

COUNTDOWN TO T-ZERO

LAUNCH FEVER



LA

1
00:00:00,290 --> 00:00:01,650
Launch controller: ROC, report range status.

2
00:00:01,650 --> 00:00:02,650
Launch controller: Range green.

3
00:00:02,650 --> 00:00:09,380
Launch commentator: T-minus five, four, three,
two, one.

4
00:00:09,380 --> 00:00:11,260
Go for main engine start.

5
00:00:11,340 --> 00:00:13,260
Zero and liftoff.

6
00:00:18,340 --> 00:00:20,980
This is no ordinary aircraft.

7
00:00:20,990 --> 00:00:24,860
And on board is no ordinary spacecraft.

8
00:00:24,860 --> 00:00:28,730
This C-5 Super Galaxy is hauling something
special.

9
00:00:28,730 --> 00:00:32,050
"It can carry what no other plane can carry
in the Air Force.

10
00:00:32,050 --> 00:00:36,160
Width, length, weight – you name it, it
can get on that thing.

11
00:00:36,160 --> 00:00:38,030
This jet can do it like no other jet."

12
00:00:38,030 --> 00:00:43,080

After two years of construction at Lockheed Martin in Denver, and a few hours in the air,

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00:00:43,080 --> 00:00:48,840
NOAA's GOES-S has finally made it to Kennedy Space Center, where the countdown to T-zero

14
00:00:48,840 --> 00:00:49,840
begins.

15
00:00:49,840 --> 00:00:55,470
"It's always exciting to bring a satellite down to Kennedy Space Center and participate

16
00:00:55,470 --> 00:00:58,460
in the whole activity of getting a satellite ready for launch."

17
00:00:58,460 --> 00:01:02,440
"Getting it out here, rolling it into the launch processing facility, that is a very

18
00:01:02,440 --> 00:01:03,440
big deal for us.

19
00:01:03,440 --> 00:01:07,510
That's probably the hugest milestones in any spacecraft program, to ship.

20
00:01:07,510 --> 00:01:10,960
It's not easy to transport something like this across the country."

21
00:01:10,960 --> 00:01:13,490
"This is where the rubber meets the road.

22
00:01:13,490 --> 00:01:18,360
This is where all the people that have worked on this program for a couple years culminates

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00:01:18,360 --> 00:01:22,640

in the excitement of getting ready for what we call "launch fever."

24

00:01:22,640 --> 00:01:28,250

"So now, we get to do some of the fun stuff, like put it on a giant airplane and take it

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00:01:28,250 --> 00:01:35,220

to Kennedy Space Center, where we get to prepare it to go onto an Atlas V launch vehicle, and

26

00:01:35,220 --> 00:01:36,220

launch."

27

00:01:36,220 --> 00:01:41,330

It's the job of NASA's Launch Services Program to get GOES-S into orbit and they

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00:01:41,330 --> 00:01:48,490

have just a few months to do the final launch preps and inspections before a T-zero arrives.

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00:01:48,490 --> 00:01:53,330

This is no easy task with a spacecraft of this size and complexity.

30

00:01:53,330 --> 00:01:56,480

In spaceflight, there are no second chances.

31

00:01:56,480 --> 00:01:59,659

A successful launch is resting on their shoulders.

32

00:01:59,659 --> 00:02:03,010

It has to be perfect the first time.

33

00:02:03,010 --> 00:02:04,790

"It's very exciting.

34

00:02:04,790 --> 00:02:11,480

I love being a part of this and I love being able to contribute to the spacecraft and to

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00:02:11,480 --> 00:02:12,480

its success."

36

00:02:12,480 --> 00:02:18,439

GOES-S is the second part of a weather satellite upgrade project NOAA is undertaking,

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00:02:18,439 --> 00:02:22,689

destined to save lives by modernizing our weather forecasting ability.

38

00:02:22,689 --> 00:02:27,930

"We have a very young team and, some of them, this will be their first campaign.

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00:02:27,930 --> 00:02:33,400

So we're trying to put the excitement into that, let them feel what it's like to touch

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00:02:33,400 --> 00:02:35,309

the spacecraft for the last time.

41

00:02:35,309 --> 00:02:39,220

Launch operations is a time we all get together for one goal, which is launch."