

Kourou Media Guide

Introduction

Journalists visiting the Spaceport will be provided the support of Arianespace whenever possible. Modern press room facilities have been developed at the Spaceport's technical center, where reporters will be able to file stories and conduct interviews before and after launches.

Accreditation

Guiana Space Center press accreditation, valid for one year, will be issued by the Guiana Space Center (CSG), following submission by the press offices of the European Space Agency (ESA), the French space agency CNES, or Arianespace, whether for a launch or otherwise.

Journalists

All accreditation requests from journalists, photographers or other media technicians must be made in the following manner:

- Fill out a single copy of the downloadable press registration form.
- Include a photocopy of your press card, or failing that, a letter of accreditation from your editor-in-chief.
- The form plus attached document is to be faxed, and then mailed, to the press office of the host organization, which will then send the documents to the CNES/CSG Information Department.
- For press card holders who are nationals of the European Union and/or member countries of ESA, the form plus attached document must reach the CNES/CSG Information Department at least three working days prior to the arrival of the journalist.
- For other nationals and non-press card holders, the form plus attached document must reach the CNES/CSG Information Department at least two weeks prior to your arrival.
- You also need to include a recent passport-sized photograph. Please send the photograph so that it arrives at least two working days prior to your arrival.
- CNES/CSG will provide you with an ID photo-badge on your arrival. You will either be greeted at the "reception" building for a personal visit or at the Jupiter Press Center for a launch.
- Accreditations are strictly non-transferable.

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Accreditations are valid for one year only and may be used for multiple visits. You must keep your badge for inspection at all subsequent visits. Accreditation is withdrawn if CSG access, security or safety rules are not respected. Accreditation also is no longer valid if you cease to be employed by your media organization.

Accompanying persons

Persons accompanying journalists must follow the same accreditation procedures as the journalists, and need to use the same form. The space reserved for the host press office must be filled out by Arianespace and sent to the CNES/CSG Information Department. Accreditation is subject to the same procedures and conditions as for journalists (photo, deadlines, CSG access rules). Press badges for accompanying persons bear the designation "ACCOMPAGNATEUR" and are delivered under the same conditions as for journalists.

Launch Registration

Requests should be addressed to the Arianespace Information Department, which acts as coordinator for ESA, CNES, customer organizations and industrial partners. They are examined during launch coordination meetings with customers, manufacturers, ESA, CNES and Arianespace. Journalists should indicate any specific technical requirements when making their accreditation request.

Access Regulations

Access badge

Upon your arrival at the Guiana Space Center, you will be given an ID badge with photo. You must wear this badge at all times.

Access to the Technical Center, launch complexes and industrial sites is authorized to accredited journalists with an ID badge, accompanied by an ESA, CNES or Arianespace press officer. Access is subject to the conditions specified below.

Private vehicles may not circulate at the sites except with special authorization, given on a case-by-case basis.

Site access

Due to security and safety precautions in force at the Guiana Space Center, movement around the center and access to various sites are subject to restrictions.

Certain launches impose specific restrictions. In these cases, the press office concerned will offer an optimized program which meets the needs of journalists.

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Press Facilities at the Guiana Space Center

Jupiter Press Center

The Press Center is located on the 2nd and 3rd floors of the Jupiter Building at the CSG Technical Center. From here, journalists can follow the various stages of the countdown, launch and flight in close proximity to the Jupiter Control Center. The Jupiter Press Center has the following facilities:

- A media room where all final countdown and flight information is transmitted via TV monitors. The room has:
- 31 desks (phone, typewriters on request, PC connection).
- 9 TV/radio booths, each comprising two TV monitors broadcasting the video transmission, one console (analog or digital) for an audio return channel (sound in English, French and the "floor"). Each booth accommodates two people. Four-wire connections must be requested at launch registration.
- Reception desk: for practical information and sending/receiving faxes and messages. A team of hostesses and technicians is ready to meet all your requirements at the Jupiter Press Center.
- Waiting room, with beverage machines and view of the Control Center and VIP room.
- Two terraces, from where you can watch the launch.

Toucan observation platform

The Toucan observation platform is open to print and electronic media journalists on special request and for TV crews. It is located 5 kilometers from the ELA 3 launch complex (the site of Ariane 5 launches), and offers a closer view of the launch.

