

Image: ESA's Vega rocket with IXV payload

February 3 2015



Credit: ESA

ESA's Vega rocket, with IXV on top, now awaits its fourth flight with liftoff on 11 February at 13:00 GMT (14:00 CET) from Europe's Spaceport in Kourou, French Guiana.

The Intermediate eXperimental Vehicle will be launched into a suborbital trajectory and return to Earth as though from a low-orbit

mission.

For the first time, it will test and qualify European critical reentry technologies in hypersonic flight, descend by parachute and land in the Pacific Ocean to await recovery and analysis.

More information: For more about IXV
visit: www.esa.int/Our_Activities/Launchers/IXV

Provided by European Space Agency

Citation: Image: ESA's Vega rocket with IXV payload (2015, February 3) retrieved 3 July 2024
from <https://phys.org/news/2015-02-image-esa-vega-rocket-ixv.html>

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