



Launch Mission Execution Forecast

Mission: Falcon 9 Starlink 6-18

Issued: 22 Sep 23 / 1100L (1500Z)

Valid: 23 Sep 23 / 2006 – 24/0006L (24/0006 – 0406Z)



Forecast Discussion: A few showers spinning off Potential Tropical Cyclone 16 remain along the Space Coast today. By Saturday evening, this system will be over North Carolina, leaving mostly dry conditions and northeasterly winds at the Spaceport. The primary launch weather concern is a low threat for a Cumulus Cloud Rule violation.

On Sunday, a wave will move into the Bahamas, creating increased cloud cover and rain chances at the Spaceport. Therefore, expect an increased threat for a Cumulus Cloud Rule violation with an added Anvil Cloud Rule threat.

Launch Day		Probability of Violating Weather Constraints ¹				
Launch Day	5%	Primary Concerns: Cumulus Cloud Rule				
	Weather Conditions				Additional Risk Criteria ²	
	Weather/Visibility: None / 7 mi.	Clouds			Upper-Level Wind Shear: Low-Mod	
	Temp/Humidity: 78°F / 70%	Type	Coverage	Base (ft)	Tops (ft)	Booster Recovery Weather: Low
Liftoff Winds (200'): 040° 10 - 15 mph	Cumulus	Few	3,000	10,000	Solar Activity: Low	
	Cirrostratus	Scattered	25,000	28,000		
24-Hour Delay		Probability of Violating Weather Constraints				
24-Hour Delay	10→20%	Primary Concerns: Cumulus Cloud Rule, Anvil Cloud Rules				
	Weather Conditions				Additional Risk Criteria	
	Weather/Visibility: None / 7 mi.	Clouds			Upper-Level Wind Shear: Low-Mod	
	Temp/Humidity: 78°F / 70%	Type	Coverage	Base (ft)	Tops (ft)	Booster Recovery Weather: Low
Liftoff Winds (200'): 090° 10 - 15 mph	Cumulus	Few	3,000	10,000	Solar Activity: Low	
	Altostratus	Scattered	12,000	15,000		
Notes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Probability of Violation (PoV) is the chance of a local safety or customer constraint violation occurring any random time during the launch window. Additional Risk Criteria, which are not included in the PoV, are mission-specific constraints that may not include all phenomena within each risk factor. 					
	See https://www.patrick.spaceforce.mil/Portals/14/Weather/LaunchFAQ.pdf for more information					
Next Forecast Will Be Issued		As Required				