

June 2026  
Launch kit  
**VA269**



# Ariane 6

VA269

Amazon Leo LE-03



[www.arianespace.com](http://www.arianespace.com)



[www.ariane.group](http://www.ariane.group)

# MISSION DESCRIPTION

Arianespace's third launch of 2026 will place 36 Amazon Leo satellites in a low Earth orbit (LEO) with the Ariane 6 in its Ariane 64 configuration (the Ariane 6 version with four boosters).

Ariane 6 Flight VA269 will be the first using the P160C-powered boosters. This upgrade raises Ariane 64's payload capacity to approximately 22 tons in low Earth orbit (LEO).

The launch will be carried out from Europe's Spaceport in French Guiana.

## DATE AND TIME:



Liftoff is planned on June 17, 2026, within the following launch window:

- 07:53 - 08:22 Washington D.C. time
- 08:53 - 09:22 Kourou time
- 11:53 - 12:22 Universal time (UTC)
- 13:53 - 14:22 Paris/Berlin time
- 20:53 - 21:22 Tokyo time



## MISSION DURATION:

The nominal duration of the mission (from liftoff to separation of all the satellites) is: 1 hour and 51 minutes.

## SATELLITES:

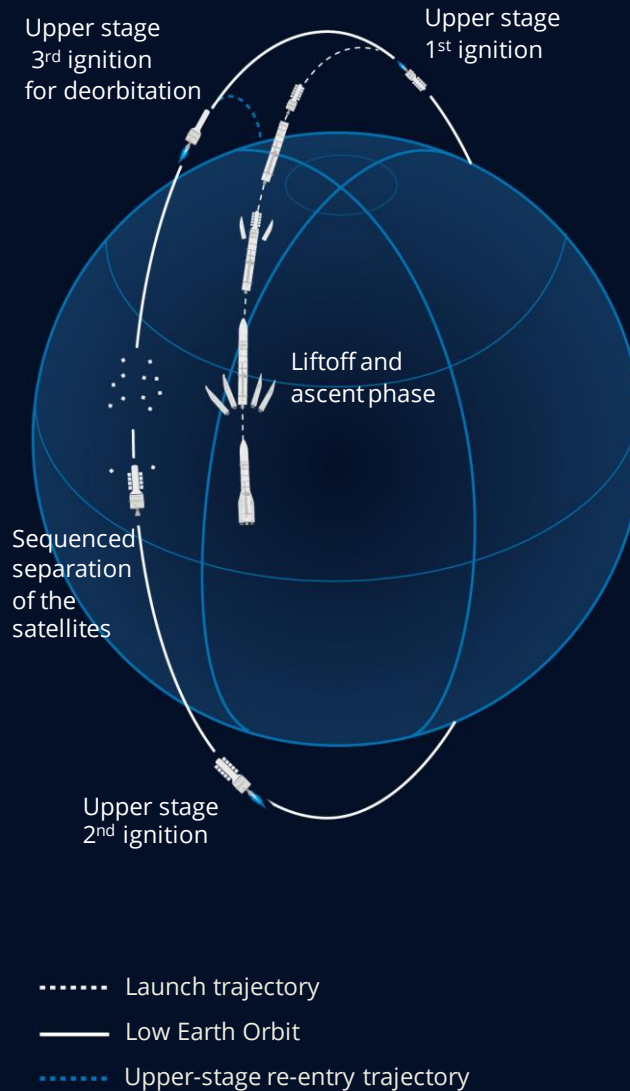
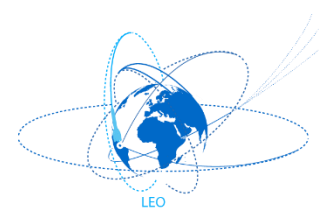
- 36 Amazon Leo satellites (LE-03)
- Customer: Amazon



## TARGETED ORBIT:

Low Earth orbit at an altitude of approximately 465 km.

