



DERROL NAIL

NASA Communications



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00:00:00,729 --> 00:00:05,600

Derrol Nail: You are looking live at a Falcon 9 rocket on the launch pad at the Cape Canaveral

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00:00:05,600 --> 00:00:07,910

Air Force Station in Florida.

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00:00:07,910 --> 00:00:14,349

At 1:16 this afternoon, the aerospace company SpaceX will launch a Dragon cargo spacecraft

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00:00:14,349 --> 00:00:19,410

on a NASA mission to resupply the International Space Station.

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00:00:19,410 --> 00:00:24,619

Good afternoon and welcome everyone to NASA's Kennedy Space Center for our live team coverage

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00:00:24,619 --> 00:00:28,429

of the launch of cargo resupply mission number 16 for SpaceX.

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00:00:28,429 --> 00:00:30,259

I'm your host, Derrol Nail.

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00:00:30,259 --> 00:00:35,059

As you can see behind me, the iconic NASA countdown clock, which is counting us down

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00:00:35,059 --> 00:00:36,059

to launch.

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00:00:36,059 --> 00:00:39,030

It currently reads about 30 minutes until launch.

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00:00:39,030 --> 00:00:45,170

It is a beautiful day here on the Space Coast

as we count down to this mission to fly much-needed

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00:00:45,170 --> 00:00:50,690
astronaut supplies and research experiments
up to the International Space Station.

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00:00:50,690 --> 00:00:55,260
And we have a team of correspondents across
the country helping us to cover all the angles

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00:00:55,260 --> 00:00:56,469
of this launch.

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00:00:56,469 --> 00:01:00,109
We will head across the river here to the
Mission Directors Center to get updates on

16
00:01:00,109 --> 00:01:01,690
the weather and the countdown.

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00:01:01,690 --> 00:01:07,440
And we'll head way out west to SpaceX headquarters
in Hawthorne, California, and check in at

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00:01:07,440 --> 00:01:10,080
Mission Control Houston in Texas.

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00:01:10,080 --> 00:01:15,150
We also have a correspondent standing by with
a live interview of Kennedy Space Center Director

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00:01:15,150 --> 00:01:16,450
Bob Cabana.

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00:01:16,450 --> 00:01:22,170
But first, here are some quick facts you need
to know about today's launch.

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00:01:22,170 --> 00:01:26,740

SpaceX transported the Falcon 9 rocket out to the launch pad and lifted it to vertical

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00:01:26,740 --> 00:01:32,640

launch position for the 16th cargo resupply mission to the International Space Station.

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00:01:32,640 --> 00:01:38,060

The launch window today is instantaneous, which means SpaceX must launch at the exact

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00:01:38,060 --> 00:01:41,970

second for the planned liftoff or try again another day.

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00:01:41,970 --> 00:01:47,490

The Dragon spacecraft will deliver about 6,000 pounds of astronaut supplies and payloads

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00:01:47,490 --> 00:01:50,840

for science research to the orbiting laboratory.

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00:01:50,840 --> 00:01:55,340

The plan is to keep the Dragon spacecraft docked to the station for about five weeks

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00:01:55,340 --> 00:01:57,060

before bringing it back to Earth.

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00:01:57,060 --> 00:02:03,110

When it does, the capsule will splash down in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of California.

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00:02:03,110 --> 00:02:09,079

Today's launch was originally scheduled for yesterday, but it was delayed 24 hours

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00:02:09,079 --> 00:02:13,950

in order to replace contaminated food in one of the rodent experiments testing the effects

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00:02:13,950 --> 00:02:15,500

of aging in space.

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00:02:15,500 --> 00:02:20,189

The new food was flown in overnight and was loaded into the Dragon spacecraft, and is

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00:02:20,189 --> 00:02:22,180

now ready to go.

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00:02:22,180 --> 00:02:27,439

The move did come with a big benefit — weather conditions for launch improved dramatically.

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00:02:27,439 --> 00:02:31,900

Let's bring in NASA's Joshua Santora, who is in the Mission Directors Center, just

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00:02:31,900 --> 00:02:34,140

a few miles away from the launch pad.

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00:02:34,140 --> 00:02:38,370

It was a little breezy earlier today, Joshua; it settled down a little bit.

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00:02:38,370 --> 00:02:40,370

How is the weather looking for launch, though?

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00:02:40,370 --> 00:02:41,810

Joshua Santora: Yeah, good afternoon, Derrol.

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00:02:41,810 --> 00:02:45,840

You're a 100 percent right — we did have a little bit stronger winds earlier, but they

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00:02:45,840 --> 00:02:47,860

have calmed down.

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00:02:47,860 --> 00:02:49,749

Right now, everything is go for launch.

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00:02:49,749 --> 00:02:55,220

We heard from Clay Flinn, the launch weather officer for the U.S. Air Force 45th Space

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00:02:55,220 --> 00:02:58,620

Wing Weather Squadron, reporting that we are 90 percent go for launch.

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00:02:58,620 --> 00:03:03,379

That means there is a 10 percent chance that we're going to violate our weather constraints

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00:03:03,379 --> 00:03:04,379

for launch.

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00:03:04,379 --> 00:03:08,019

And it really is just those ground level winds that are a potential problem.

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00:03:08,019 --> 00:03:10,239

Again, we're still go for launch.

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00:03:10,239 --> 00:03:13,969

Upper level winds look good and everything else — obviously there you can see the sky

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00:03:13,969 --> 00:03:15,389

is very, very clear today.

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00:03:15,389 --> 00:03:18,700

It is a beautiful day outside; a great day for launch.

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00:03:18,700 --> 00:03:23,639

We're also — we heard earlier that our COLA, or our collision on launch assessment

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00:03:23,639 --> 00:03:27,529
is clean, which means we have no issues there;
the range keeping an eye on things for us

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00:03:27,529 --> 00:03:29,030
for public safety.

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00:03:29,030 --> 00:03:37,230
And at 38 minutes to go, we had the poll from
the SpaceX Launch Director Mike Taylor, who

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00:03:37,230 --> 00:03:42,200
gave us a go for fueling, which began at 35
minutes and counting.

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00:03:42,200 --> 00:03:44,049
So we are into the first stage fueling.

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00:03:44,049 --> 00:03:45,859
So, Derrol — everything looking good?

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00:03:45,859 --> 00:03:46,859
Back to you.

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00:03:46,859 --> 00:03:48,659
Derrol Nail: Some beautiful shots on the pad
there, Joshua.