

## Ariane 5's First 2019 Launch is a Success

Kourou, February 5, 2019

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- **For its first launch of the year, Ariane 5 placed two telecommunications satellites in orbit.**
  - **Four more Ariane 5 launches are scheduled for 2019.**
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Ariane 5 placed the Saudi Geostationary Satellite 1/Hellas Sat 4 (HS-4/SGS-1) and GSAT-31 telecommunications satellites into geostationary transfer orbit (GTO), lifting off from the European spaceport in Kourou (French Guiana).

The performance required of this Ariane 5 launcher was 10,018 kg of which 9,030 kg for the two satellites. In addition, payload release was optimized by placing the satellites in an orbit inclined at 3° in relation to the equator, instead of the usual 6° for Ariane 5.

*"This first mission of 2019 demonstrates once again our ability to adapt the launcher perfectly to meet the specific requirements of each customer. I extend my warmest thanks to the teams at ArianeGroup and Arianespace as well as to the entire industrial chain for this new shared success and the work accomplished, enabling high-precision satellite positioning by optimizing the final orbit,"* said ArianeGroup CEO André-Hubert Roussel. *"I also once again want to express my gratitude to the European Space Agency and to CNES for their continued support."*

ArianeGroup is the industrial prime contractor for the development and deployment of Ariane 5 and Ariane 6 launchers. The company coordinates an industrial network of more than 600 companies (including 350 SMEs) in 13 European countries. ArianeGroup oversees the entire industrial supply chain, from performance optimisation and the corresponding studies associated with the Ariane 5 to production, from the supply of mission-specific data and software to the marketing of the launcher through Arianespace. This chain includes equipment and structures, engine manufacturing, integration of the various stages and finally launcher integration in French Guiana.

### **Ariane 247 flight in figures:**

- 103<sup>rd</sup> launch of an Ariane 5
- 78<sup>th</sup> consecutive nominal ignition of the Vulcain<sup>®</sup> 2 engine
- 103<sup>rd</sup> consecutive nominal ignition of the EAP solid propellant boosters
- 143<sup>rd</sup> consecutive nominal ignition of the HM7B engine

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Press release

#### **About ArianeGroup**

ArianeGroup develops and supplies innovative and competitive solutions for civil and military space launchers, with expertise in all aspects of state-of-the-art propulsion technologies. ArianeGroup is lead contractor for Europe's Ariane 5 and Ariane 6 launcher families, responsible for both design and the entire production chain, up to and including marketing by its Arianespace subsidiary, as well as for the missiles of the French oceanic deterrent force. ArianeGroup and its subsidiaries enjoy a global reputation as specialists in the field of equipment and propulsion for space applications, while their expertise also benefits other industrial sectors. The group is a joint venture equally owned by Airbus and Safran, and employs approximately 9,000 highly qualified staff in France and Germany. Its 2017 revenues amounted to 3.4 billion euros.

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