



LAUNCH SERVICES PROGRAM PRESENTS...

LANDSAT DATA CONTINUITY MISSION

The Landsat Data Continuity Mission (LDCM) will be the eighth in a series of Landsat satellites that will continue to provide data using a two-sensor payload. LDCM is scheduled for launch in 2013 aboard an Atlas V-401 rocket.

Landsat's primary function has been to record the entire global land surface, each season, every year. Since 1972, the U.S. Landsat archive has provided the world's longest, continuous, global space-based record of changes on Earth's land surface. This data resource is managed by the U.S. Geological Survey Earth Resources Observation and Science (EROS) Center.

LDCM will collect data that provides opportunities for:

- Monitoring carbon in forests worldwide
- Quantifying water use in agricultural fields in the western U.S.
- Monitoring burned area recovery efforts on public lands
- Mapping the extent and rate of urban growth in the Chesapeake Bay region

Pixel by pixel, Landsat satellites have consistently gathered data about our planet. Consistency in data collection, image format, geometry, spatial resolution, calibration, coverage and spectral characteristics are hallmarks of the Landsat program, and forms the basis for the LDCM requirements.

Launch Vehicle:

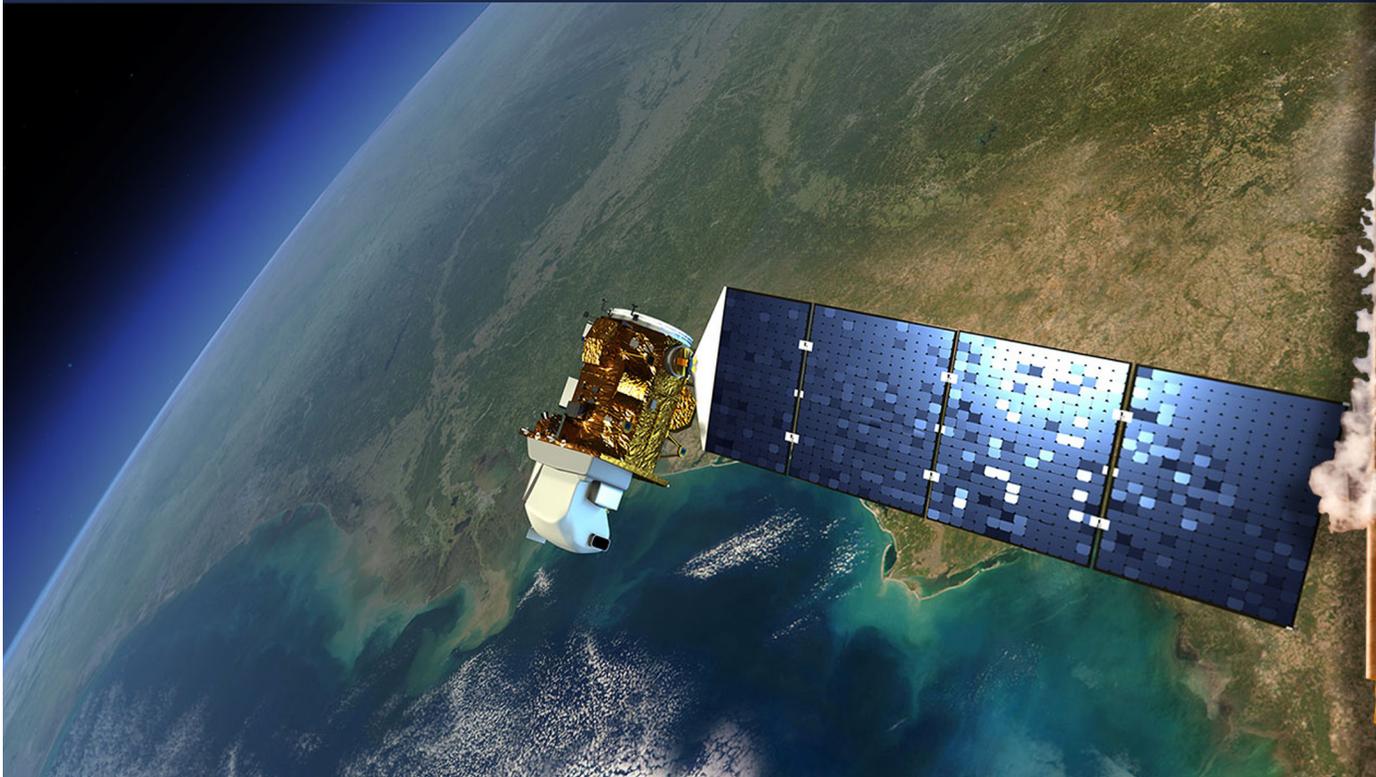
Atlas V-401

Launch Location:

*Vandenberg
Air Force Base, Calif.*

Launch Date:

