George Diller/IRIS Launch Commentator:  This is Pegasus Launch Control at launch minus one hour 27 minutes and counting.

Preparations are on schedule for the launch of the Orbital Sciences Pegasus XL-rocket carrying NASA's IRIS spacecraft.

Call to stations for the launch team was at 2:00 this afternoon Pacific Time. And the launch countdown began at 2:30 p.m., approximately five hours prior to the opening of the launch window.

Going thought the pre-takeoff checklist takes three hours and 35 minutes to complete.

The L-1011 is scheduled for departure at 6:15 p.m. Pacific Time, with the drop of the Pegasus from the L-1011 targeted to occur precisely at 7:27:34 p.m. Pacific Time.

The planned launch window is five minutes in duration.

The time from the L-1011 wheels up to the drop of the Pegasus is 58 minutes.

The weather forecast for today continues to call for a 20 percent chance of not meeting the launch weather criteria,

primarily due to cloud constraints. For NASA this will be the 19th flight of a Pegasus rocket, the 42nd for Orbital Sciences.