commands engine ignition sequence to start
00:00:00         Falcon 9 liftoff

LAUNCH AND SATELLITE DEPLOYMENT
Hour/Min/Sec     Events
00:01:18         Max Q (moment of peak mechanical stress on the rocket)
00:02:35         1st stage engine shutdown/main engine cutoff (MECO)
00:02:37         1st and 2nd stages separate
00:02:39         2nd stage engine starts
00:03:39         Fairing deployment
00:08:39         2nd stage engine cutoff (SECO-1)
00:26:38         2nd stage engine restarts
00:27:33         2nd stage engine cutoff (SECO-2)
00:32:51         Hispasat 30W-6 satellite deployment

Launch Facility

Space Launch Complex 40 (SLC-40), Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Florida
SpaceX’s SLC-40 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station is a world-class launch site that builds on a strong heritage. The site, located at the north end of Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, was used for many years to launch Titan rockets, among the most powerful in the U.S. fleet. SpaceX took over the facility in May 2008.

The center of the complex is composed of the concrete launch pad and flame diverter system. Surrounding the pad are four lightning towers, propellant storage tanks, and the integration hangar. Before launch, Falcon 9’s stages and payload are housed inside the hangar. The payload is mated to the Falcon 9 inside SLC-40’s hangar on the transporter erector. The rocket and payload are then rolled out from the hangar to the launch pad and lifted to a vertical position.

Resources

SpaceX Contact | John Taylor, Director of Communications, 310-363-6703, media@spacex.com.
Photos | High-resolution photos will be posted at flickr.com/spacex.
Webcast | Launch webcast will go live about 15 minutes before liftoff at spacex.com/webcast.