

Kourou, April 14, 2023, 23-06

## Press release

### ARIANE 5 SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHES THE JUICE SPACE PROBE FOR ESA

- **The 116<sup>th</sup> Ariane 5 launch, operated by Arianespace, successfully placed the JUICE space probe in an escape orbit.**
- **Europe's Ariane 5 heavy-lift launcher, for which ArianeGroup is the lead contractor, once again demonstrated its exceptional reliability.**
- **This will be Europe's first mission to the Jovian system. Its passenger, JUICE, will spend at least three years observing Jupiter's icy moons, Europa, Ganymede, and Callisto.**

On Friday, April 14, 2023 at 09:14 am local time, an Ariane 5 launcher, operated by Arianespace, successfully lifted off from Europe's Spaceport in Kourou, French Guiana, carrying the European Space Agency (ESA) JUICE space probe.

The spacecraft, built by Airbus Defence and Space for ESA, will carry out Europe's first mission to Jupiter. It will spend at least three years making detailed observations of the planet's icy moons: Europa, Ganymede, and Callisto, which will arrive in July 2031. JUICE will study the moons as potential habitats for life, addressing two key questions: what are the conditions for planet formation and the emergence of life, and how does the solar system work?

Stéphane Israël, CEO of Arianespace, said: *"Arianespace is honored to have been entrusted with this launch, the first European mission to Jupiter, and to play a part in expanding our understanding of the solar system and the necessary conditions for the emergence of life. In preparing for this mission, we have worked hand in hand with ESA, Airbus Defence and Space, ArianeGroup, and French space agency CNES. I take this opportunity to thank all the teams who have given so much for 10 years to bring us to today's successful result. And good luck to JUICE for the incredible journey it is about to embark on!"*

*"With the successful launch of the JUICE space probe, Ariane 5 has once again made its contribution to European space history. This exceptional mission benefited twice over from ArianeGroup's expertise: we not only built and prepared Ariane 5 for this mission, but we are also involved in the JUICE spacecraft as we developed, supplied, and tested the entire propulsion system which will enable the probe to make its eight-year journey to Jupiter. I want to thank the teams from ArianeGroup and Arianespace, together with all our European partners, for this latest success of the Ariane launcher. Our launcher's high reliability is due to the unfailing cooperation between the industry, ESA, and CNES, the guarantee of Europe's independent access to space,"* said Martin Sion, CEO of ArianeGroup.

The propulsion system for the JUICE spacecraft was developed, built, and integrated in Germany by ArianeGroup's Orbital Propulsion teams, and comprises the 400 N main engine to be used for Jupiter orbit injection, 20 small thrusters, and two titanium propellant tanks.

After this mission, one Ariane 5 launch remains before Ariane 6 takes up the baton, supporting Europe's institutional missions and meeting the rapidly growing needs of the commercial market.

The Ariane 5 heavy-lift launcher is an ESA program carried out in cooperation between public institutions and industry across 12 European partner countries.

ArianeGroup is the lead contractor for the development and production of Ariane 5, as well as being responsible for launcher preparation operations up to lift-off. As prime contractor for Ariane 5 and Ariane 6, in charge of development and production, ArianeGroup is at the head of a vast industrial network of more than 600 companies, including 350 small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs). ArianeGroup delivers a flight-ready launcher on the launch pad to its subsidiary Arianespace, which markets and operates Ariane 5 from Europe's spaceport in French Guiana. During launch campaigns, Arianespace works closely with the French space agency (CNES), the design authority for Ariane 5 and responsible for the satellite preparation facilities and the launch base.

## THE LAUNCH AT A GLANCE

**346<sup>th</sup>**

Launch operated by Arianespace

**More than 1,150**

satellites launched by Arianespace

**1<sup>st</sup>**

launch operated by Arianespace in 2023

This launch was carried out on **April 14, 2023** from the European Spaceport in Kourou, French Guiana at 09:14 am local time (12:14 pm UTC)

**116<sup>th</sup>**

Ariane 5 launch from the CSG

**6,058 kg**

total payload carried by the launcher for this mission

**90<sup>th</sup>**

consecutive launch with nominal operation of the Vulcain 2 main stage engine

**116<sup>th</sup>**

consecutive launch with nominal operation of the solid boosters

**156<sup>th</sup>**

consecutive launch with nominal operation of the HM7B upper stage engine

### Press contacts

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### About Arianespace

*Arianespace uses space to make life better on Earth by providing launch services for all types of satellites into all orbits. It has orbited over 1,150 satellites since 1980. Arianespace is responsible for operating the new-generation Ariane 6 and Vega C launchers, developed by ESA, with respectively ArianeGroup and Avio as industrial primes. Arianespace is headquartered in Evry, near Paris, and has a technical facility at the Guiana Space Center in French Guiana, plus local offices in Washington, D.C., Tokyo and Singapore. Arianespace is a subsidiary of ArianeGroup, which holds 74% of its share capital, with the balance held by 15 other shareholders from the Ariane and Vega European launcher industry, and ESA and CNES as censors.*

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### About ArianeGroup

*ArianeGroup is lead contractor for civil and defense space launcher systems, responsible for the design and the entire production process of Europe's Ariane 5 and Ariane 6, including marketing and operation by its Arianespace subsidiary, as well as for the design, manufacture, and operational condition maintenance of the missiles of the French oceanic deterrent force. Internationally recognized for its innovative, competitive solutions, ArianeGroup has expertise in all aspects of state-of-the-art space propulsion technologies. ArianeGroup and its subsidiaries also offer their specialist skills in space equipment, services, space surveillance, and critical infrastructure to benefit other industrial sectors. Equally owned by Airbus and Safran, the group employs more than 8,000 highly qualified staff in France and Germany. Its 2022 revenues amounted to €2.4 billion.*

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