# ARIANE 6 LOW EARTH ORBIT (LEO) MISSION PROFILE



# CONTENTS

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| MISSION DESCRIPTION   | 2 |
| AMAZON LEO SATELLITES | 3 |
| ARIANE 6 LAUNCHER     | 4 |
| LAUNCH CAMPAIGN       | 5 |
| FLIGHT SEQUENCE       | 5 |
| LAUNCH STAKEHOLDERS   | 6 |

## PRESS CONTACTS

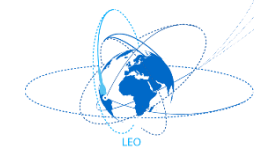
**Arianespace**  
Contacts available here:  
[newsroom.arianespace.com](https://newsroom.arianespace.com)

**ArianeGroup**  
Contacts available here:  
[press.ariane.group](https://press.ariane.group)

## WATCH THE LAUNCH LIVE

Link to the Road to Space launch show:  
[youtube.com/@arianespace](https://youtube.com/@arianespace)

# AMAZON LEO: HIGH-SPEED CONNECTIVITY BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE



## DID YOU KNOW?

Mission VA269 is the third in a series of 18 Ariane 6 launches planned servicing the Amazon Leo constellation. It is the first carried out with the P160C-powered boosters.

Amazon Leo is Amazon's low Earth orbit satellite network, designed to provide fast, reliable internet to customers and communities beyond the reach of existing networks. To deliver on this mission, Amazon is deploying thousands of satellites linked to a global network of antennas, fiber, and internet connection points on the ground.

Amazon Leo's initial satellite constellation design includes more than 3,000 satellites. With more than 300 satellites already deployed, mission VA269, designated LE-03 by Amazon (Leo Europe 3), will add another 36 satellites to the constellation, marking the 100th satellite launched by Arianespace for Amazon Leo.



|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>SATELLITES</b>                      | 36 Amazon Leo satellites                                    |
| <b>CUSTOMER</b>                        | Amazon  |
| <b>MANUFACTURER</b>                    | Amazon (manufactured in Kirkland, Washington State, U.S.A.) |
| <b>MISSION</b>                         | Global connectivity, high-speed broadband                   |
| <b>COVERAGE AREA</b>                   | Global  |
| <b>CONSTELLATION OPERATIONAL ORBIT</b> | Low Earth orbit between 590 and 630 kilometers              |

**Amazon Leo** has three main parts: ground infrastructure, satellites, and customer terminals:

-Amazon's ground infrastructure includes gateway antennas that securely send and receive customer data to and from satellites, along with telemetry, tracking, and control (TT&C) antennas that keep the satellites properly operating. Global networking connects those gateway antennas to the internet, public cloud, or private networks.

-The satellites relay data traffic to and from the gateway antennas and customers.

-The customer terminals are the technology that Amazon Leo customers use to receive internet service. These antennas - Leo Nano, Leo Pro, and Leo Ultra - combine antennas and processors into a single, compact system to deliver connectivity.

