

Satellite launched from Vandenberg

November 6 2010

(AP) -- A rocket carrying an Earth-observation satellite for civilian and military use has launched from California's Central Coast.

Vandenberg Air Force Base officials say the Delta II rocket blasted off at 7:20 p.m. Friday from the base.

The payload was the last part of a four-satellite system called COSMO-SkyMed that uses radar to create images for defense and scientific purposes, mainly in the Mediterranean region.

The [satellite](#) system was developed under an agreement between the Italian Space Agency and Italy's defense ministry.

The [launch](#) had been delayed since Sunday after problems with a propellant and a heater that kept the rocket's engines warm.

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