



Iridium Corporate Fact Sheet

Corporate Snapshot

- Iridium Communications Inc. is the only mobile satellite communications company that offers truly global voice and data communications coverage.
- Iridium (NASDAQ: IRDM) is headquartered in McLean, Va., with additional operational centers including the Primary Gateway Earth Station in Tempe, AZ, and the Satellite Network Operations Center (SNOC) in Leesburg, Va.
- Iridium's low-earth orbit (LEO), cross-linked satellites form the world's largest commercial communications satellite constellation, operating as a fully meshed network, covering the 80 percent of the globe not covered by terrestrial networks.

The Iridium® Satellite Constellation

- Iridium recently launched and replaced its original constellation with new satellites in a \$3 billion program called Iridium NEXT.
- In total, 81 satellites were built: 66 serving as operational satellites, nine serving as in-orbit spares and six serving as ground spares.
- Between January of 2017 and January of 2019, Iridium completed a series of eight SpaceX launches, delivering a total of 75 new satellites to low-earth orbit.
- On February 6, 2019, Iridium announced that the new satellite constellation was officially completed.
 - **Manufacturing & Assembly**
 - Iridium partnered with Thales Alenia Space as the prime contractor in developing the new satellites.
 - Thales Alenia Space partnered with Northrup Grumman (formerly Orbital ATK) as a sub-contractor to assemble, test and integrate all 81 new Iridium satellites, including their hosted payloads.

Network Capabilities and Functionality

- Iridium's next-generation satellite constellation enables greater data bandwidth and speeds that are dramatically enhancing Iridium's ability to meet the rapidly expanding needs of the industry on a global scale.
- The network brings new innovations and solutions to the industry, including, but not limited to:
 - **Iridium CertusSM**, enabled by the new Iridium satellite constellation, is a best-in-class platform offering connectivity solutions that make up a highly reliable, capable, flexible and global service that meets the needs of the many and vastly different markets that Iridium serves. The service made its commercial service debut on January 16, 2019. To date, it is the world's only truly global broadband service.
 - **Aireon LLC's** aircraft tracking and surveillance system is hosted on each new Iridium satellite. The Iridium satellite constellation is the only satellite network that can support truly global aircraft surveillance, which is critical to the AireonSM system.



Network & Launch Program Fun Facts

- The constellation is orbiting approximately 483 miles (780km) above earth.
- Each satellite moves at roughly 17,000 mph and circumnavigates the earth approximately every 100 minutes.
- Each satellite weighs approximately one ton, or about the weight of a Mini Cooper car.
- Each Iridium NEXT launch had an instantaneous launch window, meaning there was a one-second window in which the rocket could launch and deliver the satellites into the correct orbital plane in low-earth orbit (LEO).
- Each satellite went through weeks of testing before it was "swapped" with an original satellite.
- Satellites slated for decommissioning go through a de-boosting/deorbiting process and burn up in the earth's atmosphere.
- The slot swap process has been described as trying to change the tires on a school bus while moving 17,000 mph.