

Communiqué de presse - Press release

Arianespace flight VA244: Galileo FOC-M8, SAT 23-24-25-26

The launch readiness review (RAL) took place in Kourou on Friday, July 20, 2018 and authorized count-down operations for flight Ariane VA244 Galileo FOC-M8, SAT 23-24-25-26.

For its fourth launch of the year, Arianespace will orbit four more satellites (satellites 23 to 26) for the Galileo constellation. This mission is being performed on behalf of the European Commission under a contract with the European Space Agency (ESA).

For the third time, an Ariane 5 ES version will be used to orbit satellites in Europe's own satellite navigation system; with all Galileo spacecraft having been launched to date by Arianespace. Ariane 6 will take over from 2020.

Arianespace is proud to mobilize its entire family of launch vehicles for the benefit of Europe's ambitions and its independent access to space.

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

Launch time



Liftoff is planned on **Wednesday, 25 July, 2018** at exactly:

- > **8:25:01** a.m., Kourou time
- > **7:25:01** a.m., Washington D.C. time
- > **11:25:01** a.m., Universal Time (UTC)
- > **1:25:01** p.m., Paris time

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 JIJI press.

- 1.1 Ariane 5 launch vehicle on the ELA 3 launch pad (at sunset), **at 8:00 pm local time on July 23, 2018 (i.e. 23:00 UT).**
- 1.2 Lift off of the Ariane 5, **starting from H0+1 hour 30min on July 25, 2018 (i.e. 12:55 UT on July 25, 2018).**

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-20 mn.

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 4 p.m. (Paris time) on July 24, 2018. 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 WORLDLINK 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 VA244 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 the morning of July 25, 2018. The webcast will start 20 min before liftoff.

4. Arianespace press contacts

In Kourou (French Guiana)



Claudia HOYAU
Tel : +33 6 74 07 90 28



Martine STUDER
Tel + 594 694 23 09 83

in Evry (France) you can also contact our press information office:

Arianespace Information service
Isabelle PICHARDIE
Tél. : + 33 1.60.87.61.64
i.pichardie@arianespace.com


Claudia HOYAU
Head of Media & Digital Communications

 <http://twitter.com/arianespace>
 <http://twitter.com/arianespaceceo>

 <http://youtube.com/arianespace>
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