National Aeronautics and Space Administration



# Launch Services

### NASA Advisory Council, HEO Committee

Bradley Smith November 20, 2023

#### EARTH'S BRIDGE TO SPACE



### The People of LSP





# **Resident Offices**



Vandenberg Space Force Base, California



SpaceX Hawthorne, California



Northrop Grumman Chandler, Arizona



KSC & CCSFS, Florida



Commercial Acquisition Expertise

#### • NLS

- Insight & Approval

#### • VADR

- Higher Risk Tolerance, Less Insight & Approval

#### • SPOC

- Provides spacecraft processing services for both NASA-owned and NASA-Sponsored payloads

#### Advisory Services



#### Formalized Government Collaboration

- Memorandum of Understanding, March 2011
- Government Launch Executive Board (GLEB), Quarterly
- Current Launch Schedule Review Board (CLSRB)
- USSF-NASA-NRO Summit





Program Management, Analysis, Engineering, Integration, & Launch Operations

- Experience: Technical, stable civilian workforce, mixed civil service & contractors, 20+ years average in launch
- Consistency: 102 primary missions
   + advisory + cubesats and secondaries
- Flexibility: Evolving expertise to meet new approaches
- On Orbit: Technical Assessment, Launch Mgmt. w/ "GO" for launch, 98+% Mission Success rate
- On Time: Mission Management, Risk Management
- On Cost: Success in Fixed Price Contract Management

# Launch Services Program - Current Vehicle Fleet - High Mission Assurance-



\*Not shown to scale

## LSP Primary Missions

102

Launches

Since 1998



# **Latest Mission Launched - Psyche**

- Psyche was successfully launched on Oct. 13, 2023, at 10:19 a.m. EDT from Launch Pad 39A aboard a SpaceX Falcon Heavy rocket.
- The achieved orbit was well within ICD requirements, based on spacecraft tracking data

	ICD Requirement		Preflight Prediction <sup>2</sup>		Spacecraft Tracking Solution <sup>3</sup>		
Orbit Parameters <sup>1</sup>	Target	Tolerance	Mean	3 Sigma	Value	Error	Accuracy (Sigma)
C3 (km²/s²)	34.0000	±0.25	34.0238	±0.0862	34.0024	-0.0214	-0.75
RLA (deg)	113.7047	±0.50	113.6918	$\pm 0.0474$	113.7070	0.0152	0.96
DLA (deg)	28.0089	±0.25	28.0090	±0.0120	28.0151	0.0061	1.53

1 Targets are defined conditions of the osculating departure hyperbola at the Targeting Interface Point (TIP) expressed in the EME2000 coordinate system 2 Based on day and time of launch

- **3 Assessed by spacecraft at TIP**
- All orbit parameters were less than 1.6-sigma as compared to preflight accuracy predictions
- Due to the spacecraft targets, upper stage disposal was compliant with orbital debris policy via Earth-escape.





#### LSP is providing support to the development and integration of ~ 77 missions in a variety of capacities

Ph III (L-30m - L-18m)

[. FH, ER, NET 10/01/25]

[Class C, F9, ER, 02/01/25]

IMAP w/ SWFO (2nd) +Carruthers

HALO

(2nd)

Sentinel 6-B



Ph IV (L-18m - L-3m)

[Class A, FH, Cx39A, 10/10/24]

[Class B, FH, ER, 04/30/24]

[Class C, GSLV, India, U/R

Europa Clippe

GOES-U

NISAR

# LSP Advanced Planning & Awarded Missions in Flow

Sources: NASA Launch Services Manifest [Release: 7/07/2023] Launch Manifest Waterfall [Release: 7/6/2023] FPO Update [Release: 7/05/2023]

VADR CLIN 2 and CSLI missions not depicted.

