



News Release

United States Navy

Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command
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Release NR-2002-032

Tuesday, December 17, 2002

2:30 a.m. Pacific Time

Coriolis Weather Satellite launch scrubbed Rescheduled for Wednesday



Vandenberg's Titan II mobile service tower on Space Launch Complex 4 West was pummeled by rain and wind Monday. U.S. Navy photo by Richard Williamson, SPAWAR Public Affairs.

VANDENBERG AFB, Calif. – The Coriolis mission scheduled for launch here today aboard a Titan II Space Launch Vehicle has been scrubbed because winds exceeded flight constraints for moving the Mobile Service Tower.

The launch has been rescheduled for Wednesday at 6:18 a.m. The launch team was also concerned about winds aloft and thick cumulus clouds that violated flight constraints. The weather for Wednesday morning shows improved conditions for launch. A web link for Vandenberg weather is included below.

When launched, the Air Force Coriolis mission will fly the Navy Windsat microwave polarimetric radiometer and Air Force Solar Mass Ejection Imager in a low Earth, sun synchronous orbit. The Windsat radiometer will provide important meteorological information on wind speed and direction at or near the surface of the ocean and the Solar Mass Ejection Imager will provide valuable early warning of coronal mass ejections that affect communications and power distribution systems here on earth.

The Coriolis mission is being assembled and launched by the Air Force Space and Missile Systems Center's Detachment 12 Space Test Program Office at Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque, New Mexico using a refurbished Lockheed Martin Titan II booster and a Spectrum Astro spacecraft bus. Spectrum Astro is integrating the spacecraft bus and payloads with the Titan II for launch from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. The National Polar-orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite System program office is

participating in the Coriolis flight and will use the Windsat information in reducing risk for the Conical Microwave Imager Sounder.

(more)

For More Information:

Vandenberg AFB Public Affairs Office operates a launch update line at 805-606-1857. This service will have the latest launch information. The base also maintains a web site providing launch information at:

<http://mocc.vandenberg.af.mil/launchsched.asp>

A photo of the Titan II Space Launch Complex and other images are available on the SPAWAR home page at <http://www.spawar.navy.mil>

The Vandenberg Air Force Base 30th Weather Squadron posts weather information and launch weather forecasts to their web page at

http://www.vandenberg.af.mil/30sw/organizations/30og/weather/weather_index.html

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