SPACE TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS AND INNOVATIONS SYMPOSIUM (D2) Launch Vehicles in Service or in Development (1)

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BETTER ADAPTABILITY HIGHER RELIABILITY SHORTER LAUNCH CAMPAIGN UPDATED LM-3A SERIES IS COMING

Abstract

Long March 3A series, also known as LM-3A series, which include LM-3A, LM-3B and LM-3C has conducted 59 launches since maiden flight in 1990, which is the only series launchers achieve 50 launches in China. Although some of launches give us pain of failure, most of them are successful with happiness. LM-3A is the only golden metal launcher for GTO mission, LM-3B is the most powerful launcher, LM-3C is the only unsymmetrical circumference launcher in China. There are 3 launches of LM-3A series in China Lunar Explosion Program, 25 in commercial launch, more than 30 for domestic missions, that making great contribution of aerospace not only in China but also in the world. Engineers never stop running after for perfect performance. There are series upswing and improvements will be carried out for LM-3A series, such as redundancy of laser inertial measurement units (IMU), updated for propulsion system, 4.2 meter diameter fairing, upper stage and so on. Besides that, launch procedure is going to be modified to shorten launch campaign form 25days to 20 days. These improvements of LM-3A series give customers benefit for better adaptability, higher reliability and shorter launch campaign. The updated LM-3A series is coming.