

EchoStar telecom satellite set for launch

February 6 2006

The EchoStar X telecommunications satellite is on track for launch Wednesday and will provide television services for DISH Network once in orbit.

The spacecraft was built by Lockheed Martin and will provide DISH with a Ku-band direct broadcast package with designed minimum service life of 15 years.

Lockheed said EchoStar X is the 27th of its A2100 telecom satellites and the fourth delivered to DISH. Its intended parking spot above Earth is 110 degrees west.

The launch will be carried out Feb. 8 aboard a California-based SeaLaunch floating launch pad stationed in an isolated area of the equatorial Pacific.

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