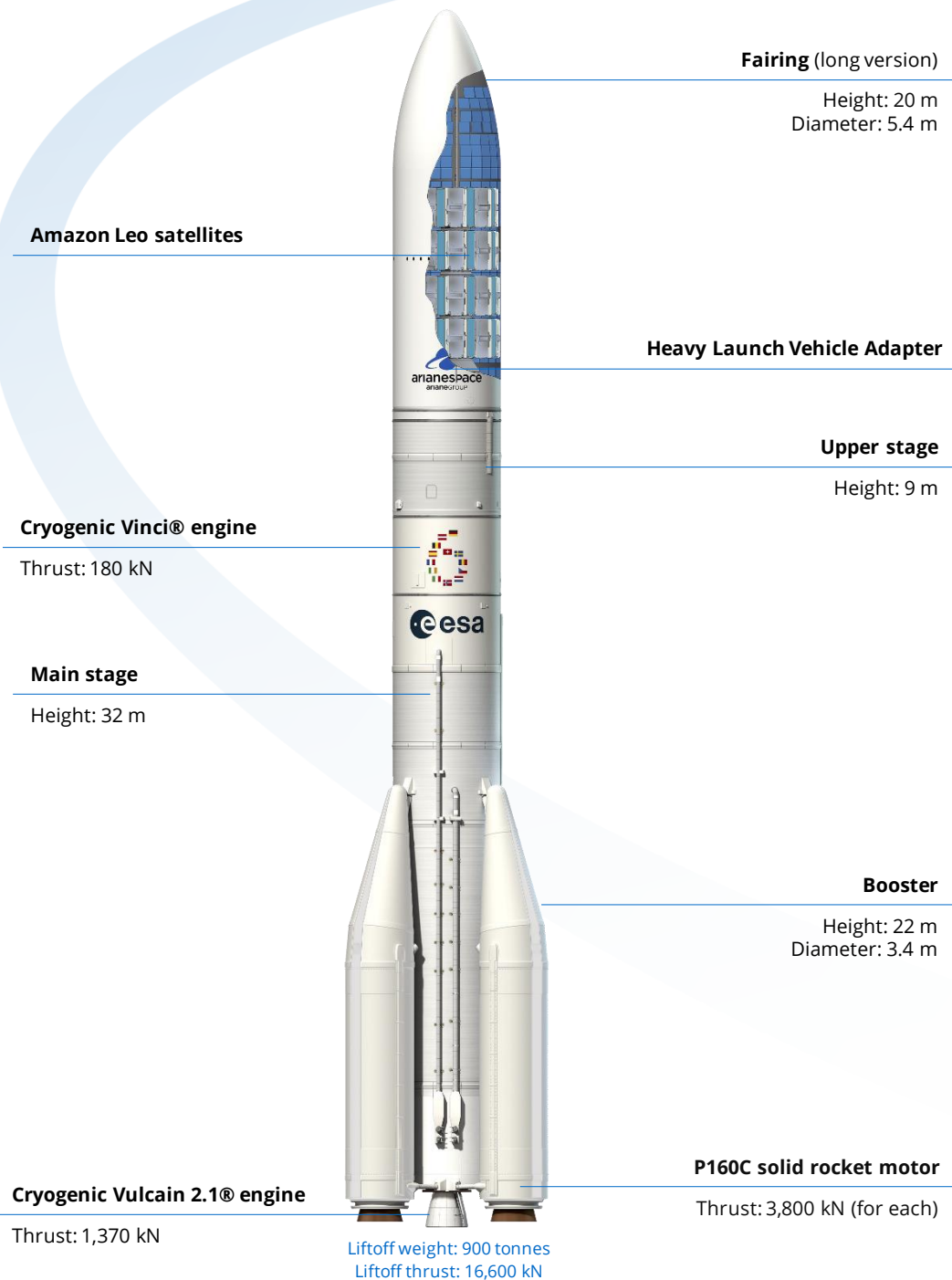
## The VA269 mission in key figures:

- The third Arianespace mission for Amazon Leo (LE-03) and largest Ariane 6 payload for the constellation
- The third flight for the Ariane 64, the Ariane 6 with four boosters
- The first Ariane 6 flight using the P160C-powered boosters
- The biggest stack configuration and heaviest payload ever launched by an Ariane launcher

Amazon Leo  
Contact: [leo-comms@amazon.com](mailto:leo-comms@amazon.com)  
Contact (FR): [presse@amazon.com](mailto:presse@amazon.com)  
[leo.amazon.com](http://leo.amazon.com)



# ARIANE 6 LAUNCHER - ARIANE 64 CONFIGURATION



## DID YOU KNOW?

As lead contractor for Ariane 6 development and production, ArianeGroup orchestrates a huge European space industry chain in all aspects from management of launcher upgrades to supply of the flight software for each mission. This collaboration is the heart of Ariane 6's success.

This includes structures and equipment, propulsion systems, integration of the different stages and integration of the launcher at Europe's Spaceport in French Guiana. ArianeGroup coordinates more than 600 industrial partners and suppliers across the thirteen European countries contributing to the programme, including 350 SMEs, mid-sized companies and start-ups, and supports over 13,000 direct and indirect jobs in Europe.

We are continuously improving the competitiveness of the Ariane 6 system, which is designed to be modular, versatile, and scalable.



### The P160C-powered boosters

The P160C solid rocket engine represents the next evolution in European launch vehicle propulsion, enhancing the performance and versatility of Ariane 6 while maintaining compatibility with existing launcher architecture.

Building on the proven P120C design, the P160C motor is one metre longer (14.5 metres for the P160C and 13.5 metres for the P120C) and carries up to 156 tons of solid propellant, an increase of 14 tons compared with the P120C (which carried up to 142 tons). This provides a 10–15% increase in the launcher's performance depending on the target low Earth orbit.

