

Atlas 5

Launch vehicle	Atlas V/Centaur
Launch site	Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Florida, USA
Date/Time	2007-06-15 1512 UTC
Description	Upper stage underperformance
Cause	unknown
Payload	NROL-30
Desired orbit	unknown

The Centaur upper stage finished its second burn prematurely, leaving its classified payload in a wrong orbit.

The exact extent of the upper stage's underperformance has not been disclosed, but the two National Ocean Surveillance System (NOSS) satellites that were likely launched were said to have enough propellant to continue their mission and reach their intended orbit, although this would very likely shorten their operational lives.

Last updated: 23 June 2007

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