Press release



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77th straight success for Ariane 5

Ariane 5 completed a flawless launch from Europe's spaceport at the Guiana Space Centre, orbiting two telecommunications satellites, SKY Brasil-1 for operator AT&T/DIRECTV and Telkom 3S for operator Telkom Indonesia. The flight marked the European launcher's 77th straight success since 2003, in the presence of Christophe Sirugue, Secretary of State for Industry, and Jean-Luc Moudenc, Mayor of Toulouse and Chair of the Community of Ariane Cities.

With a launch mass of 6,000 kilograms, SKY Brasil-1 is a telecommunications satellite built by Airbus Defence and Space for operator AT&T/DIRECTV. It will provide direct high-definition television services (HDTV) to Brazil and the North Atlantic Ocean. It has an expected service lifetime of more than 19 years.

With a launch mass of 3,550 kilograms, Telkom 3S is a telecommunications satellite built by Thales Alenia Space for operator Telkom Indonesia. It will provide high-definition television services (HDTV) as well as mobile communications and Internet applications to Indonesia, Southeast Asia and part of Malaysia. It has an expected service lifetime of more than 16 years.

Commenting on the launch, CNES President Jean-Yves Le Gall said: "Ariane 5 today completed its 77th successful launch, reaffirming once again its position as the world leader in satellite launch services. I am delighted that Christophe Sirugue, our Secretary of State for Industry, and Jean-Luc Moudenc, Mayor of Toulouse and Chair of the Community of Ariane Cities, were able to be here to experience French and European excellence in access to space. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of the teams to whom we owe this success, at ESA, at Arianespace, across Europe's space industry and of course at AT&T/DIRECTV and Telkom Indonesia. I would also like to thank and congratulate CNES's teams at the Launch Vehicles Directorate and the Guiana Space Centre."

The launch of Ariane 5 will be carried live on ariane.cnes.fr/live

Check out the photos of the VA 235 flight campaign at the Guiana Space Centre at https://www.flickr.com/photos/cnes/albums