



## **NewSpace New Mexico Media Clips May 2020**

NewSpace New Mexico in partnership with [Agenda](#) is happy to present our monthly media reports. These reports will be delivered to your inbox every month – highlighting important industry-related stories from a broad range of state and national sources.

New Mexico is the place for space!

### **Branson's Virgin Orbit Fails on First Rocket Launch Attempt**

[Democrat-Herald, May 25, 2020](#)

Richard Branson's Virgin Orbit failed Monday in its first test launch of a new rocket carried aloft by a Boeing 747 and released over the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Southern California.

### **Space Conference Develops Solutions to Expand U.S Leadership in Space**

[Spaceref, May 12, 2020](#)

In a first-of-a-kind, collaborative, virtual solutions workshop, NewSpace New Mexico hosted the State of the Space Industrial Base 2020 from May 4-7, as a follow-up to the 2019 in-person meeting. The virtual workshop brought together over 150 industry stakeholders to identify actions necessary to develop and sustain the United States' economic and military leadership in space. Industry leaders, representatives from the Executive Office of the President, Department of Defense (DoD), NASA, Department of Commerce, Department of Energy, and academia virtually gathered to develop recommendations.

### **Virgin Galactic Enter Space Act Agreement with NASA to Advance High Mach Technologies**

[Jot/Up, May 5, 2020](#)

Virgin Galactic Holdings, Inc. (NYSE:SPCE) (Virgin Galactic or the Company) and its wholly owned subsidiary, The Spaceship Company (TSC), announced today the

signing of a Space Act Agreement with NASA to facilitate the development of high-speed technologies.

### **Virgin Galactic aims for Mach-speed travel**

[Albuquerque Journal, May 11, 2020](#)

Virgin Galactic works to advance its technologies through important partnerships with other companies. In partnership with The Spaceship Co. Virgin announced a new Space Act Agreement with NASA. This agreement allows them to work on the technology needed to develop high speed point- to point travel. In order to accomplish this the company has also formed a partnership with Boeing to develop high- speed mobility.

### **AFRL Satellite Duo Probing Earth's Radiation Belts**

[Air Force Press Release, May 14, 2020](#)

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic the Air Force Research Laboratory's Demonstration and Science Experiments (DSX) spacecraft continues to make great things happens. They launched into orbit on June 25, 2019 and then in February 2020 it was joined by a small satellite built by AFRL, the Very Low Frequency Propagation Mapper (VPM). These two satellites are meant to study the dynamics of the Earth's natural radiation belts and find ways 'to protect low heath orbiting spacecraft from the effects of high- altitude nuclear explosions.'

### **SpaceX successfully launches first crew to orbit, ushering in new era of spaceflight**

[The Verge, May 30, 2020](#)

After nearly two decades of effort, Elon Musk's aerospace company, SpaceX, successfully launched its first two people into orbit, ushering in a new age of human spaceflight in the United States. The flight marked the first-time astronauts have launched into orbit from American soil in nearly a decade, and SpaceX is now the first company to send passengers to orbit on a privately made vehicle.

### **NASA astronauts aboard the International Space Station after Dragon capsule successfully docks**

[Washington Post, May 31, 2020](#)

After blasting off from the Kennedy Space Center here Saturday afternoon, and then whizzing around the Earth at speeds that eventually hit 17,500 mph, the SpaceX spacecraft carrying two NASA astronauts docked with the International Space Station Sunday morning, completing the first leg of a historic journey.

### **SpaceX's 1st astronaut launch was NASA's most-watched online event ever**

[Space.com, June 2, 2020](#)

On Saturday (May 30), SpaceX launched its first-ever crewed mission, a test flight called Demo-2 that sent NASA astronauts Bob Behnken and Doug Hurley to the International Space Station (ISS).

The liftoff was the first orbital crewed launch to depart from American soil since NASA retired its space shuttle fleet in 2011. And a record number of people tuned in to watch the milestone online, agency officials said.

### **What the future of the space station looks like after SpaceX's historic launch**

[The Verge, June 2, 2020](#)

With the success of SpaceX's Crew Dragon launch this weekend, NASA now has the

capability to launch its own astronauts from the US once again — and that means changes are in store for the future of the International Space Station. Soon, a new suite of vehicles could be regularly flying people to the station from the Florida coast, along with the Russian Soyuz rocket that has been solely responsible for taking humans to the outpost since 2011.



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