

ATLAS

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14:28:28
TDRS-M

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14:28:28
TDRS-M



TDRS-M



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00:00:01,750 --> 00:00:03,850
This is Atlas Launch Control.

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00:00:03,850 --> 00:00:07,970
And after a successful launch today and the
successful deployment of the TDRS-M

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00:00:07,970 --> 00:00:12,840
satellite, we are very pleased to be joined
by our NASA Launch Manager from NASA's

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00:00:12,840 --> 00:00:17,190
Launch Services Program here at Kennedy Space
Center, Tim Dunn.

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00:00:17,190 --> 00:00:18,290
Thank you Mike.

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00:00:18,290 --> 00:00:19,520
Great to be here.

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00:00:19,520 --> 00:00:24,279
It was a beautiful launch and a great mission.

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00:00:24,279 --> 00:00:29,340
We had a little bit of a delay earlier on,
and I wondered if you could just give us an

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00:00:29,340 --> 00:00:30,929
overview of what that was all about.

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00:00:30,929 --> 00:00:32,540
Oh sure, be glad to.

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00:00:32,540 --> 00:00:36,970
So, obviously there's a lot of relief from
the team right now.

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00:00:36,970 --> 00:00:38,160

A lot of celebration.

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00:00:38,160 --> 00:00:40,240

A lot of excitement.

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00:00:40,240 --> 00:00:42,780

Loved spacecraft separation.

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00:00:42,780 --> 00:00:45,500

It's the best part of a launch campaign.

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00:00:45,500 --> 00:00:50,430

So many hours are put in to getting to this exact point when you know you have a healthy

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00:00:50,430 --> 00:00:54,820

satellite that you've just separated from the launch vehicle about to go do its mission

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00:00:54,820 --> 00:00:56,260

it was intended for.

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00:00:56,260 --> 00:01:04,720

So, we had a beautiful morning, great weather, great rocket prop loading with the cryos.

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00:01:04,720 --> 00:01:05,720

No problems there.

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00:01:05,720 --> 00:01:09,369

Power-on sequence went really well.

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00:01:09,369 --> 00:01:15,549

And as we were chilling the Centaur engine down we noticed one of the chilldown parameters

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00:01:15,549 --> 00:01:21,520

on the thermal conditioning for the LOX side

was not quite getting cold enough in time

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00:01:21,520 --> 00:01:23,240

to meet the original 8:03 a.m.

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00:01:23,240 --> 00:01:24,240

T-0.

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00:01:24,240 --> 00:01:30,759

So, we needed a little extra time, so you heard a little bit of discussion on the net.

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00:01:30,759 --> 00:01:36,600

What we wanted to do was maximize our opportunity and try to preserve as much of our 40-minute

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00:01:36,600 --> 00:01:37,950

window as was possible.

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00:01:37,950 --> 00:01:46,159

So you heard us kind of stepping through from a 8:03 to about an 8:15, 8:16, 8:18, and then

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00:01:46,159 --> 00:01:48,990

we knew it was probably out around the 8:30 timeframe.

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00:01:48,990 --> 00:01:54,110

So that's what you heard as we were marching through that, because should we not have launched

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00:01:54,110 --> 00:01:59,680

on that opportunity, we wanted to leave ourselves 10 or 15 minutes on the backside to get another

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00:01:59,680 --> 00:02:00,750

potential recycle.

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00:02:00,750 --> 00:02:03,130

So, appreciate everyone's patience.

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00:02:03,130 --> 00:02:09,679
I know those, when you're not part of the team that's working the anomaly, and you're

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00:02:09,679 --> 00:02:14,629
not, you don't look at the data, it's gets a little bit frustrating and you're not sure.

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00:02:14,629 --> 00:02:16,440
Wait, are these guys going to launch today.

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00:02:16,440 --> 00:02:17,440
Are they not.

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00:02:17,440 --> 00:02:18,739
We don't know.

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00:02:18,739 --> 00:02:25,190
But ULA did a magnificent job of managing the situation.

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00:02:25,190 --> 00:02:30,620
Diligently mapping out and extrapolating the data to give us that opportunity and let us

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00:02:30,620 --> 00:02:32,820
all target in on that 8:29 opportunity.

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00:02:32,820 --> 00:02:38,170
There was a lot of conversation going on nets behind the scenes.

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00:02:38,170 --> 00:02:39,170
Absolutely.

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00:02:39,170 --> 00:02:43,590
You and Bill Cullen, the United Launch Alliance

Launch Director, and Ed Kitta, the launch

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00:02:43,590 --> 00:02:50,269
conductor, and the teams, along with the TDRS-M
spacecraft team, in working your way through

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00:02:50,269 --> 00:02:52,180
that and coordinating a new T-0 time.

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00:02:52,180 --> 00:02:53,180
Yes.

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00:02:53,180 --> 00:02:55,920
You may have heard my discussions with the
spacecraft side.

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00:02:55,920 --> 00:03:01,140
Because TDRS-M was rock solid in the payload
fairing, ready to launch at any point during

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00:03:01,140 --> 00:03:02,330
our 40-minute window.

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00:03:02,330 --> 00:03:07,510
But, I need to give the spacecraft mission
director a heads-up so that he can prepare

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00:03:07,510 --> 00:03:11,730
the downrange assets to know when the new
T-0 is.

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00:03:11,730 --> 00:03:13,760
So you heard a lot of that discussion.

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00:03:13,760 --> 00:03:20,880
But, I'll just take a moment to extend your
comments about the team that you may just

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00:03:20,880 --> 00:03:27,970

hear guys like a launch director, an NLM talking,
but there are thousands of people that we

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00:03:27,970 --> 00:03:34,950
represent, from ULA, to NASA Goddard, NASA
KSC, NASA Headquarters, and then Boeing, who

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00:03:34,950 --> 00:03:36,910
built the spacecraft.

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00:03:36,910 --> 00:03:42,319
They've got a wonderful team that built this
satellite and got it ready for today, and

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00:03:42,319 --> 00:03:47,349
it's going to operate on orbit for what we
hope is 10 or 15 years.

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00:03:47,349 --> 00:03:50,390
So, a great day for the team.

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00:03:50,390 --> 00:03:53,250
It's always a great day when you launch.

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00:03:53,250 --> 00:03:55,879
And we're going to really celebrate this one.

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00:03:55,879 --> 00:04:01,530
And one thing Mike I've got for you here is,
you know I love the NASA meatball as much

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00:04:01,530 --> 00:04:07,450
as any other person in our agency, but I also
brought you something here.

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00:04:07,450 --> 00:04:08,450
Thank you very much.

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00:04:08,450 --> 00:04:09,450

It's the TDRS-M pin.

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00:04:09,450 --> 00:04:12,970
And I got a second one, because I was watching
you and Josh.

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00:04:12,970 --> 00:04:15,570
You guys, I want you to put these on.

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00:04:15,570 --> 00:04:16,840
You're part of our team.

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00:04:16,840 --> 00:04:17,840
We will do that.

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00:04:17,840 --> 00:04:18,840
Tim, thank you so much.

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00:04:18,840 --> 00:04:24,070
And thank you once again on a very successful
launch today at 8:29 a.m. eastern time.

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00:04:24,070 --> 00:04:26,150
It was a beautiful day and congratulations.