

Successful launch of HISPASAT's Amazonas 4A satellite

- **The new communications satellite of the HISPASAT Group, launched in an Ariadne 5 ECA from French Guiana, is already in space.**
- **The Amazonas 4 is designed to offer audiovisual services and to respond to the demand that will be generated by sporting events which to be held in Brazil in 2014 and 2016.**

Madrid, 22 March, 2014 – The HISPASAT Group has successfully launched, at 23.04 Spanish time, its eleventh satellite, the Amazonas 4A, from the European Space Agency base in Kourou (French Guiana), aboard the Ariane 5 ECA launch vehicle built by Arianespace.

Approximately 34 minutes after the rocket's takeoff, the Amazonas 4A satellite separated from the launch vehicle and initialisation and rollout of the solar panels began. From that point, the manoeuvres got underway to position the new satellite in the geostationary orbit where the test phase will take place over several weeks, to confirm that it is functioning correctly.

For the president of HISPASAT, Elena Pisonero, *“the Amazonas 4A is the HISPASAT Group's response to a challenge: to supply, in record time, additional space capacity in Latin America to satisfy the increase in demand for audiovisual services which will come with the holding of the important sporting events in Brazil in the years to come.”* Pisonero said HISPASAT's strategic bet on Latin America has made it a leading operator and a reference company in the region from the very beginning. She added: *“We want to continue to be true to this commitment offering innovative and high quality services”*.

The new satellite, which has a useful life of 15 years, will provide coverage to South America, from Venezuela and Colombia to the south of Argentina and Chile. Operated by HISPAMAR Satélites, the Group's Brazilian company, the Amazonas 4A will widen the offering of audiovisual services in the region.

The Amazonas 4A was manufactured by Orbital, based on its Geostar 2.4e platform. It has a launch mass of nearly three tonnes and measures 23 metres wide and 4.7 metres high. It has

24 transponders in the Ku band, two deployables antennas and attitude control in three axes which will assure pointing precision.

The project, which entails an investment of more than 140 million Euros, has featured a significant involvement by Spanish industry:

- Thales Alenia Space España: IMUX in the Ku band
- RYMSA: Elements of the Ku band such as antenna feeding assemblies for reception and transmission, RF filters, hybrids, couplers and RF adaptors. Wide coverage antennas and horns with great acquisition for reception and transmission and passive network assemblies.
- GMV: Satellite control centre and flight dynamics systems.
- Indra: Terrestrial segment of satellite control.
- INSA: Satellite control antenna in Maspalomas (Canary Islands).

The HISPASAT Group

The HISPASAT Group is composed of companies with a foothold in Spain as well as in Latin America, where its Brazilian affiliate HISPAMAR, sells its services. The Group is a leading Spanish- and Portuguese-language content broadcaster and distributor, including over important direct-to-home television (DTH) and high-definition television (HDTV) digital platforms. HISPASAT is one of the world's largest companies in terms of revenue in its sector, and the main communications bridge between Europe and the Americas.

Arianespace

Arianespace was founded in 1980 as the world's first commercial satellite launch company. Its shareholders include the French space agency CNES, Airbus Defence and Space and major European space companies, representing 10 European countries. The company has corporate headquarters in Evry (Paris) and Kourou (French Guiana Space Center), and local offices in Washington DC, Singapore and Tokyo.

Since its creation, Arianespace has signed contracts with 85 customers worldwide carrying out 216 Ariane launches, 32 Soyuz launches and the two first launches of Vega. More than half of the commercial satellites in service today were launched by Arianespace.

Orbital Sciences Corporation

Orbital develops and manufactures small- and medium-class rockets and space systems for commercial, military and civil government customers. The company's primary products are satellites and launch vehicles, including low-Earth orbit, geosynchronous-Earth orbit and planetary exploration spacecraft for communications, remote sensing, scientific and defense missions; human-rated space systems for Earth-orbit, lunar and other missions; ground- and air-launched rockets that deliver satellites into orbit; and missile defense systems that are used as interceptor and target vehicles. Orbital also provides satellite subsystems and space-related technical services to U.S. Government agencies and laboratories.