1
00:00:00,359 --> 00:00:01,420
I'm here Marie.

2
00:00:01,420 --> 00:00:04,200
And I'm actually here with Tim Dunn as well,
of the Launch Services Program.

3
00:00:04,200 --> 00:00:06,560
Tim, can you tell us about how today's launch
went.

4
00:00:06,560 --> 00:00:07,560
Hey Josh.

5
00:00:07,560 --> 00:00:08,680
Wow, are we excited?

6
00:00:08,680 --> 00:00:15,190
I mean, we just had a perfect countdown and
perfect launch of the TESS mission.

7
00:00:15,190 --> 00:00:16,910
It was a wonderful day.

8
00:00:16,910 --> 00:00:21,340
Obviously, if you got any views outside here
of the central coast you saw what a gorgeous

9
00:00:21,340 --> 00:00:22,340
day it was.

10
00:00:22,340 --> 00:00:24,630
So we had perfect weather for the launch.

11
00:00:24,630 --> 00:00:25,900
We had a terrific rocket.

12
00:00:25,900 --> 00:00:31,840

The Falcon 9 just continues to demonstrate what a reliable ride it has become.

13
00:00:31,840 --> 00:00:37,870
And spacecraft, we turned on TESS spacecraft early this morning.

14
00:00:37,870 --> 00:00:40,390
And that went super smooth.

15
00:00:40,390 --> 00:00:46,220
We worked one very minor little item with the TESS during the countdown.

16
00:00:46,220 --> 00:00:51,170
It was really insignificant in the overall picture.

17
00:00:51,170 --> 00:00:56,440
TESS was really solid during the rest of the countdown.

18
00:00:56,440 --> 00:01:01,630
The range, hat's off to the United States Air Force and the 45th Space Wing.

19
00:01:01,630 --> 00:01:05,840
They continue to have a beautiful range for us to launch on.

20
00:01:05,840 --> 00:01:10,850
And again, I don't have a whole lot to talk about as far as troubles during the countdown.

21
00:01:10,850 --> 00:01:12,400
It was super smooth.

22
00:01:12,400 --> 00:01:14,320
A beautiful day, a beautiful launch.

23
00:01:14,320 --> 00:01:15,690
A great rocket.

24
00:01:15,690 --> 00:01:20,290
And we now have an operational spacecraft
on its way to do great science.

25
00:01:20,290 --> 00:01:23,680
And talking about the importance of the TESS
mission, can you talk about with respect of

26
00:01:23,680 --> 00:01:26,240
the Launch Services Program, how did they
launch TESS?

27
00:01:26,240 --> 00:01:27,240
Oh, wow.

28
00:01:27,240 --> 00:01:33,600
Well for us, this was only Launch Services
Program's second flight on a Falcon 9 rocket.

29
00:01:33,600 --> 00:01:38,020
A couple of years ago, we did the Jason-3
mission from the west coast.

30
00:01:38,020 --> 00:01:42,570
This was our second full-up science mission
on Falcon 9.

31
00:01:42,570 --> 00:01:50,890
So, our entire team of engineers and analysts
within LSP was able to demonstrate another

32
00:01:50,890 --> 00:01:59,670
certification process where we certified this
full-thrust version Block 4 that flew today.

33
00:01:59,670 --> 00:02:06,420

And to see all of that hard work for the past two-and-a-half years that the entire Falcon

34
00:02:06,420 --> 00:02:12,280
9 team within LSP put together, to see that rewarded with a successful launch, means so

35
00:02:12,280 --> 00:02:13,970
much to our team.

36
00:02:13,970 --> 00:02:15,750
It's an incredible team.

37
00:02:15,750 --> 00:02:19,130
And SpaceX has an incredible team.

38
00:02:19,130 --> 00:02:23,130
Their engineers and analysts here at the launch site here at Cape Canaveral, as well as their

39
00:02:23,130 --> 00:02:27,770
team back in California, at Hawthorne, my hat's off to them.

40
00:02:27,770 --> 00:02:29,080
Terrific launch team.

41
00:02:29,080 --> 00:02:35,510
And when you put us all together, the government and the commercial guys together, it's just

42
00:02:35,510 --> 00:02:42,310
so satisfying to watch a team kind of seamlessly blend and integrate to accomplish such an

43
00:02:42,310 --> 00:02:44,320
important mission for our agency.

44
00:02:44,320 --> 00:02:47,680

So it sounds like a pretty exciting night
for both SpaceX and NASA.

45
00:02:47,680 --> 00:02:50,720
And the Launch Services Program has a big
year, and we've got big stuff coming up still.

46
00:02:50,720 --> 00:02:53,370
Can you tell us about what's next for the
Launch Services Program?

47
00:02:53,370 --> 00:02:54,370
Absolutely.

48
00:02:54,370 --> 00:02:59,290
So, we were thrilled to launch tonight, mainly
because now it kind of clears a little bit

49
00:02:59,290 --> 00:03:06,240
off the runway because our Atlas V team now
has to turn around, get out to the west coast

50
00:03:06,240 --> 00:03:12,240
for the InSight mission, flying in just two-and-a-half
weeks, on May 5, from Vandenberg Air Force

51
00:03:12,240 --> 00:03:13,810
Base.

52
00:03:13,810 --> 00:03:20,140
And then we have a Pegasus mission coming
up, with the ICON spacecraft.

53
00:03:20,140 --> 00:03:26,220
And that's going to stage out of Vandenberg,
fly downrange to Kwajalein, and launch from

54
00:03:26,220 --> 00:03:28,069
Kwaj in mid-June.

55
00:03:28,069 --> 00:03:30,860
Right now we're targeting June 14.

56
00:03:30,860 --> 00:03:34,459
We come back here to the Cape in the end of
July.

57
00:03:34,459 --> 00:03:39,970
We'll be processing the Parker Solar Probe
mission, which is a mission to go study the

58
00:03:39,970 --> 00:03:41,080
Sun.

59
00:03:41,080 --> 00:03:47,000
It will be the first time LSP has flown a
science mission on the Delta IV Heavy.

60
00:03:47,000 --> 00:03:49,550
So that's very exciting for our team.

61
00:03:49,550 --> 00:03:57,370
Then, if all goes according to plan, our sixth
and final mission for LSP for 2018 will occur

62
00:03:57,370 --> 00:04:01,110
in September, from Vandenberg Air Force Base
again.

63
00:04:01,110 --> 00:04:07,310
That will be the ICESat-2 mission on the very
last Delta II launch vehicle.

64
00:04:07,310 --> 00:04:12,739
So, I would say if you're a Delta II fan out
there, you might want to find your way to

65
00:04:12,739 --> 00:04:16,609
the central California coast right around

Sept. 12.

66
00:04:16,609 --> 00:04:20,409
Because that's going to be very special event
to watch the final Delta II fly.

67
00:04:20,409 --> 00:04:27,809
It's been a workhorse for the agency and it's
really special to a lot of folks that have

68
00:04:27,809 --> 00:04:31,339
been in this business for the last 30 years
now that it's been flying.

69
00:04:31,339 --> 00:04:34,960
Well it sounds like we've got a lot to look
forward to from the Launch Services Program.

70
00:04:34,960 --> 00:04:38,189
And then a lot to look forward to with the
TESS mission, which we launched successfully

71
00:04:38,189 --> 00:04:39,189
tonight.