2013

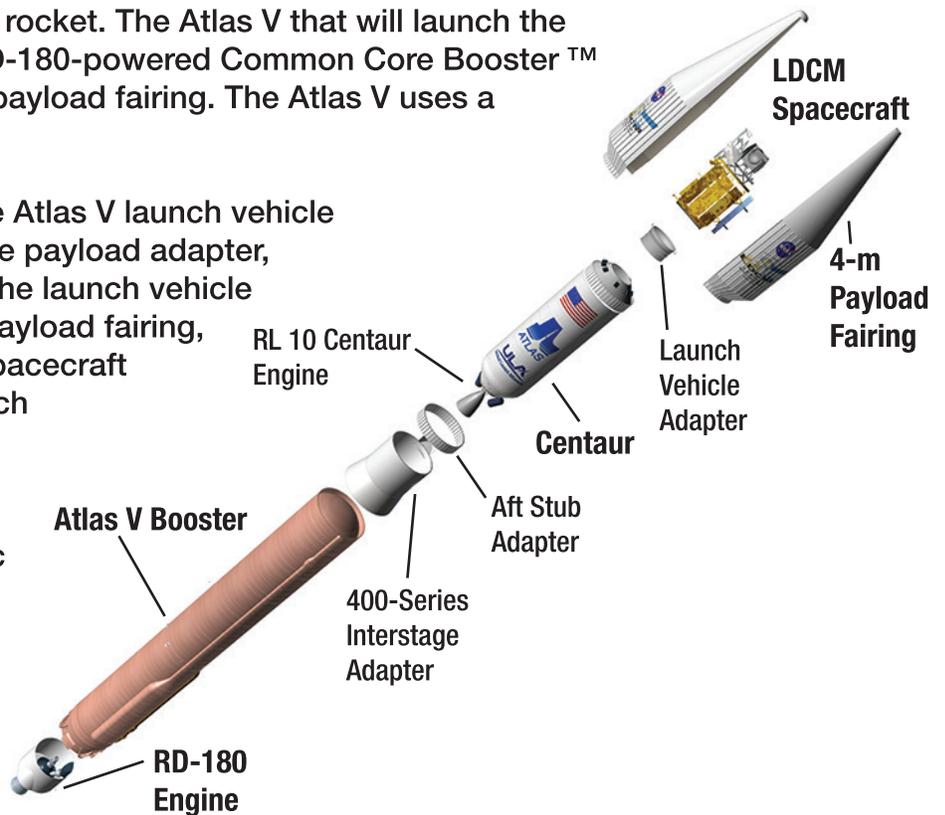


Landsat Data Continuity Mission (LDCM)

The Landsat Data Continuity (LDCM) mission will be launched in 2013 on a United Launch Alliance Atlas V 401 rocket. The Atlas V that will launch the LDCM spacecraft combines the RD-180-powered Common Core Booster™ with a 13-foot- (4-meter) diameter payload fairing. The Atlas V uses a single engine Centaur upper stage.

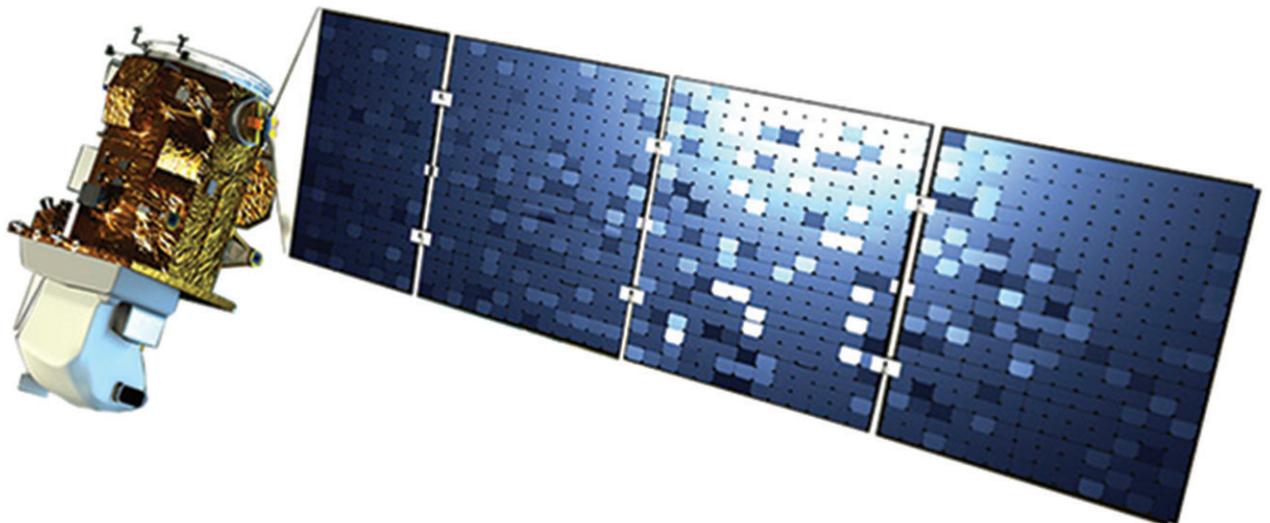
The primary interfaces between the Atlas V launch vehicle and LDCM spacecraft consist of the payload adapter, which supports the spacecraft on the launch vehicle and provides separation, and the payload fairing, which encloses and protects the spacecraft during ground operations and launch vehicle ascent.

The payload fairing provides thermal, acoustic, electro-magnetic and environmental protection for the spacecraft during the pre-launch processing operations, launch and ascent.



Drawing Courtesy of: United Launch Alliance

The LDCM spacecraft is being built by Orbital Sciences Corporation. The spacecraft has a design life of five years, but carries sufficient fuel for 10 years of operations. The spacecraft provides the capability for imaging, calibration, and orbit maintenance maneuvers. The spacecraft communications subsystem provides the ability to transmit mission data to multiple sites concurrently in order to support Landsat international cooperators.



Drawing Courtesy of: NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center