



Press Release

2 August 2019

PR120-2019

Next Ariane 5 mission Launch of Intelsat 39 and EDRS-C satellites

On Tuesday 6 August, Ariane 5 will take off from the Guiana Space Centre (CSG), Europe's spaceport in Kourou, to orbit two telecommunications satellites—Intelsat 39, for operator Intelsat, and EDRS-C, for ESA and Airbus. The launch will mark Ariane 5's 105th flight, its third in 2019 and the seventh of the year from the CSG.

With a launch mass of 6,600 kilograms, Intelsat 39 is a telecommunications satellite built in Palo Alto, California by Maxar Technologies—a leading supplier of cutting-edge satellite systems. The 61st Intelsat satellite to be orbited by an Ariane launcher, Intelsat 39 is equipped with wide and high-powered steerable spot beams to cater for high-speed broadband operators, video providers and government customers across Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and the Indian Ocean region. The flexibility of the payload's narrow, steerable beams will enable customers to respond rapidly and efficiently to changes in geographic and/or application requirements. Plus, the satellite's C- and Ku-band capabilities will add scale to Intelsat's Flex managed services, enhancing mobile connectivity for aeronautical, maritime and government users operating in these regions. The satellite has an expected lifetime of 15 years.

With a launch mass of 3,186 kilograms, EDRS-C is a telecommunications satellite built by OHB System AG. It will be the second communications node in the SpaceDataHighway—space's first fibre-optic network, based on cutting-edge laser technology to provide speeds of up to 1.8Gbit/s via its geostationary satellites and ground stations. It will help to improve environmental and security monitoring, disaster response and crisis management. From its position in geostationary orbit, it will relay data collected by observation satellites to Earth in near-real-time, a process that would normally take several hours. This will make it possible to triple the quantity of image and video data transmitted by observation satellites and to reprogramme their mission plan at any time and within a few minutes. The satellite has an expected lifetime of 15 years.

The Ariane 5 lift-off will be broadcast live on YouTube, at:

<https://ariane5.cnes.fr/en/live-ariane-5-va249-launch-190806>

For images of the VA249 mission at the Guiana Space Centre, go to:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/cnes/albums>

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