Ariane 6 - Inaugural launch

Powering Europe into Space

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research EAER
State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation SERI

Swiss Space Office

The inaugural flight of ESA's new Ariane 6 launcher in summer 2024 will mark the beginning of a new era of autonomous European access to space. Lifting off from a modern launch complex at Europe's Spaceport in Kourou, French Guiana, it will carry with it not only a variety of spacecraft, but also Europe's renewed ambitions in space on the world stage. Switzerland is among the 13 ESA Member States participating in the Ariane 6 programme. Designed with the heritage of reliability and an enhanced flexibility of launching satellites into many different orbits, Ariane 6 has a key technological advantage over other launchers.

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Versatile Powerful launcher

Ariane 6 is designed with versatility in mind. The rocket comes in two versions and has a reignitable upper stage to launch multiple satellites on a single flight, as well as missions that need a 'heavy lift' to the Moon and beyond.

The versatility of Ariane 6 adds a whole new dimension to its very successful predecessors, developing new technologies for new markets.

Ariane 62 (Two boosters)	Ariane 64 (Four boosters)
Low Earth Orbit Transfer Performance	
up to 10 300 kg	up to 21 600 kg
Launch weight	
540 000 kg	870 000 kg
Thrust	
8000 kN	15 700 kN

Boosters

Depending on the energy needed to get satellites into space, Ariane 6 comes in two versions, with two or four boosters. Each booster provides 4500 kN of thrust.

Ariane 62

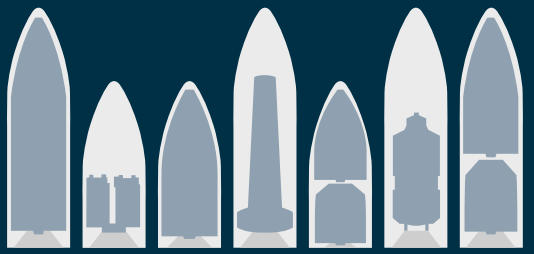
Ariane 64

Contributions from Swiss partners:

1. Payload Fairing by Beyond Gravity Schweiz AG
2. Booster Attachment, Nose Cap & Mechanical Ground Support Equipment by APCO Technologies SA

Upper part

The Payload Fairing houses the satellites and comes in two lengths to accommodate all types of passengers.



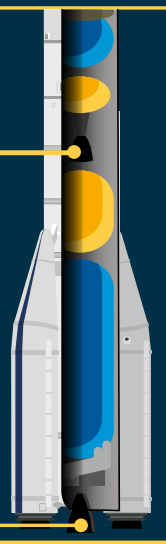
Upper and core stage

Reignitable Vinci engine
180 kN of thrust (in vacuum)

Liquid oxygen
cooled to —180°C

Liquid hydrogen
cooled to —250°C

Vulcain 2.1 engine
1370 kN of thrust (in vacuum)



DATE 2024: Date of launch subject to change; for the latest schedule see: https://www.esa.int/ariane
Video transmission begins 30 minutes before launch at esa TV: https://www.esa.int/ESA_Web_TV
PAYLOADS: Small satellites, deployers and experiments from space agencies, companies, research institutes, universities and young professionals.

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