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00:00:02,040 --> 00:00:03,840

George Diller, NASA Launch Commentator: This is Pegasus Launch Control.

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00:00:03,840 --> 00:00:04,840

We're now

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00:00:04,840 --> 00:00:12,599

18 minutes, 39 seconds into the flight of the CYGNSS mission which has launched

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00:00:12,599 --> 00:00:17,020

aboard a Pegasus XL rocket.

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00:00:17,020 --> 00:00:19,380

And we're being joined now by Tim Dunn, who is our

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00:00:19,380 --> 00:00:23,970

NASA launch director for this Pegasus flight this morning.

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00:00:23,970 --> 00:00:29,829

Tim, first of all, give us a quick summary about how the vehicle performed flight once

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00:00:29,829 --> 00:00:30,829

we

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00:00:30,829 --> 00:00:31,829

deployed.

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00:00:31,829 --> 00:00:32,829

How did it look to you?

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00:00:32,829 --> 00:00:35,270

Tim Dunn, NASA launch director: It looked beautiful George.

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00:00:35,270 --> 00:00:36,270

We're very excited.

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00:00:36,270 --> 00:00:37,270

You

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00:00:37,270 --> 00:00:40,940

can probably sense a little of the excitement  
over our shoulders here in the launch

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00:00:40,940 --> 00:00:42,760

directors center.

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00:00:42,760 --> 00:00:43,760

Excellent.

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00:00:43,760 --> 00:00:45,920

Excellent performance by the team.

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00:00:45,920 --> 00:00:51,470

It's a great event when you have successful  
spacecraft separation and when you got

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00:00:51,470 --> 00:00:54,810

microsatellites you get to multiply that by  
eight.

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00:00:54,810 --> 00:00:57,130

So that's a lot of fun.

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00:00:57,130 --> 00:01:01,420

For Pegasus, it was, overall it was a beautiful  
day.

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00:01:01,420 --> 00:01:02,420

Gorgeous

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00:01:02,420 --> 00:01:03,700

weather.

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00:01:03,700 --> 00:01:05,439

Perfectly smooth with countdown.

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00:01:05,439 --> 00:01:08,690

The Pegasus launch vehicle had no issues

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00:01:08,690 --> 00:01:13,060

in preparing it this morning out on the Skid Strip at the Cape.

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00:01:13,060 --> 00:01:18,140

Spacecraft CYGNSS, excuse me, the CYGNSS spacecraft had no problems in the prep

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00:01:18,140 --> 00:01:19,970

for those either.

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00:01:19,970 --> 00:01:25,120

L-1011 getting all of the activities, prelaunch, engine start activity, we're pleased that

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00:01:27,120 --> 00:01:26,120

all

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00:01:27,120 --> 00:01:32,060

On the range side, Eastern Range phenomenal job by the Air Force as usual.

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00:01:32,060 --> 00:01:33,060

With all of

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00:01:33,060 --> 00:01:37,570

their area support that they provide to us to enable us to launch.

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00:01:37,570 --> 00:01:39,130

To stage out of the

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00:01:39,130 --> 00:01:43,520  
Cape Canaveral Air Force Station Skid Strip  
and then to launch off the coast in the

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00:01:43,520 --> 00:01:45,450  
Eastern Range area.

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00:01:45,450 --> 00:01:47,610  
So, beautiful weather.

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00:01:47,610 --> 00:01:49,320  
Thank our launch weather officer.

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00:01:49,320 --> 00:01:50,870  
We had some challenges flying

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00:01:50,870 --> 00:01:56,840  
around a lot of precip and dealing with the  
fog on the runway a couple of morning's ago.

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00:01:56,840 --> 00:01:58,740  
None of that present today.

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00:01:58,740 --> 00:02:02,240  
So hopefully everyone got to see some beautiful  
shots from

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00:02:02,240 --> 00:02:04,130  
our chase plane.

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00:02:04,130 --> 00:02:05,690  
That was gorgeous.

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00:02:05,690 --> 00:02:11,599  
We had a nominal "hit the box" on time.

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00:02:11,599 --> 00:02:13,200

And dropped the Pegasus from the belly of the

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00:02:13,200 --> 00:02:14,200  
L-1011.

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00:02:14,200 --> 00:02:15,560  
Then had a nominal flight out.

