

Communiqué de presse - Press release

Arianespace Flight VA247: Saudi Geostationary Satellite 1/Hellas Sat 4 - GSAT-31

The launch readiness review (RAL) took place in Kourou on Friday, February 1st, 2019, and authorized count-down operations for Ariane 5 Flight VA247.

For its first launch of 2019, Arianespace will orbit two telecommunications satellites using an Ariane 5 from the Guiana Space Center: Saudi Geostationary Satellite 1/Hellas Sat 4, a consosat for KACST and Hellas Sat; along with GSAT-31 for the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

Through this 103rd Ariane 5 mission – the 70th with an Ariane 5 ECA version – Arianespace confirms its leadership in the geostationary launch services market segment.

The liftoff will be performed from the Ariane Launch Complex (ELA) in Kourou, French Guiana (South America).

Launch time



Liftoff is planned on **Tuesday, February 5, 2019** as early as possible within the following launch window:

- > Between 4:01 p.m. and 5:02 p.m. Washington, D.C. time
- > Between 6:01 p.m. and 7:02 p.m. Kourou, French Guiana time
- > Between 21:01 and 22:02 Universal Time (UTC)
- > Between 10:01 p.m. and 11:02 p.m. Paris time
- > Between 11:01 p.m. and 0:02 a.m. Athens time, during the night of February 5 to 6, 2019
- > Between 0:01 a.m. and 1:02 a.m. Riyadh time, on Wednesday, February 6, 2019
- > Between 2:31 a.m. and 3:32 a.m. Bangalore time, on Wednesday, February 6, 2019

1. Telephotos

On this occasion two HD photos will be sent by e-mail through AFP, EPA, reuter'S, associated press, kyodo press service (via reuter's). In Europe via anp, ansa, apa, belga, dpa, efe, keystone, lusa, pressebild and in Japan via JJI press.

- 1.1 Ariane 5 launch vehicle on the ELA 3 launch pad (at sunset), [at 08:00 p.m. Kourou time, on February 4 2019 \(i.e. 23:00 UTC\)](#).
- 1.2 Lift off of the Ariane 5, [starting from H0+1 hour 30min on February 5, 2019, at 07:31 pm., Kourou time \(i.e. 22:31 UTC on February 5, 2019\)](#) if lift-off happens at the beginning of the launch window.

Important: **Crédit photo: « Service Optique CSG ».**
Copyright: « ESA/CNES/ARIANESPACE »

2. Live TV and eurovision coverage

2.1 Live TV coverage:

Arianespace gives free of charge, for TV news purposes only, the live video transmission (or part of it) of the launch starting H-15 min.

The signal is at your disposal at EBU Geneva center and through the EUROVISION'S WORLDFEED SERVICE.

Contact EBU: worldfeed@eurovision.net – hotline +41 22 717 2790 –

The video transmission is available with French and English technical commentaries. The signal is also available in the USA.

Contact: Aaron Lewis +1 (202) 628-3936.

Any requests for use must be formalized in collaboration with our press office before 04:00 p.m. (Paris time) on February 4, 2019. Arianespace copyright must be mentioned for each use.

The signal is available only for TV and not for video streaming on the Internet. For any use of the video streaming, please contact Arianespace Press Department (at least 3 days prior to the launch) which will indicate the conditions to create a link with the official Arianespace website (arianespace.com).

2.2 Eurovision coverage:

A short topic of the launch will be available in the EUROVISION NEWS EXCHANGE network:

Contact at the Eurovision News in Geneva: evn@eurovision.net

Thanking you in advance for taking advantage of these EVN/EUROVISION topics.

A complete registered VT program in broadcast quality will also be available in the EUROVISION WORLDBLINK video on demand platform (<https://www.eurovision.net/worldlink/>) less than two hours after the end of the live VT broadcast.

3. Live on Internet

Live, high-speed, full-screen; Arianespace's video transmissions are now available on the company's responsive website and YouTube channel.

We invite you to enjoy the Ariane 5 launch VA247 on our live broadcasts and past programs:

- Arianespace website: <http://www.arianespace.com>
- Arianespace on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/arianespace>

No matter where you are, go online for the launch scheduled on February 5, 2019 (Universal time). The webcast will start 15 min before liftoff.

4. Arianespace press contacts

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 <http://youtube.com/arianespace>

 <http://instagram.com/arianespace>