

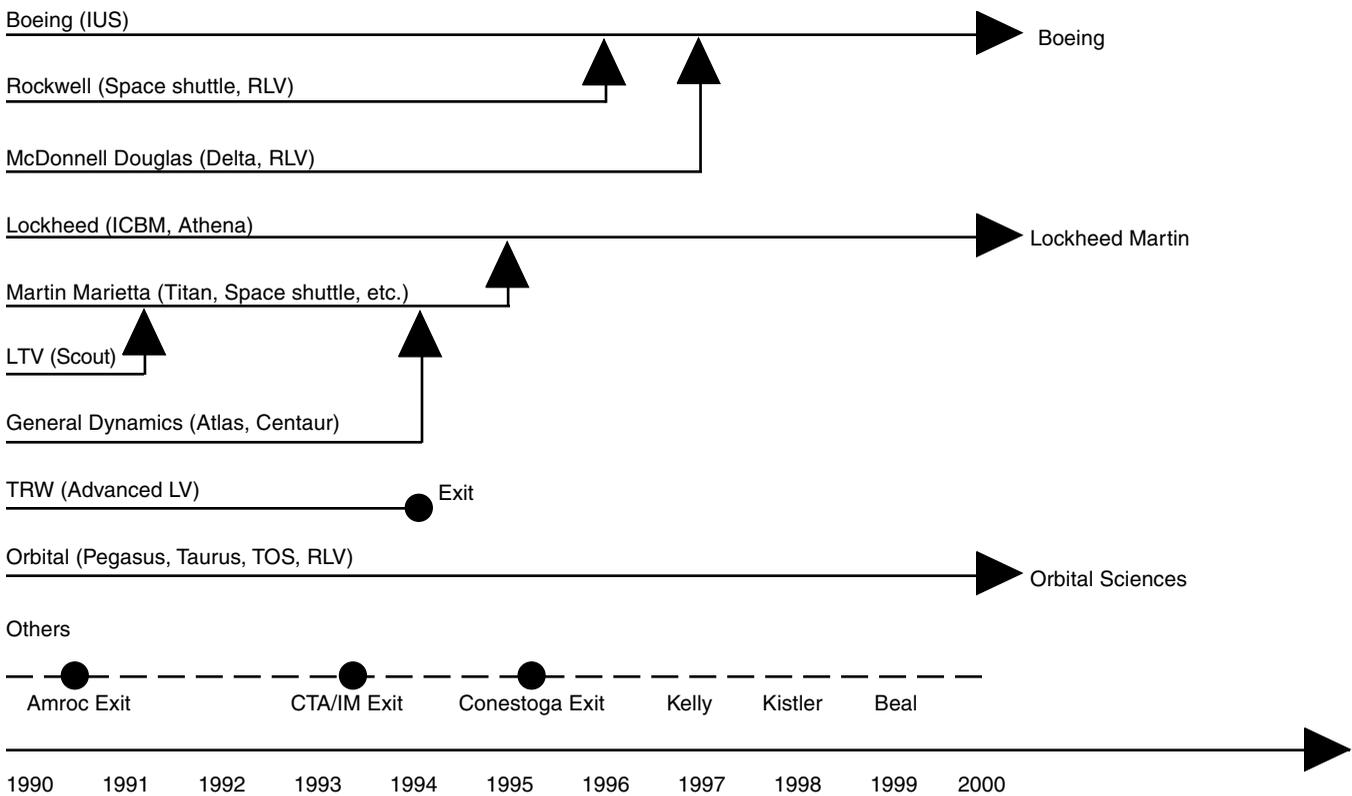
The Chart Page

By Tamar A. Mehuron, Associate Editor

Consolidation of US Launch Industry

What a difference a decade makes. In 1990, the US launch industry boasted nine major firms and several smaller companies. By 2000, the number of launch companies had shrunk to just three—Boeing, Lockheed Martin, and Orbital Sciences. Boeing absorbed Rockwell and McDonnell Douglas in the mid-1990s. Lockheed merged with Martin Marietta (which earlier acquired LTV) and General Dynamics. TRW, another of the nine majors, exited the field. Throughout the aerospace industry, the trend was toward consolidation.

Contraction Throughout the 1990s



Source: Orbital Sciences

IUS Inertial Upper Stage
 LV Launch Vehicle
 RLV Reusable Launch Vehicle
 TOS Transfer Orbit Stage