



FLIGHT VV29 LAUNCH POSTPONEMENT

Kourou (French Guiana) 5 April 2026 - The launch of the Smile satellite has been postponed, due to a technical issue occurred on a subsystem component production line after VV29 launcher integration.

Additional investigations are needed to exclude any relation between such issue and the VV29 launcher in order to safeguard flightworthiness.

The new launch date will be announced following the completion of these activities, as agreed with the supplier.

Vega C and its passenger, the Smile satellite, are in stable and safe conditions.

Avio is a leading international group engaged in the manufacturing and development of space launchers and solid, liquid and cryogenic propulsion systems. The experience and know-how built up over more than 50 years puts Avio at the cutting-edge of the space launcher sector and defense program. Avio is present in Italy, France, United States and French Guiana, employing more than 1,500 highly qualified personnel. Avio is the prime contractor for the Vega program and a sub-contractor for the Ariane program, as well as a leading solid rocket motor subcontractor for the design and manufacturing of major European tactical missile programs.

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