



Los Angeles Air Force Base Media Release



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Office of Public Affairs
483 N. Aviation Blvd.
El Segundo, CA 90245-4659

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Contact: Media Relations Division
Telephone: (310) 653-2369/2368/2479

Exercise of Contract Option for WGS-9 Satellite

LOS ANGELES AIR FORCE BASE, El Segundo, Calif. - The Air Force has awarded a contract modification to Boeing Space and Intelligence Systems to exercise the contract option for production of the ninth satellite for the Wideband Global Satellite Communications program, or WGS.

This contract award, valued at \$377 million ensures the continuation of critical wideband communications support to the warfighter.

This satellite is being procured under a recently-announced long-term international partnership on global military satellite communications with Canada, Denmark, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand and the United States.

The WGS-9 satellite is a part of the WGS Block II follow-on contract consisting of options for WGS-7, 8 and 9. The Block II follow-on satellites will be procured under a new commercial-like operating model that has resulted in savings to the U.S. government of more than \$100 million without compromising mission assurance. These savings arise from streamlining processes, tests and governmental oversight functions commensurate with the maturity of the WGS production line.

The acquisition of WGS-9 continues the production of WGS satellites that began in 2000. WGS-1, -2 and -3 satellites are operational and in geosynchronous orbit. WGS-4 is being readied for launch later this month. WGS-5 through 8 satellites are currently in production.

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Wideband Global SATCOM provides anytime, anywhere communication for the warfighter through broadcast, multicast and point-to-point connections. WGS is the only system that can support simultaneous X- and Ka-band communications. The WGS crossbanding capability makes communicating across terminal types transparent to the warfighter. WGS currently collects and routes real-time data through more than 700 X-band, 3100 Ka-band and 400 X/Ka-band terminals in all theaters of operation.

Media representatives who would like to interview a subject matter expert or learn more about the WGS-9 satellite should send an e-mail to smcpa.media@losangeles.af.mil or call 310-653-2369/2368/2479

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