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00:00:01,670 --> 00:00:05,560

Tracy Young/Launch Commentator: Joining me now is NASA Launch Manager Omar Baez.

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00:00:05,560 --> 00:00:08,390

Good morning, Omar, and congratulations to you and the team.

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00:00:08,390 --> 00:00:10,810

Omar Baez/NASA Launch Manager: Well, good morning. Thank you.

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00:00:10,810 --> 00:00:13,290

Tracy Young/Launch Commentator: Well, everything seemed to go very smoothly with the count.

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00:00:13,290 --> 00:00:15,840

Can you give us a little recap of the activities?

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00:00:15,840 --> 00:00:19,500

Omar Baez/NASA Launch Manager: Yeah, absolutely. The team came in about 3 in the morning.

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00:00:19,500 --> 00:00:27,600

We weren't looking at any launch vehicle issues, or any issues with the range or the spacecraft.

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00:00:27,600 --> 00:00:34,470

Nice smooth countdown. We had a little bit of drama toward the end there with upper-level winds

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00:00:34,470 --> 00:00:39,450

taking us out of our range there and getting us "red."

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00:00:39,450 --> 00:00:49,060

But as soon as we loaded a new steering component into there and used a different load relief,

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00:00:49,060 --> 00:00:54,800

we were able to get back in the "green" and get the "go" to launch.

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00:00:54,800 --> 00:01:00,510

And it's been a smooth launch. First and second stage and into separation.

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00:01:00,510 --> 00:01:11,030

And a little while ago, we saw the video of the spacecraft separating and they tell us that the solar arrays did de

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00:01:11,030 --> 00:01:18,230

So, exciting and the team is jubilant from what I can see in the control room.

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00:01:18,230 --> 00:01:21,240

Tracy Young/Launch Commentator: Absolutely. Well, it took a long time to get to this point today.

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00:01:21,240 --> 00:01:25,630

Can you tell me a little about the great team involved in launch?

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00:01:25,630 --> 00:01:30,010

Omar Baez/NASA Launch Manager: Absolutely. This is, like all launches, this is a big team.

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00:01:30,010 --> 00:01:40,440

It's a team effort from the NASA team, our sponsoring center, which is for this one is JPL, NASA Headquarters

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00:01:40,440 --> 00:01:51,040

Science Mission Directorate, Earth science portion of it, and our CONAE and Argentine partners for this mission

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00:01:51,040 --> 00:01:54,920

There's a contingence of international partners, too, with instruments on it.

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00:01:54,920 --> 00:02:03,660

So it makes for great complexity, a lot of distances and cultural changes, but we get it all together here.

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00:02:03,660 --> 00:02:07,120

It takes a little bit more time and a lot more coordination.

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00:02:07,120 --> 00:02:18,290

And this is stuff that is good for the global community, so a great job by all and this will be good for all of us.

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00:02:18,290 --> 00:02:21,320

Tracy Young/Launch Commentator: Well, Omar, thank you for taking time to stop by this morning.

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00:02:21,320 --> 00:02:24,170

And, again, congratulations to you and the team.

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00:02:24,170 --> 00:02:27,320

Omar Baez/NASA Launch Manager: Thank you very much.

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00:02:27,320 --> 00:02:32,770

Tracy Young/Launch Commentator: To recap this morning's events, we had an on time launch of the Aquarius

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00:02:32,770 --> 00:02:42,260

aboard a Delta II rocket at 7:20:13 a.m. Pacific time from Space Launch Complex-2 on Vandenberg Air Force B

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00:02:42,260 --> 00:02:53,990

This will conclude our live launch coverage. For more information on NASA's Aquarius mission, visit www.nasa.gov