## SPACE SYSTEMS COMMAND Media Release



SPACE SYSTEMS COMMAND Office of Public Affairs (SSC/PA) 483 N. Aviation Blvd. El Segundo, Calif. 90245-2808 Date: May 11, 2023 Contact: Media Relations Division Telephone: (310) 653-3145 <u>sscpa.media@spaceforce.mil</u>

## Space Systems Command Successfully Accepts Delivery of Enhanced Polar System – Recapitalization (EPS-R) Control and Planning Segment

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. –Space Systems Command (SSC) accepted formal delivery of the Control and Planning Segment (CAPS), a single software baseline, which consolidates segment command, control and planning of its legacy Enhanced Polar System (EPS) and future EPS-Recapitalization (EPS-R) payloads.

This operational milestone for SSC's EPS-R program, part of the Command's Military Communications & Positioning, Navigation, and Timing directorate, includes an innovative approach streamlining mission operations while reducing long-term costs of software and hardware sustainment for the ground segment.

"The accomplishment of this key milestone was truly a joint effort and speaks to the outstanding teamwork between Northrop Grumman and our EPS-R program office. The team received and coordinated an enormous amount of technical data which was critical to verify that all segment and element requirements were met. We look forward to the new ground system entering operations," said 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Brooke Kunzelman, SSC EPS-R Ground Segment lead.

The Enhanced Polar System (EPS) provides protected tactical extremely high frequency (EHF) satellite communications in the North Polar Region. EPS is the next-generation tactical SATCOM system that replaces the Interim Polar System (IPS) and serves as a polar adjunct to the

Advanced EHF (AEHF) satellite constellation. The EPS Recapitalization (EPS-R) program will extend the polar capability provided by EPS until the fielding of the next-generation Protected Tactical SATCOM (PTS) system expected to launch in the early 2030s.

SSC's EPS-R payloads will be hosted aboard the Arctic Satellite Broadband Mission (ASBM) being procured by Space Norway. SSC's continued success with EPS-R stems, in part, from its international partnered relationship with the Norway Ministry of Defence and Space Norway. EPS-R serves as a prime example of how SSC, U.S. Space Force, and its allied partners are stronger together to deliver valued space capabilities on both fronts. The ASBM mission is scheduled for launch from Vandenberg Space Force Base, California aboard a SpaceX launch vehicle in 2024.

Space Systems Command (SSC) is the U.S. Space Force Field Command responsible for acquiring and delivering resilient war fighting capabilities to protect our nation's strategic advantage in and from space. SSC manages an \$15 billion space acquisition budget for the Department of Defense and works in partnership with joint forces, industry, government agencies, academic and allied organizations to accelerate innovation and outpace emerging threats. Our actions today are making the world a better space for tomorrow.

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Interested media representatives may submit questions regarding this topic by sending an email to <u>sscpa.media@spaceforce.mil</u>.