

FY -2C Satellite Ready For Full Operation

July 18 2005

Commission of Science Technology and Industry for National Defense held a handover ceremony on July 14 for China's first geostationary operational meteorological satellite successfully developed and launched by China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation.

After trial operation for six months, the satellite is officially delivered to China Meteorological Administration (CMA) for full operation.

Speaking at the ceremony, Sun Laiyan, deputy director of Commission of Science Technology and Industry for National Defense and director general of the China National Space Administration (CNSA), said that the successful delivery marks a great leap forward of Chinese aerospace industry on its way to service-oriented practice from application and experiment based practice.

Zhang Qingwei, managing director of China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation, noted that FY - 2C is the third geostationary meteorological satellite China has ever launched. It employs the self-spin stabilization method and has a designed service life of three years.

The remote sensing instruments onboard the satellite could perform the 36,000-km high-altitude observation over the earth, which is of high time resolution and has an advantage in dynamically monitoring the disastrous weather caused by meso- and micro-scale weather system. Meanwhile, FY - 2C is also good at obtaining and transmitting data, enabling continuous meteorological monitoring over the earth.

Qin Dahe, director of CMA, note that China has so far established polar orbit and stationary operation series of meteorological satellites, among which the FY meteorological satellites have all been included into the World Meteorological Organisation Satellite Observation Network, with China's meteorological satellites to be the key members.

Starting from June 27, the flood season observation pattern of FY - 2C has been started, which can catch 48 relevant images every day.

Source: Xinhua News Agency

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