

Liftoff for Ariane 5 ECA

November 17 2005



Late last evening local time an Ariane 5 ECA launcher lifted off from Europe's Spaceport in French Guiana on its mission to place two satellites into geostationary transfer orbit . Liftoff took place at 20:46 in French Guiana (00:46 CET).

The 50.5-metre tall launcher was carrying the Spaceway 2 telecommunication satellite for the American operator DIRECTV and the Telkom 2 telecommunication satellite for the Indonesian operator PT. Telekomunikasi Indonesia Tbk. With a mass of over 6100 kg,

Spaceway 2 is one of the largest telecom satellites ever launched into geostationary orbit.

The upper stage cryogenic engine was shut down 24:48 minutes after liftoff. By this time the launcher had attained a velocity of approximately 9.3 km per second. Spaceway 2 was the first satellite to separate, 27:24 minutes after liftoff, followed by the Telkom-2 satellite nearly 6 minutes later. Injection into the target geostationary transfer orbit of the two satellites was achieved with very high precision.

This is the 168th Ariane launch and the 24th Ariane 5 launch.

Source: ESA

Citation: Liftoff for Ariane 5 ECA (2005, November 17) retrieved 27 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2005-11-liftoff-ariane-eca.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.