The booster's external dimensions remain unchanged at 22 metres in length and 3.4 metres in diameter. The interfaces with the Ariane 6 central core are also unchanged, allowing the launcher to be equipped with either P120C or P160C boosters without modification.

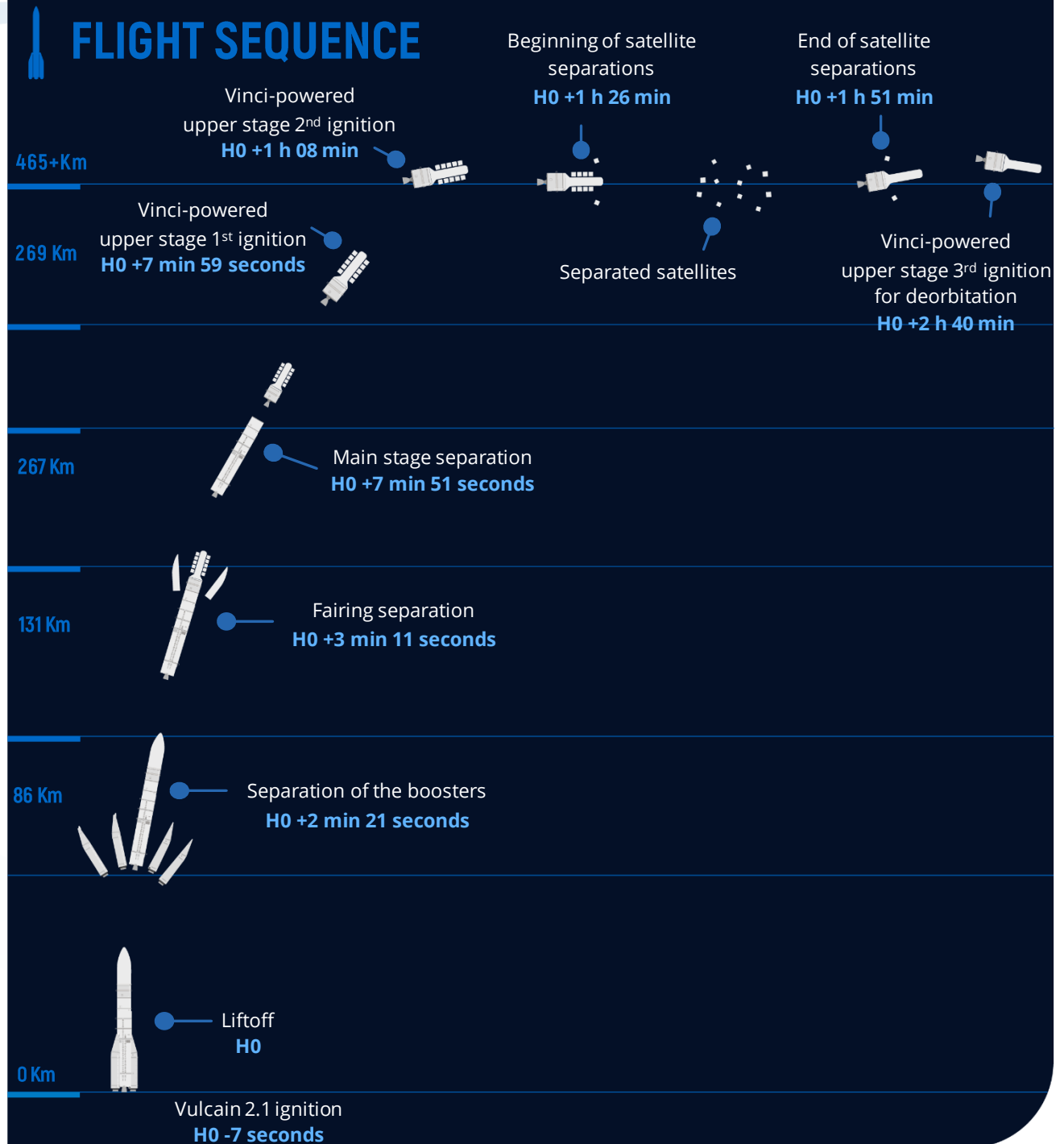
The P160C upgrade will increase Ariane 6 payload capacity to low Earth orbit (LEO) by more than two tons, supporting the deployment and early orbit operations of large satellite constellations. It also delivers substantial performance improvements for geostationary, scientific, and exploration missions, expanding the range of missions that Ariane 6 can serve.

