

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

Author: Mr. Yorichika Mihara  
Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd., Japan, yorichika.mihara.vh@ds.mhi.com

## THE LATEST DEVELOPMENT STATUS OF H3 AND UPGRADE CONCEPT

**Abstract**

H3, the next Japanese flagship launch vehicle is now midway through the development phase with the maiden flight in JFY 2021.

The H3 concept will provide easy and frequent access to space for not only Japanese government and scientists, but for customers worldwide as well. Now, H3 rocket has been successfully integrated with ground facility in Tanegashima Space Center. For the next milestone, overall integrated system test and 1st stage hot-firing test is projected to be performed in the early March of 2021, November of March respectively.

On the other hand, in order to respond to the rapidly evolving changes and increasing demand for satellite launch services, H3 needs to continue to evolve, providing: -a higher payload carrying capability -a quicker more flexible response to satellite operator needs and customizations -an affordable service in a way that is sustainable under mutual collaboration scheme between perspective space industry customers worldwide.

In this paper, the latest development status of H3 and upgrade concept for near future is reported.