Version: External Release September 2023 All Pre-Award mission data is notional



ILS II Advanced Planning
OS-Sky w/ HAWCsat (2nd) [Class C, SSO, Med/Int LV, 12/01/30
OS-Storm [Class C, SSO, Med/Int LV, 07/01/28]
OSI [Class D, LEO, Sm/Med LV, 04/01/27]
AVINCI [Class B, Interplanetary, Med/Int LV, U/R 08/01/29]
ragonfly [Class B, Interplanetary, Int/Hvy LV, NET 06/20/27]
xoMars/RFM [, Interplanetary, Int LV, 09/24/28]
DC [Class C, Multiple, Med LV, 08/01/29]
eoXO [Class B, Orbit TBD, Med/Int LV, 01/01/30]
elioSwarm [Class C, Lunar, Med LV, 01/01/29]
PSS-3 [Class B, LEO, Med/Int LV, 09/01/32]
PSS-4 [Class B, LEO, Med/Int LV, 09/01/27]
andSat Next [, SSO, Med/Int LV, 12/01/30]
IAIA [Class C, SSO, TBD LV Class, NET 01/01/26]
fars SRL [Class A, Interplanetary, Int/Hvy LV, NET 06/29/28]
IUSE [Class C, LEO, Sm/Med LV, 01/01/27]
IEO Surveyor [Class C, HEO, Med/Int LV, 09/13/27]
BG [Class C, SSO, Med LV, 04/30/28]
WFO L1-A [Class C, , Med/Int LV, 12/15/28]
WFO L1-B [Class C, , Med/Int LV, 07/15/30]
SDV [Class A, LEO, Hvy LV, NLT 01/01/29]
ERITAS [Class B, Interplanetary, Heavy LV, NET 06/01/31]

Ph II (NLS II Acq in work)

Ph II (ATP - L-30m)

Roman Space Telescope

[Class C, Med/Int LV, , 02/27/26]

[Class A, FH, Cx39A, 10/31/26]

OSAM-1

AOs

Astro Probe AO [, ]

NLT 12/31/28]

DYNAMIC [, NET 08/01/29]

Helio 2022 (SMEX) AO [, ]

LV/ISS, NLT 12/31/27]

New Frontiers AO [, ]

Earth Science Explorer AO [, ]

MIDEX 2021 (Astro) AO [Med LV,

MIDEX 2021 (Astro) MO [Small

Artemis/Gateway
Artemis-2 [, SLS, Cx39B, 11/23/24]
Artemis-3 (HLS) [Hvy LV, SLS, Cx39B, 12/01/25]
ESPRIT [Hvy LV, . , 01/01/27]
Gateway (iHAB/US-HAB) [Hvy LV, SLS. , NET 01/01/2]
Gateway (Log Mod) [SpX Heavy LV, , , 11/01/27]
Gateway GERS [SpX Heavy LV NET 11/01/28]
HLS [Hvy LV, Starship, , NET 01/01/25]

[Class B, F9, WR, 11/24/25		4]		
SPHEREX/PUNCH(2nd) [Class C, F9, WR, 02/28/29	PACE [Class (	C, F9, ER, 01/09/24]		
	Psyche [Class E	3, FH, Cx39A, 10/06/23)		
		VADR CLIN 1 a	and VCLS Missions	
Phases	Phase I: Pre-award/LSTO	Planning/Development	Phase III: implementation	Phase IV: Launch
Timeline	"L-36 manths - ATP	1479-1-12 mantes	142-1 manths	1-2 member - Lr30 days
VADR Acq in v	vork	ATP - L-12mo	L-12m - L-2m	L-2m - L+1m
PREFIRE [Class D, VAD 04/01/24]	R., NET	ESCAPADE [Class D, New Glenn, CCSFS 08/06/24]	VCLS D2-FB (10C) [Class D, Alpha, WR, NET 10/16/23]	
TRACERS [Class D, VAD 04/01/25]	R., NET	TSIS-2 [Class D, F9, CCSFS, 08/07/24]		

Awarded NLS II, One Offs, and LSP Advisory Missions

Ph V (L-3m - L-10d)

Ph VI (L-10d - L)

Ph VII (L+3m)

ULTRASat [Class D, GTO, VADR, NET 06/01/26] StarBurst [Class D, LEO,
VADR, NET 01/01/25]
QuickSounder [Class D, LEO, VADR, 12/01/25]
PANDORA [Class D, SSO, VADR, NET 10/01/24]
INCUS [Class D, , VADR, 08/02/26]
CFM [Class D, LEO, VADR, NET 01/01/30]
ASPERA [Class D, SSO, VADR, NET 05/01/25]

### **Emerging Launch Services Strategy**

### **VADR Overview**

- Lower level of mission assurance and more commercial practices to achieve lower launch costs through FAA licensed launches (only applicable to Class D & higher risk tolerant missions. Not applicable for Class A-C)
- Includes capability to procure streamlined commercial CubeSat launch services
- Category 1 certification of launch vehicle available, not baseline
- First flight not required to bid
- Spacecraft (SC) readiness go/no-go for launch (only for Dedicated & Primary Rideshare)

