



ULA Launches 29 Amazon Leo Satellites from Cape Canaveral

Description

United Launch Alliance (ULA) successfully launched an Atlas 5 rocket on April 27, 2026, at 8:53:30 p.m. EDT from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station. This mission was notable for being the quickest turnaround at this launch pad, completing the operation almost three days faster than the previous record.

The Atlas 5 rocket carried 29 Amazon Leo satellites as part of the Leo Atlas 6 mission, marking ULA's sixth flight for these broadband internet satellites. This launch follows two demonstration satellites sent into orbit in October 2023.

The recent mission also set a milestone with this being the 108th overall Atlas 5 launch and the 100th under ULA. To enhance efficiency, ULA modified its prelaunch procedures. In contrast to the traditional method of rolling out the rocket a day before launch, ULA rolled the Atlas 5 to the pad on the morning of the launch. This allowed them to save time as the Mobile Launch Platform was lowered into position.

In a bid to streamline operations, two teams worked together to complete tasks that usually take two days. ULA noted that not all future missions would adopt this new schedule, as specific operational factors will influence the timeline.

With this launch, the Amazon Leo satellite constellation now comprises 270 satellites, marking the 10th overall launch for this effort. Ultimately, the initial constellation aims to include over 3,200 satellites.

Vocabulary List:

1. **turnaround** //ˈtɜːnəˌraʊnd// (noun): time between finishing something and starting again
2. **milestone** //ˈmaɪlˌstoʊn// (noun): an important event or achievement in progress
3. **modified** //ˈmɒdɪfaɪd// (verb): changed something to make it different
4. **streamline** //ˈstriːmˌlaɪn// (verb): make something work more simply and quickly
5. **demonstration** //ˌdɛmənˈstreɪʃən// (noun): an example to show how something works
6. **comprises** //kəmˈpraɪzɪz// (verb): is made of or includes several parts

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice



1. What date was the Atlas 5 rocket launched?

- Option: April 27, 2026
- Option: March 15, 2025
- Option: June 10, 2024
- Option: August 21, 2023

2. How many Amazon Leo satellites were carried by the Atlas 5 rocket?

- Option: 25
- Option: 29
- Option: 30
- Option: 28

3. What was the 100th overall mission under ULA?

- Option: Atlas 6
- Option: Leo Atlas
- Option: Atlas 5
- Option: Aquila Launch

4. What is the total number of satellites in the Amazon Leo satellite constellation after the recent launch?

- Option: 260
- Option: 270
- Option: 280
- Option: 290

5. How did ULA modify its prelaunch procedures?

- Option: Launched a day earlier
- Option: Rolled the rocket on launch morning
- Option: Increased the number of teams
- Option: Used a different launch pad

6. What was notable about the launch turnaround time?

- Option: It was slower than usual
- Option: It was almost three days faster than the previous record
- Option: It was delayed by a day
- Option: It was the longest turnaround in history

True-False



7. The Atlas 5 launch on April 27, 2026, was the first flight for Amazon Leo satellites.
8. The initial constellation aims to include over 3,000 satellites.
9. ULA set a milestone with the 108th overall Atlas 5 launch.
10. The rocket was rolled out to the launch pad a day before the launch.
11. The Atlas 5 rocket launched at 8:53:30 a.m. EDT.
12. Two teams worked together to complete tasks that usually take two days.

Gap-Fill

13. The Atlas 5 rocket was launched from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station on April 27, 2026, at 8:53:30 p.m. EDT, marking the quickest turnaround at this launch pad, completing the operation almost three days faster than the previous record. The mission carried 29 Amazon Leo satellites as part of the Leo Atlas 6 mission, marking ULA's sixth flight for these broadband internet satellites. With this launch, the Amazon Leo satellite constellation now comprises _____ satellites.
14. This launch was the _____ overall Atlas 5 launch.
15. The initial constellation aims to include over _____ satellites.
16. ULA modified its prelaunch procedures by rolling the Atlas 5 to the pad on the _____ of the launch.
17. The new schedule may not be adopted for all future _____ as specific operational factors will influence the timeline.
18. The mission completed the operation almost three days _____ than the previous record.



Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. April 27, 2026 2. 29 3. Atlas 5 4. 270 5. Rolled the rocket on launch morning 6. It was almost three days faster than the previous record

True-False: 7. False 8. False 9. True 10. False 11. False 12. True

Gap-Fill: 13. 270 14. 108th 15. 3,200 16. morning 17. missions 18. faster

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What does the term 'turnaround' commonly refer to in a business context?

- Option: A significant improvement
- Option: A type of financial loss
- Option: A method of production
- Option: A marketing strategy

2. What is a 'milestone' in project management?

- Option: A monetary reward
- Option: A significant stage or event
- Option: A final report
- Option: An employee evaluation

3. What does it mean to 'streamline' a process?

- Option: To make it more complex
- Option: To reduce waste and improve efficiency
- Option: To increase costs
- Option: To hire more employees

4. What is usually the purpose of a 'demonstration'?

- Option: To confuse the audience
- Option: To showcase how something works
- Option: To sell products
- Option: To collect data

5. What type of waves does 'infrared' refer to?



- Option: Visible light waves
- Option: Sound waves
- Option: Electromagnetic waves
- Option: Radio waves

6. What does 'inaccessible' mean?

- Option: Easily reachable
- Option: Difficult or impossible to reach
- Option: Accessible to everyone
- Option: Available for purchase

7. What does it mean to have 'stumbled' upon something?

- Option: To search meticulously
- Option: To encounter unexpectedly
- Option: To avoid completely
- Option: To disregard

8. What is typically the goal of an 'expedition'?

- Option: To stay indoors
- Option: To explore unknown areas
- Option: To document history
- Option: To participate in sports

9. What is the primary role of 'astronauts'?

- Option: To conduct undersea research
- Option: To work in laboratories
- Option: To travel and work in space
- Option: To teach science

10. What is meant by 'docking' in space missions?

- Option: Landing on a planet
- Option: Connecting two spacecraft
- Option: Firing rockets
- Option: Returning to Earth

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. The company decided to _____ its operations to improve productivity.

12. To gather more information, the researchers conducted a _____ of the local



population.

13. During the storm, many sought _____ in the local community center.
14. The submarines used _____ technology to detect objects underwater.
15. The shipwreck was found _____ beneath the surface of the ocean.
16. If not properly maintained, the building gradually _____ over time.
17. The scientist explained that the discovery of penicillin was an _____ breakthrough.
18. She felt _____ by her older brother's achievements.
19. Reaching the summit was a significant _____ in the climbers' journey.
20. The thermal camera detects _____ radiation to measure heat from objects.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The company achieved a remarkable turnaround after implementing new strategies.
22. The software was modified to include new features based on user feedback.
23. The rugged terrain made the hiking expedition more challenging.
24. The commander gave clear instructions before the mission began.
25. The Mars rover successfully transmitted data back to Earth.
26. The solar eclipse was a breathtaking event that drew many spectators.
27. The scientists explored the seabed to learn more about marine life.
28. The demonstration showcased the robot's ability to perform complex tasks.
29. The expedition aimed to uncover new species in the untouched rainforest.
30. The astronauts trained rigorously for their mission to the International Space Station.



Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. A significant improvement 2. A significant stage or event 3. To reduce waste and improve efficiency 4. To showcase how something works 5. Electromagnetic waves 6. Difficult or impossible to reach 7. To encounter unexpectedly 8. To explore unknown areas 9. To travel and work in space 10. Connecting two spacecraft

Gap-Fill: 11. streamline 12. survey 13. refuge 14. sonar 15. submerged 16. deteriorates 17. accidental 18. shadowed 19. milestone 20. infrared

Matching sentence: 1. turnaround 2. modified 3. terrain 4. commander 5. rover 6. eclipse 7. seabed 8. demonstration 9. expedition 10. astronauts

CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL4

POST TAG

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2. Atlas 5 rocket
3. Cape Canaveral
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