The number of people permitted at the Toucan observation platform is limited for safety reasons. Access to the site is strictly controlled: the group of approved visitors departs around 1½ hours prior to launch and returns one hour after launch.

Final countdown and flight information can be followed at the Toucan observation platform via a closed-circuit TV.

The Toucan platform has no press or communications facilities.

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Telecommunications

Telephones

All desks at the Jupiter Press Center press room have phones with direct international access. Following registration with one of the hostesses, journalists are allocated their own desk for as long as the Press Center remains open. Allocation, billing and payment arrangements are made directly with the reception desk when you register. You will be billed for all calls made from your desk. Phone sockets comply with French standards.

Reportophones

The TV/radio booths at the Press Center are equipped with EELA AUDIO S20 reportophones. They have connections for headphones (mono jack, Ø 6.35 mm), microphone (3-pin Canon plug) and tape recorder (3-pin Canon plug).

Faxes

The hostesses handle the sending and receiving of faxes during the opening hours of the Press Center.

Four-wire audio links

Journalists can use four-wire audio links from the commentating booths at the Jupiter press room. However, you must first address your request to:

SERTE/DTRE, 65-67 rue des Archives, 75003 Paris

Tel.: + 33 1 44 61 46 80 / 47 00

Fax: + 33 1 42 71 07 89 / 43 09

In addition, **you must send a copy of your request to Arianespace/Information Department**, no later than 8 days prior to the launch. This will enable the four-wire link to be installed three days before the launch for tests and checking. Your request should include the name of the user, hours of use and billing address.

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TV/Photo Shoots

Journalists must request authorization from press and safety departments for all photo, movie or video shots. This is due to issues involving compatibility of equipment with operations under way.

Important: Aerial and panorama shots and shots from elevated positions are subject to regulations. In addition, flyovers of the Space Center and launch zones is regulated by French government decree. To facilitate reporting, photographers and cameramen are requested to:

- establish a shooting plan with the host press office or public relations department;
- respect predefined shooting locations;
- comply with safety and security recommendations (and even attend a safety training session if required);

You are also strongly recommended to allow time for location scouting in your schedule, notably for all shoots subject to security/safety restrictions.

Please note: For satellite preparation buildings (where the mission spacecraft are checked out and fueled), shoots are subject to security and safety restrictions which vary depending on the progress of operations and on the agreement of satellite managers.

Television

There are limited resources for the relay of TV images from French Guiana. The only current relay resources are at the Cayenne-based RFO TV station.

For further information, journalists should contact RFO directly at phone: 05 94 25 68 58; fax: 05 94 30 87 04.

- Offer to European and U.S. TV stations of live launch coverage, from 15 minutes before the launch to 40 minutes after the launch. TV stations must file a request for use of live coverage, with no rights and no commercial use, and with obligatory mention of Arianespace.

Link extensions are provided by:

Globecast - France Telecom
BP 581 - 75726 Paris Cedex 15
Tel.: +33 1 55 95 28 00
Fax: +33 1 55 95 28 28

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TV stations that want to broadcast live from Kourou can transmit their own commentary over the Arianespace video transmission from 15 minutes before launch to 40 minutes after the launch.

Arianespace and CNES/CSG have no plans to install any other production or broadcast facilities.

Interviews

During the launches

In addition to regular press briefings, interviews may be arranged and should be requested from press officers of the organizations present.

The interviews are coordinated by the "Launch" press office.

Practical Information

French Guiana is an overseas department of France. It is extremely well-positioned for launches, just 5° latitude north of the Equator.

It has a surface area of 92,000 square kilometers, with a population of approximately 160,000. The climate is tropical, with an average annual temperature of 27°C and humidity of 80-95%.

- Vaccinations: Vaccination for yellow fever is mandatory for entry into French Guiana.
- Telecoms: Direct dialing, international code + 594. Cellphone coverage is available.
- Food: International, French, Chinese and Creole cuisine is available in French Guiana.
- Local time: GMT -3 hours
- Currency: Euros (Visa, Amex, Travelers checks also are accepted at certain hotels, restaurants and shops).