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00:02:15,560 --> 00:02:18,540  
All three stages performed beautifully.

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00:02:18,540 --> 00:02:19,540  
No issues

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00:02:19,540 --> 00:02:22,109  
at all with Pegasus launch vehicle performance.

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00:02:22,109 --> 00:02:24,690  
And then spacecraft separation with all

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00:02:24,690 --> 00:02:28,219  
of the eight paired spacecraft went right on time.

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00:02:28,219 --> 00:02:30,919  
George Diller, NASA Launch Commentator: Sounds like we had good data from our

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00:02:30,919 --> 00:02:33,779  
partners in South America that were tracking this for us.

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00:02:33,779 --> 00:02:34,779  
Tim Dunn: Absolutely.

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00:02:34,779 --> 00:02:36,719  
We actually had two teams in South America.

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00:02:36,719 --> 00:02:37,719

We had some

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00:02:37,719 --> 00:02:44,829

redundancy, but our friends from CNES, European Space Agency, linked in there at

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00:02:44,829 --> 00:02:49,730

French Guiana, they aided us in acquiring that telemetry.

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00:02:49,730 --> 00:02:51,930

In addition, we had Wallops, a

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00:02:51,930 --> 00:02:58,769

NASA center here off the Virginia coast, deployed all the way down to French Guiana,

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00:02:58,769 --> 00:03:00,280

and set up at the airport.

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00:03:00,280 --> 00:03:02,210

We got perfect data from both sites.

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00:03:02,210 --> 00:03:04,319

So I'd like to thank them

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00:03:04,319 --> 00:03:05,319

for their support.

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00:03:05,319 --> 00:03:08,209

George Diller: Data continuity all the way through.

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00:03:08,209 --> 00:03:09,459

Tim Dunn: Absolutely.

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00:03:09,459 --> 00:03:13,529

George: Well, we're not finished with Pegasus by a longshot.

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00:03:13,529 --> 00:03:14,779

There is another flight

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00:03:14,779 --> 00:03:15,809

coming up next year.

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00:03:15,809 --> 00:03:16,809

Is that right?

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00:03:16,809 --> 00:03:17,809

Tim Dunn: Yes.

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00:03:17,809 --> 00:03:20,730

As a matter of fact, our next mission on Pegasus will be the IKON

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00:03:20,730 --> 00:03:21,800

mission.

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00:03:21,800 --> 00:03:25,900

And that will stage out of, will process at Vandenberg Air Force Base (in

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00:03:25,900 --> 00:03:26,900

California).

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00:03:26,900 --> 00:03:30,980

But we'll do a ferry flight down to the Pacific Ocean to the Kwajalein Atoll

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00:03:30,980 --> 00:03:32,640

and launch out of Kwaj.

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00:03:32,640 --> 00:03:35,739

So that is scheduled for mid-June of 2017.

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00:03:35,739 --> 00:03:38,519  
George: Well Tim, thank you very much.

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00:03:38,519 --> 00:03:40,099  
And congratulations.

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00:03:40,099 --> 00:03:41,139  
And we'll be talking again

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00:03:41,139 --> 00:03:42,650  
before then I'm sure.

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00:03:42,650 --> 00:03:44,239  
But definitely from Kwajalein.

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00:03:44,239 --> 00:03:45,239  
So thanks very much.

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00:03:45,239 --> 00:03:46,239  
Tim: You're welcome George.

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00:03:46,239 --> 00:03:51,609  
George: Tim Dunn, our NASA launch director  
for the CYGNSS Orbital ATK Pegasus

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00:03:51,609 --> 00:03:53,340  
flight today.

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00:03:53,340 --> 00:03:58,419  
Standby, we have some more interviews coming  
up with some of our spacecraft

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00:03:58,419 --> 00:04:03,559  
personnel to tell us how the deployments are  
looking.

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00:04:03,559 --> 00:04:04,890  
And hopefully our principal

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00:04:04,890 --> 00:04:07,579  
investigator may have some comments as well.

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00:04:07,579 --> 00:04:08,849  
That will be coming up here we hope in

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00:04:08,849 --> 00:04:10,760  
the next few minutes.

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00:04:10,760 --> 00:04:15,049  
So we're no 22 minutes, 45 seconds into the  
CYGNSS mission.