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00:00:01,800 --> 00:00:05,170

NASA Launch Commentator George Diller: This is Falcon launch control, one hour, 31 minutes,

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00:00:05,170 --> 00:00:07,470

43 seconds into the flight of Jason-3.

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00:00:07,470 --> 00:00:12,150

Joining us here at the Public Affairs console is Tim Dunn,

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00:00:12,150 --> 00:00:16,269

who is our NASA launch manager during the countdown this morning

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00:00:16,269 --> 00:00:18,869

for the launch services program and

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00:00:18,869 --> 00:00:24,019

Tim, we've been following this flight and it appears by all accounts

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00:00:24,019 --> 00:00:28,319

that the launch went well and the flight went well but maybe

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00:00:28,319 --> 00:00:30,609

you can give us some background of how things went.

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00:00:30,609 --> 00:00:34,760

Tim Dunn: Glad to do that, George. So let me first off say today is a thrilling day

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00:00:34,760 --> 00:00:35,600

for NASA,

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00:00:35,600 --> 00:00:39,100

in particular for the NASA Launch Services

Program.

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00:00:39,100 --> 00:00:42,929

Getting to today has been a long journey as you can imagine.

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00:00:42,929 --> 00:00:47,809

First time we've had a NASA Launch Services Program mission on a Falcon.

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00:00:47,809 --> 00:00:54,910

The Falcon 1.1, we spent a tremendous amount of time getting it to the level of certification

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00:00:54,910 --> 00:01:00,289

so that we could do what we just did this morning on the central California coast.

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00:01:00,289 --> 00:01:06,130

So with that I can tell you that it was a very active countdown.

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00:01:06,130 --> 00:01:11,420

We got in early this morning and tried to get things going a little bit sooner

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00:01:11,420 --> 00:01:17,180

in the timeline because we felt we might have some issues to work and

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00:01:17,180 --> 00:01:21,740

we kind of worked a helium issue with getting the helium pressure

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00:01:21,740 --> 00:01:29,880

from the ground supply into the bottles on the vehicle.

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00:01:29,880 --> 00:01:36,600

So that caused us to do a little bit, some

workaround actions

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00:01:36,600 --> 00:01:40,200
that we resolved through our anomaly resolution
process

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00:01:40,200 --> 00:01:47,290
and that drove some other cases that our engineering
team working alongside

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00:01:47,290 --> 00:01:50,760
SpaceX's engineering team just did a tremendous
job.

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00:01:50,760 --> 00:01:56,110
I just can't say enough about how well the
two teams, the NASA team

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00:01:56,110 --> 00:02:01,920
and the SpaceX engineering team, worked
together to resolve several anomalies throughout

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00:02:01,920 --> 00:02:02,950
the countdown.

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00:02:02,950 --> 00:02:05,310
Diller: How did the flight look?

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00:02:05,310 --> 00:02:12,060
Dunn: So we only had a 30-second window today
and we only had two days

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00:02:12,060 --> 00:02:15,640
on the range before we needed to stand down
for another range

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00:02:15,640 --> 00:02:20,940
customer here and then try again later should
we not have launched.

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00:02:20,940 --> 00:02:25,220
AS you can imagine, we are very excited to have launched today.

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00:02:25,220 --> 00:02:29,280
The flight itself, we've just done a very little bit of data review,

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00:02:29,280 --> 00:02:33,480
what we call a quick look data review and the first stage and second stage

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00:02:33,480 --> 00:02:38,730
performance looks very nominal. Could not have asked for a better day.

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00:02:38,730 --> 00:02:41,980
The first stage burn looked beautiful.

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00:02:41,980 --> 00:02:46,780
The first burn of the second stage put us into the perfect parking orbit

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00:02:46,780 --> 00:02:52,140
and then about 42 minutes later after that we came out over Africa

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00:02:52,140 --> 00:02:59,390
where we did our insertion burn to put us in our operational orbit for Jason-3 spacecraft.

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00:02:59,390 --> 00:03:05,290
That was a very short burn, about a 5 and half or 6 second burn that went very well

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00:03:05,290 --> 00:03:09,040
likewise and then we had a nominal spacecraft separation.

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00:03:09,040 --> 00:03:17,290

Diller: So by all accounts, Falcon 9 has come across for delivering Jason-3 on-time, on-orbit.

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00:03:17,290 --> 00:03:20,069

Dun: On-time, on-orbit, yes.

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00:03:20,069 --> 00:03:24,770

The final orbit numbers looked right on the money,

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00:03:24,770 --> 00:03:27,150

so for the spacecraft it looked very good,

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00:03:27,150 --> 00:03:31,180

we could confirm that the solar array deployment did go well.

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00:03:31,180 --> 00:03:35,569

We're still waiting for another pass where we come across Africa

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00:03:35,569 --> 00:03:41,180

and the spacecraft will downlink its full state-of-health data to that ground station

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00:03:41,180 --> 00:03:42,490

in Fairbanks.

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00:03:42,490 --> 00:03:47,250

So we should know more about the full state of health of this spacecraft when that occurs.

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00:03:47,250 --> 00:03:51,520

Diller: Well Tim, thank you very much and congratulations on a very happy,

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00:03:51,520 --> 00:03:58,349

full successful launch and I know we had a lot of additional issues to work to get to

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00:03:58,349 --> 00:04:02,230

this point and it all worked.

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00:04:02,230 --> 00:04:07,069

Dunn: Thank you so much George. It's a tremendous amount of work

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00:04:07,069 --> 00:04:12,290

to get to a day like today but it's nice when you can celebrate your successes.