



SpaceX has articulated the explicit goal of providing broadband internet connectivity to underserved areas of the Earth, as well as to provide competitively-priced, low latency service to urban areas.

Today's launch will put the tenth 'batch' of Starlink satellites into orbit. The first launch of 60 satellites was considered Starlink-0, so this flight is designated Starlink-9. Many of these satellites will include some inter-satellite communications among satellites in the constellation. Inter-satellite laser comm links will allow faster internet connections without multiple 'hops' via ground stations.

Starlink 9
With Blacksky Rideshare
Starlink Satellite Constellation Mission

Morever, SpaceX has indicated that the positive cash flow from selling satellite internet services would be necessary to fund SpaceX plans for Mars. The launch will be from the Kennedy Space Center's Space Launch Complex 39A. The first stage of the Falcon 9 booster is expected to land on a barge in the Atlantic Ocean off Charleston SC. The landing will be too far to see from launch viewing areas, though upper atmosphere course correction burns might be visible about 7 minutes after launch.



Starlink 9 plus
BlackSky Global 5 & 6
Multiple satellites launched on a Falcon 9
2020-08-01 03:21 amEDT



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