

## VIRGINIA SPACEPORT AUTHORITY'S MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL SPACEPORT (MARS)

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#### ABOUT THE SPACEPORT

- The Virginia Commercial Space Flight Authority, trade name Virginia Spaceport Authority (VSA), a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, owns and operates the Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport (MARS). The spaceport includes three launch pads with a fourth under construction, an Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) Airfield, a Payload Processing Facility (PPF), an Integration and Control Facility (ICF), the MARS Industrial Complex (MIC), the MARS Command Building (MARSCOM), and the Addison Logistics Building. The spaceport is located on Wallops Island on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. VSA is a tenant organization on the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Wallops Flight Facility (WFF). VSA is governed by a Board of Directors.
- MARS is the premier launch facility for small- and midclass rocket systems. The spaceport is a modern, multipurpose facility with the capability to support a diverse array of specialized space missions and customers. The spaceport provides the full value chain, to include testing, payload integration, and launch services.

## **LAUNCH PADS**

 VSA's launch pads can accommodate launch azimuths from 90 degrees East to 160 degrees Southeast. For most vehicles, this translates into orbital inclinations between 38 degrees and approximately 60 degrees. Trajectories outside of these launch azimuths, including polar and sun-synchronous orbits, can be achieved by in-flight maneuvers.

# SPACEPORT HIGHLIGHT: PAYLOAD PROCESSING FACILITY

• The Payload Processing Facility provides spacecraft payload processing and fueling for any vehicle that can be launched from MARS. One of the newest of its kind in the United States, it can concurrently support multiple commercial and government missions, including support for national security missions. In addition to payload support, it provides launch vehicle integration and checkout space, which is directly adjacent to and under the same roof as the spacecraft processing space.

# **LOCATION ADVANTAGE**

- Access to equatorial launch azimuths benefited by immediate proximity to the Atlantic Ocean.
- One of four public spaceports in the U.S. and one of two spaceports on the East Coast licensed for vertical launches by the FAA.
- Virginia's Space Flight Liability and Immunity Act, where the space flight entity has limited liability for a participant injury resulting from the risks of space flight activities.
- Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) protections to the customer when doing business with VSA.

### **PPF SPECIFICATIONS**

- 18,000 square feet.
- Configurable space that can support launch vehicle and space vehicle (SV) processing and fueling.
- Processing bays designed to meet ISO Class 8 (100k) cleanroom standards.
- Vertical integration in SV High Bay with a 30-ton crane with 60' hook height.
- Horizontal integration in upper stack buildup bay with dual 15ton cranes with 30' hook height.
- Dedicated and centralized control room provided outside the clean room. Multiple configurations to provide launch pad vehicle control.

