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Next Ariane 5 mission set to launch SGDC and KOREASAT-7 satellites

Tuesday 21 March, Ariane 5 will lift off from the Guiana Space Centre (CSG), Europe's spaceport in Kourou, to place two new telecommunications satellites into orbit: SGDC, built by VISIONA Tecnologia Espacial S.A. for operator Telebras S.A., and KOREASAT-7, built by Thales Alenia Space for operator ktsat, a subsidiary of KT Corp. This will be Ariane 5's second flight in 2017, its 92nd in all and the fourth launch of the year from the CSG.

With a launch mass of 5,735 kilograms, SGDC is a telecommunications satellite built by VISIONA Tecnologia Espacial S.A. for operator Telebras S.A. SGDC will bridge Brazil's digital divide by providing high-quality Internet services nationwide, provide sovereign and secure strategic communications for the Brazilian government and armed forces, and give the Brazilian space industry the critical technologies needed to play an increasingly important role in the nation's future space programmes. It has an expected service lifetime of more than 18 years.

With a launch mass of 3,680 kilograms, KOREASAT-7 is a telecommunications satellite built by Thales Alenia Space for operator ktsat. KOREASAT-7 will provide a full range of video and data applications, including Internet access, direct-to-home broadcasting (DTH), government communications and connectivity for VSAT (Very Small Aperture Terminal) networks. The satellite is designed to provide higher throughput and extended coverage over Korea, the Philippines, the Indochinese Peninsula, India and Indonesia. It has an expected service lifetime of more than 15 years.

**The launch of Ariane 5 will be carried live on
ariane.cnes.fr/live via the Dailymotion video platform**

**Check out the photos of the VA 236 flight campaign at the Guiana Space Centre at
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/cnes/albums>**

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