

COUNTDOWN TO T-ZERO

SPECIALIZED DELIVERY



1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:01,480
Launch controller: ROC, report range status.

2
00:00:01,560 --> 00:00:02,740
Launch controller: Range green.

3
00:00:02,740 --> 00:00:08,860
Launch commentator: T-minus five, four, three, two, one.

4
00:00:08,860 --> 00:00:10,260
Go for main engine start.

5
00:00:10,400 --> 00:00:12,580
Zero and liftoff.

6
00:00:20,940 --> 00:00:24,980
There's only one cargo ship designed to transport rockets for United Launch Alliance

7
00:00:25,090 --> 00:00:30,140
– and tonight, it's pulling into Port Canaveral with the robust flight hardware

8
00:00:30,140 --> 00:00:31,500
of an Atlas V.

9
00:00:31,500 --> 00:00:35,290
"We're a high-tech vessel, high maneuverability.

10
00:00:35,290 --> 00:00:40,400
We have to be because we get into some tight areas in shallow rivers.

11
00:00:40,400 --> 00:00:41,650
The Delta Mariner is unique.

12
00:00:41,650 --> 00:00:50,579

It has two aft z-drives, coupled by a computer with the bow thrusters that turns 360-degrees

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00:00:50,579 --> 00:00:53,070

on demand."

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00:00:53,070 --> 00:00:54,530

This crew has work to do.

15

00:00:54,530 --> 00:00:59,940

In less than four weeks, the rocket must be safely delivered, inspected and assembled

16

00:00:59,940 --> 00:01:05,050

in order to successfully launch NOAA's highly advanced GOES-S weather satellite.

17

00:01:05,050 --> 00:01:11,330

"I sense from the crew the pride being part of this mission.

18

00:01:11,330 --> 00:01:17,910

And when I put this vessel alongside the dock, it is a very accomplished feeling that we

19

00:01:17,910 --> 00:01:18,910

all have."

20

00:01:18,910 --> 00:01:24,390

"The arrival of the Mariner is the start of operations for the flow of a rocket."

21

00:01:24,390 --> 00:01:30,061

Teams from ULA and NASA's Launch Services Program start by unchaining the Atlas V booster

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00:01:30,061 --> 00:01:35,560

and Centaur components – wasting no time in developing a plan and getting organized

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00:01:35,560 --> 00:01:36,560

for transport.

24

00:01:36,560 --> 00:01:39,000

"We're going to take the booster over to the ASOC.

25

00:01:39,000 --> 00:01:43,490

Convoy 1 is the going to be leader, followed by the booster..."

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00:01:43,490 --> 00:01:50,240

"It's a very exciting day for the vehicle systems engineers as we're off loading the

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00:01:50,240 --> 00:01:53,450

launch vehicle that will carry the GOES-S satellite."

28

00:01:53,450 --> 00:01:58,000

Here comes the Centaur second stage – with its pressurized stainless steel tank, as thin

29

00:01:58,000 --> 00:01:59,210

as a dime.

30

00:01:59,210 --> 00:02:04,220

Unable to support its own weight until fully fueled, it's carried off the ship by a specialized

31

00:02:04,220 --> 00:02:05,550

trailer.

32

00:02:05,550 --> 00:02:10,649

Next comes the Atlas V booster – all one hundred and six feet of it.

33

00:02:10,649 --> 00:02:16,060

This booster and 4 solid rocket motors have

one job: provide enough energy at liftoff

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00:02:16,060 --> 00:02:21,779

for the entire launch vehicle and payload
to overcome the pull of Earth's gravity.

35

00:02:21,779 --> 00:02:24,730

"I never get tired of seeing the rockets come
in.

36

00:02:24,730 --> 00:02:27,419

It's very exciting, especially on the Mariner."

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00:02:27,419 --> 00:02:33,370

Now on land, a challenging cross-base transport
lies ahead to the Atlas Spaceflight Operations

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00:02:33,370 --> 00:02:34,489

Center.

39

00:02:34,489 --> 00:02:39,379

Inside this multifunctional facility crews
will remove protective coverings inspect the

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00:02:39,379 --> 00:02:43,290

hardware and install the final flight components.

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00:02:43,290 --> 00:02:46,010

For now, this mission remains a Go.