

Ariane rocket launches Asia-Pacific telecoms satellites

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A picture released on July 29, 2014 by the European Space Agency shows an Ariane 5 ES heavy rocket after lift off from the ESA base in Kourou, French Guiana

An Ariane 5 rocket took off from the European space centre at Kourou in French Guiana late Thursday, before placing two Asia-Pacific telecoms satellites into orbit, the launch firm Arianespace said.

The twice-delayed launch took place at 7:05 pm (2305 GMT) and

shortly afterwards the Measat-3b, of Malaysian operator Measat, and Optus 10, of Australian counterpart Optus were successfully placed into [geostationary orbit](#).

The Measat satellite will expand telecoms and television services across Malaysia, Indonesia, India and Australia.

Australia's Optus will provide direct TV broadcast, Internet connectivity, telephone and data transmission services for Australia, New Zealand and the Antarctic region.

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