

# China launches navigation satellite: Xinhua

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China launched its ninth navigation satellite on Wednesday, the official Xinhua news agency reported, citing sources at the launch centre.

A rocket carrying the "Beidou", or Compass, [navigation satellite](#) orbiter blasted off from the Xichang Satellite Launching Centre in southwestern Sichuan Province at 5:44 am (2144 Tuesday GMT), it said.

The satellite is one of 35 that China is putting into orbit to form the Beidou navigation system, a [global positioning system](#) completely developed by Chinese technology, Xinhua said.

China started building its [satellite navigation system](#) to break its dependence on the US Global Positioning System (GPS) in 2000.

The network is expected to provide global services by 2020, the report said.

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