

Video: New weather satellite on its way to launch

September 30 2022



Credit: European Space Agency

The final pre-launch preparations for the first Meteosat Third Generation (MTG) satellite are under way. The first satellite, called MTG-I1, built by a European industrial consortium led by Thales Alenia Space carries two imagers: an advanced Flexible Combined Imager and, in a first for Europe, a Lightning Imager that will allow the earlier

detection of storms and extreme weather events, as well as improve aviation safety.

Building on the long-standing partnership between ESA and Eumetsat, the MTG-I1 will be one of six satellites operating in a fleet, of three at a time, to ensure the continuity of data from the previous Meteosat satellites over the next 20 years. The first Meteosat was launched in 1977 and this third generation of spacecraft will be the most advanced yet, with improved image resolution and providing close to real time data for users, or "nowcasting" of fast-developing, high-impact weather.

The launch is currently scheduled for the end of 2022.

Provided by European Space Agency

Citation: Video: New weather satellite on its way to launch (2022, September 30) retrieved 23 June 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2022-09-video-weather-satellite.html>

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