



Company Profile

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Arianespace at a glance

Arianespace was founded in 1980 as the world's first launch service & solutions company. It now has 23 shareholders from 10 European countries (including the French space agency CNES with 34%, EADS Astrium with 30% and all European companies participating in the production of Ariane 5 launchers). Since its creation, Arianespace has signed contracts with 73 customers and launched 277 payloads, accounting for more than half of the commercial satellites now in service.

In 2009, the company's sales should total € 1 046 million. On January 1st, 2010, Arianespace currently has 323 employees, including 253 at the company's headquarters in Evry near Paris, 59 at the Guiana Space Center in French Guiana, launch site for Ariane 5, Soyuz and Vega, and 11 at local offices in Washington D.C. (United States), Tokyo (Japan) and Singapore.

Operations

Arianespace offers launch service & solutions to satellite operators from around the world, both private companies and government agencies. The Arianespace family of launchers comprises:

- Ariane 5 heavy-lift launch vehicle, operated at the Guiana Space Center (49 launches, including 35 successful launches in a row).
- Soyuz medium launcher, which has been operated at Baikonur, Kazakhstan, since 1999 (21 commercial launches, all successful), and will be launched at the Guiana Space Center starting in 2010.
- Vega light launcher, to be operated at the Guiana Space Center starting in 2010.

In 2009, Arianespace performed 7 Ariane 5 launches (all successful launches) and continued to prepare the first Vega and Soyuz launches from the Guiana Space Center.

Capitalizing on its range of launchers, proven reliability and availability, Arianespace has won more than half of the commercial launch contracts open to competition worldwide in the last two years. This gives it a very healthy order book coming from 28 customers:

- 29 satellites to be launched into geostationary transfer orbit, using Ariane 5 or Soyuz for the smaller spacecraft (11 new contracts signed in 2009),
- 6 government launches by Ariane 5, for the ATV cargo vessel,
- 12 dedicated Soyuz launches (5 new contracts signed in 2009).

Arianespace will continue its steady launch rate in 2010, with six or seven Ariane 5 launches planned, along with the first Soyuz and Vega launches from the Guiana Space Center.

The technical performances of its launchers and a substantial order book have made Arianespace the world leader in satellite launch services for the last several years.

Management team

Arianespace's shareholders are represented by the Board of Directors. Jean-Yves LE GALL is Chairman of the Board & Chief Executive Officer. Louis LAURENT is Senior Vice President Programs, Jean Max PUECH is Senior Vice President Finance and Jacques BRETON is Senior Vice President Sales & Customers.