

SPACE TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS AND INNOVATIONS SYMPOSIUM (D2)
Launch Services, Missions, Operations, and Facilities (2)

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THE ARIANE 6 LAUNCH BASE, AN ESA PROGRAMME

Abstract

The Ariane 6 development programme encompasses the construction of Ariane 6 launch complex at the Guiana Space Centre (CSG) in French Guiana, and the adaptation of the Launch Range for its exploitation at CSG. The Launch Complex facilities comprise a BAL building for integrating and testing the launch vehicle, a launch control centre, support buildings for the provision of supplies and a launch pad itself, including a launch platform, a blast deflector, a mobile gantry and a lightning rod system. The launch vehicle to be exploited by Arianespace at CSG is the Ariane 6 launcher in the A62 and A64 versions respectively with two and four strap-on boosters. The programme has started in 2015 and the launch site is under construction with a first launch mid 2020. The paper presents the overall scope of the programme, the roles of the partners, the elements of the ground infrastructure including the status/progress of the construction site at CSG, as well as the overall planning of the programme.