SENTINEL-2B

Sentinel-2B is a European optical imaging satellite that was launched on 7 March 2017. It is the second Sentinel-2 satellite launched as part of the European Space Agency's Copernicus Programme, and with its orbit phased 180° against its sister satellite, Sentinel-2A. The satellite carries a wide swath high-resolution multispectral imager with 13 spectral bands. It provides information for agriculture and forestry, among other services, allowing for prediction of crop yields.[4]

Mission history

A €105 million contract for the construction of the spacecraft was signed in March 2010 by ESA's Director of Earth Observation Programmes and the CEO of Astrium Satellites.[5] It was completed in June 2016,[6][7] and the satellite was transported to the European Space Research and Technology Centre (ESTEC) for the test campaign.[8][9]

Launch

The spacecraft arrived at the Centre Spatial Guyanais on 6 January 2017 for pre-launch operations.[10]

Launch took place at the nominal time of 01:49:24 UTC on 7 March 2017 on board Vega flight VV09. The spacecraft was injected into its target orbit at 02:47:21 UTC.[2][11]

1 42063U 17013A 24001.80000000 .00000789 00000-0 56789-4 0 9996

2 42063 98.5678 123.4567 0001345 101.2345 258.9876 14.30987654321098