# LAUNCH CAMPAIGN

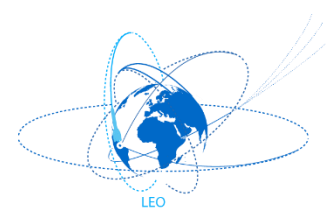


 — Satellite operations  — Launcher operations

# FLIGHT SEQUENCE



# LAUNCH STAKEHOLDERS



## ARIANESPACE

From Earth to orbit, Ariespace serves its customers and their ambitions, whether they involve scientific missions to study our planet, facilitate communication and navigation, or support many other applications.

Ariespace designs and deploys space transportation services for all types of satellites, to all orbits, with the capacity to transport any mass, at any time. Ariespace operates the new-generation Ariane 6 launcher, developed by ESA, with ArianeGroup as prime industrial contractor. With over 45 years of experience, Ariespace has launched more than 1,100 satellites, for over 150 institutional and commercial customers worldwide.

Ariespace is headquartered in Les Mureaux, France. Our launch base is at the Guiana Space Center in Kourou, French Guiana, and we have offices in Tokyo, Singapore and Washington, D.C. Ariespace is a subsidiary of ArianeGroup, which holds 100% of its share capital.

Press contact:  
[newsroom.arianespace.com](https://newsroom.arianespace.com)



## ARIANEGROUP

ArianeGroup is an industrial company delivering critical missions for the space and defence sectors. With 8,700 highly qualified employees in France and Germany, ArianeGroup has unique expertise in access to space, covering the full spectrum of civil and military launch systems, including design, development, manufacturing, integration, flight preparation, operational readiness and end-of-life decommissioning. ArianeGroup is lead contractor for the Ariane 6 European launcher for the European Space Agency (ESA).

ArianeGroup also offers a broad range of space, defence and industrial equipment and services, both individually and together with its subsidiaries Sodern, Pyroalliance, Nuclétudes and APP.

In the field of space launchers, ArianeGroup's subsidiary Ariespace markets and operates Ariane 6, and its subsidiary MaiaSpace develops and markets the reusable launcher Maia.

ArianeGroup, equally owned by Airbus and Safran, posted consolidated revenues of €2.6 billion in 2025.

Press contact:  
[press.ariane.group](https://press.ariane.group)



## ESA

ESA guides the development of Europe's space capabilities and makes sure that space contributes to a safer, more prosperous and sustainable future for its citizens. As an international organisation with 23 Member States, ESA coordinates its members' financial and intellectual resources to undertake ambitious programmes and initiatives that largely surpass the scope of action of a single European state.

ESA oversees the development of Europe's current and future space transportation services and solutions, including Ariane 6, Vega-C, Vega-E, Space Rider, and of technologies for transport in-, to-, and from-space, notably through the Future Launchers Preparatory Programme. On Ariane and Vega, ESA manages the overall programmes while European industry builds the launch vehicles with ArianeGroup (Ariane 6) and Avio (Vega-C and -E) as prime contractors and design authorities. ESA oversaw the programme on behalf of the participating Member States and is launch system architect.

ESA also fosters commercial space transportation services under private lead through initiatives like Boost! and the European Launcher Challenge. ESA Member States fund about two-thirds of the total cost of running and maintaining Europe's Spaceport in French Guiana.

Press contact:  
[media@esa.int](mailto:media@esa.int)



## CNES

CNES (Centre National d'Études Spatiales) is the government agency responsible for shaping France's space policy and implementing it in Europe. Its task is to conceive and orbit satellites, invent the space systems of the future and nurture new services to aid us in our daily lives. Founded in 1961, it is the initiator of major space projects, launch vehicles and satellites, and the partner of choice for industry fuelling innovation. CNES comprises some 2,400 men and women with a passion for space working to open up new and infinite fields of applications in five core areas of focus: Ariane, science, Earth observation, telecommunications and defence.

The agency is a key player driving technology innovation, economic development and industrial policy for the nation. It also fosters scientific collaborations and has forged numerous international partnerships. France, represented by CNES, is one of the leading contributors to the European Space Agency (ESA).

Press contact:  
[cnes-presse@cnes.fr](mailto:cnes-presse@cnes.fr)

