

Russia launches Chinese satellite

November 26 2011



A Proton-M rocket, carrying a Briz-M upper stage with China's AsiaSat 7 satellite rests on a launch pad at the Russian leased Kazakhstan's Baikonur cosmodrome, on November 22. The rocket completed a successful launch Saturday of an advanced Chinese communications satellite that should help expand television coverage in parts of Southeast Asia.

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The Roscosmos space agency said the AsiaSat 7 satellite was placed in its designed orbit at 0423 GMT after being launched from the Baikonur

space centre in ex-Soviet Kazakhstan on Friday evening.

The mission was accomplished after a recent string of Russian space failures that included the botched launch this summer of what was billed as Europe's largest [telecommunications satellite](#).

The Hong Kong-based Asia Satellite Telecommunications Company (AsiaSat) said in a statement that its seventh orbiter will support "a broad range of applications for the Asia-Pacific region" including [television broadcasts](#).

"With AsiaSat 7 successfully launched ... we can assure continuity of service to customers, while at the same time adding to our on-orbit capacity to service new business," said the company's chief executive William Wade.

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