

# SpaceX launches 10 more Iridium Communications satellites

July 25 2018

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The Iridium 7 rocket by SpaceX launches early Wednesday, July 25, 2018 at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. Ten more satellites for Iridium Communications have been successfully launched into orbit. It was the seventh

launch in Iridium's \$3 billion campaign to replace its entire fleet of globe-circling satellites and brought the number in orbit to 65. One more launch will increase the number to 75, including 66 operational satellites and nine spares. (David Middlecamp/The Tribune (of San Luis Obispo) via AP)

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A SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket lifted off from Vandenberg Air Force Base, California, at 4:39 a.m. Wednesday and released the satellites about an hour later.

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SpaceX says that despite challenging weather and sea conditions, the Falcon's first stage successfully returned to Earth and landed on a "droneship" stationed in the Pacific Ocean south of Vandenberg.

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Citation: SpaceX launches 10 more Iridium Communications satellites (2018, July 25) retrieved 27 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2018-07-spacex-iridium-satellites.html>

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