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[Contact Us](#) [Site Map](#) [Japanese](#)

- [Home](#)
- [About Us](#)
- [Launch Services](#)
- [Launch Schedule/Record](#)
- [Launch Vehicle Family](#)
- [Library](#)

[MHI Launch Services Top](#) > [Launch Schedule/Record](#) > [Countdown Report](#) > Countdown Report for the Global Precipitation Measurement(GPM) launch on H-IIA Launch Vehicle Flight No.23

- Launch Schedule/Record
- Launch Schedule
- Launch Record
- Countdown Report

- Recommendations**
- [Library](#)
 - [Launch Vehicle Family](#)
 - [News](#)

- Inquiries about H-IIA/H-IIB Launch Vehicles**
- [Satellite Operators and Satellite Manufacturers](#)
 - [Other Customers](#)

Countdown Report for the Global Precipitation Measurement(GPM) launch on H-IIA Launch Vehicle Flight No.23

Final countdown status of H-IIA Flight F23 carrying Global Precipitation Measurement(GPM) will be reported.

※ Please reload this page for the latest on the launch.



February 28, 2014 03:53 JST
Separation of "GPM Core Observatory" confirmed

The separation of "GPM Core Observatory" has been confirmed.



February 28, 2014 03:37 JST
Liftoff

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI) has launched the H-IIA Launch Vehicle No. 23 carrying "GPM Core Observatory" at 03:37 on Feb 28, 2014 JST from the Tanegashima Space Center.



< Click image to enlarge >

Liftoff of H-IIA F23 (1)



< Click image to enlarge >

Liftoff of H-IIA F23 (2)



February 28, 2014 03:32 JST
Automatic countdown sequence to start

It is 4 minutes and 40 seconds before liftoff. The automatic countdown sequence has started.



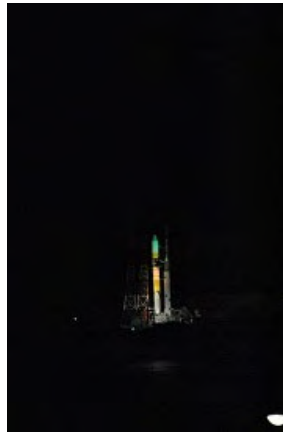
February 28, 2014 03:07 JST
X-30 minutes

It is 30 minutes before launch.

February 28, 2014 02:37 JST

X-60 minutes

It is 60 minutes before launch. The final countdown operation has started.



< Click image to enlarge >

H-IIA F23 - Final countdown operation has started

February 28, 2014 02:31 JST

Third Go/No Go Decision

The green light has been given to the X-60 minutes terminal countdown operation.

February 28, 2014 02:04 JST

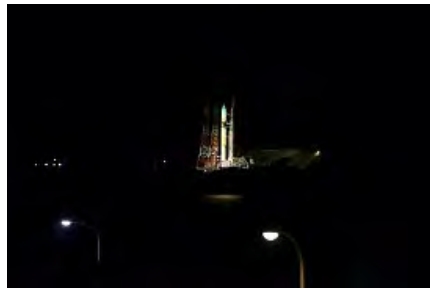
Attitude control system flight slew test completed

The second attitude control system flight slew test has been completed.

February 27, 2014 22:56 JST

First stage and second stage liquid oxygen and liquid hydrogen tanks fully loaded

It has been confirmed that the first- and second-stage liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen tanks have been fully loaded.



< Click image to enlarge >

H-IIA F23 - Both liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen tanks fully loaded

February 27, 2014 22:55 JST

Radio frequency system checked up

The radio frequency system between H-IIA F23 and the ground stations has been checked up.

February 27, 2014 21:39 JST
Attitude control system flight slew test completed

By running programs of the guidance and control system mounted on H-IIA F23, it has been confirmed that all devices for flight attitude control are working as expected.

February 27, 2014 19:10 JST

Access restrictions to start within a radius of 3,000 meters from launch pad.

Access will now be restricted within a radius of 3,000 meters from the launch pad.

February 27, 2014 17:55 JST

Terminal countdown operation to start

Terminal countdown operation has started. Access will now be restricted within a radius of 400 meters from the launch pad.



< Click image to enlarge >

Terminal countdown operation has started

February 27, 2014 17:41 JST

Second Go/No Go Decision '-Go'

Final checks have been made for operational conditions of the launch vehicle, satellites, launch facilities, and tracking and control systems, as well as weather conditions. We now have gotten a go-ahead for loading the propellant, such as liquid oxygen and liquid hydrogen, into the launch vehicle. Propellant loading preparations are going to start.

February 27, 2014 13:26 JST

H-IIA F23 to arrive at launch pad

H-IIA F23 has arrived at the launch pad. The launch vehicle is going to be connected to the pad facilities.



< Click image to enlarge >

Snapshot of launch sit



< Click image to enlarge >

H-IIA F23 on the way to launch pad



< Click image to enlarge >

H-IIA F23 has arrived at launch pad



< Click image to enlarge >

H-IIA F23 has arrived at launch pad

February 27, 2014 13:04 JST

H-IIA F23 on the way to launch pad

H-IIA F23 carrying "GPM Core Observatory" has left for the launch pad. H-IIA F23, mounted on a mobile launcher, will travel approximately 500 meters from the Vehicle Assembly Building to the launch pad. This will take about 30 minutes.

February 27, 2014 09:44 JST

First Go/No Go Decision '-Go'

This is an updated launch countdown report on the "Global Precipitation Measurement (GPM) Core Observatory" which will be launched using the H-IIA No. 23 Launch Vehicle (H-IIA F23). After the weather conditions checked out, the green light has been given for H-IIA F23 carrying "GPM Core Observatory" to leave the Vehicle Assembly Building for the launch pad. The scheduled launch time is Feb. 28, 2014 03:37:00 JST.

- about Us
- Message
- Company History
- MHI's Vision for the Next Generation Launch Vehicle, H3

- Launch Services
 - Satellite Operators & Satellite Manufacturers
 - H-IIA Launch Services Explained
 - Work Flow to Launch
 - Launch Site
 - User's Manual

- Launch Schedule/Record
 - Launch Schedule
 - Launch Record
 - Countdown Report
- Launch Vehicle Family
 - H-IIA Launch Vehicle
 - H-IIB Launch Vehicle

- Library
 - Photos & Videos
 - Related Materials
- News
- Contact Us
- Site Map