

CAPE CANAVERAL AIR FORCE STATION, Fla., Sept. 16, 2013 /PRNewswire/ -- The U.S. Air Force's third Advanced Extremely High Frequency (AEHF) military communications satellite, designed and built by a Lockheed Martin [NYSE: LMT] team, is ready to launch aboard a United Launch Alliance [Atlas](#)

[V](#)

rocket from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Fla. Launch is set for Sept. 18 with a two-hour launch window opening at 3:04 a.m. EDT

The [AEHF](#) system provides vastly improved global, survivable, highly secure, protected communications for strategic command and tactical warfighters operating on ground, sea and air platforms. The system also serves international partners including Canada, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom

Canada was the first of these nations to connect to AEHF during [tests](#) with multiple terminals, and Lockheed Martin announced last week that the Netherlands is [now using](#) the system.

"Thanks to a focused government-industry team, the third AEHF satellite is ready to launch," said Mark Calassa, vice president of Protected Communication Systems at Lockheed Martin. "We've increased affordability while maintaining a focus on mission success. Our AEHF-1 and -2 satellites are delivering improved capability during on-orbit testing, having already connected three allies and 10 terminal types. From suppliers to engineers to launch operators, we are committed to our customer and this mission."

A single AEHF satellite provides greater total capacity than the entire legacy five-satellite [Milstar](#) constellation. Individual user data rates will increase five-fold, permitting transmission of tactical military communications, such as real-time video, battlefield maps and targeting data. In addition to its tactical mission, AEHF provides the critical survivable, protected and endurable communications links to national leaders, including presidential conferencing in all levels of conflict.

Lockheed Martin is under contract to deliver six AEHF satellites and the Mission Control Segment. [AEHF-1](#) and [AEHF-2](#) are on orbit, and AEHF-4 through -6 are progressing on schedule. All satellites are assembled at the company's [Sunvale](#), Calif. facility.

Headquartered in Bethesda, Md., Lockheed Martin is a global security and aerospace company that employs about 116,000 people worldwide and is principally engaged in the research, design, development, manufacture, integration, and sustainment of advanced technology systems, products, and services. The Corporation's net sales for 2012 were \$47.2 billion.

Note to Editors: AEHF video and high-resolution images are available for download at www.lockheedmartin.com/aehf

Live launch broadcast and webcast details for Sept. 18, 2013 (all times Eastern Daylight Time):
BARS AND TONE – 2:14 A.M. PR
OGRAM START – 2:44 A.M.
LAUNCH WINDOW – 3:04 –

5:04 A.M.

Transmission FOR digital HIGH definiton

SATELLITE: SES 2TRANSPONDER: 21BAND: C-Band DigitalORBITAL POSITION: 87
degrees westCARRIER: SES AmericomHD BANDWIDTH: 18 MHz (half transponder
'AB')DOWNLINK FREQ: 4111 MHz (Horizontal)UPLINK FREQ: 6336 MHz (Vertical)SYMBOL
RATE: 13FEC: 3/4 DATA RATE: 17.9705DVBS-QPSKMPEG-2AUDIO EMBEDDED

WEB CAST AVAILABLE HERE http://www.ulalaunch.com/site/pages/Multimedia_Webcast.shtml

Media Contact:□

Mark LewisMobile: 408-203-8093 mark.e.lewis@lmco.com

Chip EschenfelderMobile: 315-427-5720 chip.eschenfelder@lmco.com

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