

China's private satellite-carrying rocket fails after launch

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China's first attempt to deploy a privately developed rocket capable of carrying a satellite has failed.

Beijing-based Landspace said that the first and second stage of its ZQ-1 [rocket](#) worked normally on Saturday but something went wrong with the third stage.

The ZQ-1 was the first three-stage rocket built by a [private company](#) in China. A smaller private rocket was launched in May.

Video posted by a Chinese news site showed Landspace's 19-meter- (62-foot-) tall red-and-white rocket lifting off against clear blue skies.

The company said that "cowling separation was normal but something abnormal happened after the second [stage](#)." The statement on its Weibo social media account did not elaborate.

Chinese media reports said the rocket was carrying a satellite for state broadcaster CCTV.

The Landspace statement said that it still believes that building satellite-carrying rockets is "the right decision for the company."

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