2015	VCLS (Venture Class Launch Service)	
2020	<b>CAPSTONE</b> (Cislunar Autonomous Positioning System Technology Operations and Navigation Experiment)	
2020	VCLS Demo 2 (Venture Class Launch Service Demonstration 2)	
2021	<b>TROPICS</b> (Time-Resolved Observations of Precipitation structure and storm Intensity with a Constellation of Smallsats)	
2021	<b>VADR</b> (Venture Class Acquisitions of Dedicated & Rideshare)	
2022-2023	<ul> <li>2022         <ul> <li>TROPICS - Rocket lab</li> <li>TSIS-2 - SpaceX</li> </ul> </li> <li>2023         <ul> <li>PREFIRE – Rocket Lab</li> <li>ESCAPADE – Blue Origin</li> <li>TRACERS – SpaceX</li> </ul> </li> <li>Streamlined CubeSat Launch Services</li> </ul>	

# - Venture Class Launch Service Providers -



# Advisory















# LSP's Evolving Future



### 1998 - LAUNCH SERVICES PROGRAM CUSTOMERS - 2023



# **CubeSat Launch Initiative**

#### Mission

NASA's CubeSat Launch Initiative (CSLI) is intended to expand U.S. interest in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM).

CSLI emphasizes education and provides launch opportunities to a variety of U.S. CubeSat developers and encourages participation by Minority Serving Institutions.

#### Accomplishments to Date

- 200+ CubeSat Projects selected from 100+ organizations from 40+ states, Washington DC and Puerto Rico
- 150+ CubeSats launched to date

#### Looking forward to 2024

mage: ELaNa 19 Launch, Credit: Rocket Lab/Trevor

- 45+ Missions scheduled to launch in the next Calendar Year
- 20+ missions awaiting procurement







### **Benefits to Education Orgs**





CSLI provides up to \$300k to cover launch and integration costs, thereby removing the financial barriers associated with launch.



Enables students, teachers and faculty to obtain hands-on flight hardware development and operational experience



Provides mechanism to conduct scientific research and develop technologies in outer space

### 2009 – 2023 CubeSat Launch Initiative Selections and Status by State





2023-03-21



### **CSLI Inspires the Next Generation of Explorers**

R. Pierce Smith, CACTUS-1 "For me the most rewarding part was building the payload – that's when I really started to get that sense of doing something really incredible."



University of Hawaii -Neutron-1

"StangSat gave me early insight into the engineering process, confirming my interest in an engineering career. It also gave me the luxury of working a project to completion." Ryan Izant, EQUISat "Brown Space Engineering played an extremely large role in my career development and is the main contributor to getting me to where I am today."



#### Brown University - EQUISat



Robertsville Middle School - RamSat

# > 2024 - What's Next?



- Launch : Jan 2024
- SpaceX Falcon 9
- Spacecraft shipment targeted for mid November
- LSP review of launch vehicle booster in work
- Launch campaign preparations in work



- Launch Date: April 2024
- SpaceX Falcon Heavy
- Spacecraft shipment currently targeted for early 2024
- Launch services analyses progressing



- Launch Date: Oct 2024
- SpaceX Falcon Heavy
- Pad and ground support facility readiness in work
- Launch services analyses progressing

# 2024 - What's Next (VADR)?



- Launch Date:
  - PREFIRE 1 May 2024
  - PREFIRE 2 May 2024
- Rocket Lab Electron
- Launch services analyses progressing
- Spacecrafts targeted for transport to New Zealand in spring 2024



- Launch Date: Aug 2024
- Blue Origin New Glenn
- Launch services analyses progressing







#### Follow us on X @NASASpaceOps

# Back-Up



# **Evolution of Spaceflight**



NASA Human via Commercial

### MISSION

Uniting customers, capabilities, and culture to explore space through unparalleled launch services

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### VISION

Science and discovery through unlimited access to the universe

GOALS

Maximize mission success, Assure long-term launch services, Promote evolution of a US Commercial Space Launch Market, Continually enhance LSP's core capabilities

# **Traditional LSP Roles and Responsibilities**







Manage launch vehicle to spacecraft integration







- Over 20 years of heritage of launch vehicle mission assurance in the "non-government-owned" launch vehicle world
- Adaptable to changing environments
  - New providers
  - Heritage customers with new requirements
  - New Agency customers using commercial launch vehicles, with different procurement approaches
- Full manifest of missions to execute "traditionally" and in advisory capacity