George Diller/NASA Launch Commentator:  This is Taurus Launch Control. With us in the Mission Director Center is Chuck Dovale. He is our assistant launch director tonight and also the deputy director of the Launch Services Program for NASA. And Chuck, can you explain exactly what happened? What did the launch team see that didn’t give them confidence to proceed into that last five minutes.

Chuck Dovale/NASA Glory Assistant Launch Manager: OK, well, I’ll give it a shot. The team is actually still working out trying to understand what the issue was. There’s a set of GSC ground support equipment called the vehicle interface control console that basically controls and provides status on the launch vehicle systems. What configuration they’re in. Whether it’s safe or not. It appears a hold-fire condition was noticed which basically means a safe condition was sent. The curious part of that is the vehicle was already safe. So something external, it was an external signal that indicated that the vehicle should be safe. So we didn’t quite understand why we were getting that indication. This VICC, Vehicle Interface Control Console, there’s a backup unit to it. The team quickly adjusted to the backup, but were getting the same indication of the prime. So it clearly wasn’t an indication of just a piece of
GSC that went bad. I think the biggest problem is the issue occurred at about L-12 minutes or so. And with basically no room for any flexibility of a long window, we just ran out of time for troubleshooting.

Troubleshooting is continuing. We had to make sure we understood the vehicle configuration and that we could get it safed. We’re in the process of doing that. Troubleshooting in commencing. We don’t understand the problem at the moment. I can just tell you that we’re going to troubleshoot it the next few hours. We certainly won’t continue until we understand it.

We are posturing for a 24-hour turnaround in the event we can find a root cause and hopefully try again tomorrow.

George Diller/NASA Launch Commentator: Does this system, does it monitor only or does it actually affect the ability to command the vehicle one way or another?

Chuck Dovale/NASA Glory Assistant Launch Manager: It provides control. So when a vehicle goes from a safe to an arm condition, this is the equipment that’s providing that, it’s in the launch equipment van.

So like I said, we were in a safe mode and it externally received a signal to go in the safe mode and we don’t quite understand why that had occurred.
George Diller/NASA Launch Commentator: So it will affect our ability to properly command the vehicle in those last few minutes or few seconds of the flight.

Chuck Dovale/NASA Glory Assistant Launch Manager: Right, absolutely.

George Diller/NASA Launch Commentator: And we weren’t getting the proper indication that this was working as it should.

Chuck Dovale/NASA Glory Assistance Launch Manager: Yeah, there was no indication the count was smooth and we had just cleared, the biggest problem was a boat in the dropbox. And this just kind of cropped up. The team out near the site got indication that a safe command was sent, a hold fire command was issued.

And timing wise, that was not a proper indication to get at that point.

George Diller/NASA Launch Commentator: So that just didn’t give us confidence that we would have full control of the vehicle in that last few minutes.

Chuck Dovale/NASA Glory Assistant Launch Manager: Right. If you don’t understand what this VICC, the ground support equipment is doing, then there’s really no need to continue until you understand it.

George Diller/NASA Launch Commentator: It’s called Vehicle Interface Control Console, is the unit that
00:04:22,730 --> 00:04:25,629
they'll be trouble shooting over the next several hours.

00:04:25,629 --> 00:04:26,709
Chuck Dovale/NASA Glory Assistant Launch Manager: Right.

00:04:26,709 --> 00:04:30,870
George Diller/NASA Launch Commentator: Alright. Chuck, thank you for coming over and we'll just stand by

00:04:30,870 --> 00:04:32,810
for further details as we get them.

00:04:32,810 --> 00:04:33,379
Chuck Dovale/NASA Glory Assistant Launch Manager: OK.

00:04:33,379 --> 00:04:37,899
George Diller/NASA Launch Commentator: But right now I guess we'll plan to proceed

00:04:37,899 --> 00:04:40,120
toward a launch attempt again tomorrow night.

00:04:40,660 --> 00:04:40,660
Chuck Dovale/NASA Glory Assistant Launch Manager: OK.

00:04:40,660 --> 00:04:41,769
George Diller/NASA Launch Commentator: Thank you, very much.

00:04:41,769 --> 00:04:42,209
Chuck Dovale/NASA Glory Assistant Launch Manager: Thanks.

00:04:42,209 --> 00:04:47,889
George Diller/NASA Launch Commentator: Chuck Dovale, our assistant launch director on the status of the

countdown and the issue that we began to work in the last few minutes of the countdown.

00:04:47,889 --> 00:04:50,959
This is Taurus Launch Control.