

NROL-174

VANDENBERG



NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

NRO Mission

Since its inception more than 60 years ago, the National Reconnaissance Office has been on the leading edge of innovation – collecting and delivering critical information that can only be obtained from the vantage point of space.

From warfighters to humanitarian responders, the NRO serves a wide range of customers. The Department of Defense and Intelligence Community depend on NRO capabilities for national security objectives. NRO systems are often the only tools able to access hostile territory or rugged terrain, and they can collect critical information without risking human lives or infringing on other nations' territorial sovereignty. Civilian customers depend on the NRO's space-based collections to assess damage from natural disasters, and help relief agencies determine how and where to deliver humanitarian aid.

The NRO is investing in the world's most advanced tools, information technology, and communications networks in order to meet customers' needs today and anticipate and adapt to the emerging demands of tomorrow. NRO capabilities on the ground, on orbit, and everywhere in between ensure customers get the information they need, where they need it, faster than ever before.



NROL-129

NROL-174

NROL-174 is a National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) mission consisting of multiple national security payloads designed, built, and operated by the NRO. Launch Services were procured by the U.S. Space Force Space Systems Command (SSC) Rocket Systems Launch Program (RSLP) under the Orbital/Suborbital Program-3 contract. Northrop Grumman will launch NROL-174 on a Minotaur IV rocket from Vandenberg Space Force Base (VSFB) in California.

RSLP is the small launch counterpart to SSC's National Security Space Launch program and focuses on the small launch market. RSLP primarily launches more risk-tolerant experimental, research and development, responsive space and operational missions.

NROL-174 will launch on a Minotaur IV rocket from Space Launch Complex 8 located on VSFB. SLC-8 has launched nine Minotaur rockets—six Minotaur I and three Minotaur IV—with the last in 2011 supporting NRO's NROL-66 mission.

NROL-174 follows previous Minotaur family of rocket launches supporting NRO missions with NROL-129 in July 2020 and NROL-111 in June 2021, both from Wallops Flight Facility in Virginia.



The shape of the patch is a shield, representing the NRO as a critical element to National Security. The border is blue with the embedded quote "I Viam Inveniam," which is Latin for "I shall find a way," representing the ethos of always persevering to deliver critical intelligence capabilities.

The falcon, an apex predator, represents NRO's enduring imperative to deliver superior technology and capabilities, giving analysts and warfighters the edge against our adversaries. The falcon is in flight, representing the necessity of agile acquisitions in today's contested and congested space environment.

The mountains represent the commitment of the IC to be always on guard to protect American interests and freedom. The sunset on the mountains symbolizes that the NRO is steadfast in its mission at all times 24/7.

To read more about NRO launches and previous patches, visit www.NRO.gov/launch



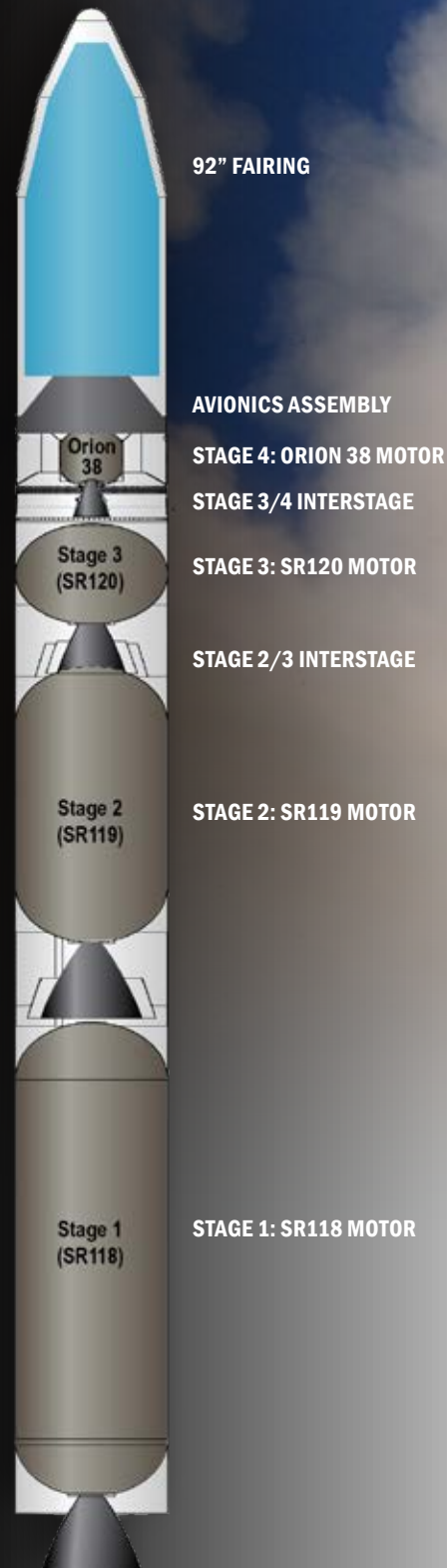
NROL-129

Rocket & Launch Facts

Employing a combination of U.S. government-supplied rocket motors and the company's proven commercial launch technologies, the Minotaur rocket family provides reliable access to space for government-sponsored payloads. Northrop Grumman's Minotaur rockets have completed missions out of every major U.S. spaceport, demonstrating the vehicle's unique versatility and reliability.

Minotaur IV, which utilizes three government-furnished solid rocket motors from decommissioned Peacekeeper ICBMs and a commercial solid rocket upper stage, is capable of launching payloads up to 1,730 kg (3,814 lb.) to low Earth orbit.

MINOTAUR IV



Launch Site

Vandenberg Space Force Base (VSFB)

Nestled along California's Central Coast, Vandenberg Space Force Base hosts Space Launch Delta 30, a United States Space Force command that provides agile, responsive, and resilient spaceport, test range, and installation capabilities for the nation. As the keystone of the Space Force's West Coast Spaceport and Test Range, Vandenberg enables launch and test activities that ensure the Space Force and its mission partners, such as NRO, are able to accomplish their strategic objectives into space.

