Hi, I'm NASA Kennedy's Diana Calero and I'm taking you Inside KSC!

The GOES-R mission began Saturday with a roaring evening liftoff from Space Launch Complex 41.

NASA's Launch Services Program, based at Kennedy and working closely with United Launch Alliance, sent the weather satellite into orbit for NOAA aboard an Atlas V rocket.

Once operational, the satellite will provide forecasters with much more information than before.

AL ROKER: If we can give people another 10, 15, 20 minutes.

We are taking about lives being saved.

The GOES-R spacecraft was the first in a series of advanced meteorological satellites that will increase lead times, provide better storm tracking and produce real-time maps of lightning.

GOES-R will orbit more than 22,000 miles above Earth where it will observe the western hemisphere.
And remember, SpacePort Magazine digs deeper
Inside KSC!